



# **Drug Education Network Annual Report 2019**

*“A year of courageous partnerships”*

## **The Drug Education Network (DEN)**

DEN is a not-for-profit organisation and our work is to prevent harm from drugs through leadership and education.

To do this we provide education, training and resources. We work in partnerships across the education, health, justice and community sectors. DEN is the lead agency for alcohol and other drugs health promotion, prevention and early intervention.

We work with other courageous organisations across health, education, justice and the community sectors to develop innovative and effective solutions to prevent harm from drugs. Annually, we develop a report that captures the Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Health Promotion, Prevention and Early Intervention initiatives and activities across much of Tasmania.

We provide training, education and resources which you will find detailed inside the report and reveal the landscape of courageous partnerships that help this organisation and our partners to have a meaningful impact in preventing and reducing harm from drugs in our communities.

**The Drug Education Network neither condones nor condemns the use of drugs.**

Rather, we acknowledge that drug use exists irrespective of legal status or societal norms. Our goal is to meet people where they are and encourage open dialogue that empowers the individual to be the primary agent of their own physical, mental and emotional wellbeing.

# Messages from the Chair and the CEO

## From the Board Chair

During this, my first year as Chair, the DEN Board has had a focus on renewal and preparedness for the future. We have developed a new strategic plan for the next five years ([www.den.click/strategy](http://www.den.click/strategy)) and through this have restated our commitment to prevent and reduce harm from drugs through leadership and education. The Board has also made a commitment, in strengthening its governance role, to best support the ongoing development of this long-established and highly respected organisation.

Our Board members have continued to bring expertise and insight. I thank each of them for their ongoing support and deep commitment to DEN. We recently bid farewell to Michael Robinson, a long-serving member of the Board, and in doing so acknowledged the tremendously valuable contribution Michael has made to the organisation over some 25 years.

The 2018-2019 financial year has seen a number of highly successful statewide, place-based projects involving the collaborative partnerships with many organisations working together, helping our communities to be free from the harms of drugs.

The Board acknowledges the significant commitment and skills of the DEN team and the leadership and work of our CEO, Shirleyann Varney. On behalf of the DEN Board I would like to thank all those who have supported our purpose over the past year.

*Philip Holliday*  
Chair of the Drug Education Network Board of Directors

## From the CEO

The Drug Education Network takes a leadership role in preventing harm from alcohol, tobacco and other drugs (ATOD) through **education, training and resources** in ATOD health Promotion, Prevention and Early Intervention (PPEI). We work collaboratively with other courageous organisations across health, education, justice and community sectors. We work together to develop and enact innovative, effective solutions to prevent harm from drugs.

**The year of 2018-19 has been a year of courageous partnerships.** Together, DEN and our courageous partners have begun, continued, and completed a variety of projects across the state and across many sectors to improve the health and wellbeing of our communities. We are proud to stand with our partners now and into the new year.

For a small not-for-profit to have an impact and create change, we must partner with **other courageous and ambitious organisations** and work together to **prevent harm from drugs**. It is essential that work in the ATOD PPEI space is well-funded and remains a high priority for all Australian governments. Furthermore, funding must recognise the costs associated with partnerships and fund administrative necessities accordingly.

As we acknowledge and celebrate the achievements of the past year and with courage and hope embrace the year ahead, I thank the DEN Board for their hard work and ongoing commitment to this organisation and commend the high-quality work and intellectual energy of the talented DEN team. DEN thanks and acknowledges the various funding bodies that support our essential work and the many organisations from the ATOD and community sectors that collaborate and partner with us. **Together, we can achieve a Tasmania where our communities are free from the harms of drugs.**

*Shirleyann Varney*  
Chief Executive Officer of the Drug Education Network

# What's coming next?

## A new strategic plan

The Drug Education Network Board of Directors has finalised the new strategic plan for 2019-2024. The plan provides clear strategic direction for the organisation and updated vision and values.

View the new strategic plan here:

[www.den.click/strategy](http://www.den.click/strategy)

## Resources



### Discussion Papers:

- » Pill Testing
- » Peer Workers
- » Primary School ATOD Education
- » ...and many more!

[www.den.click/discussionpapers](http://www.den.click/discussionpapers)

### New Pinterest Board:

Resources for alcohol and pregnancy

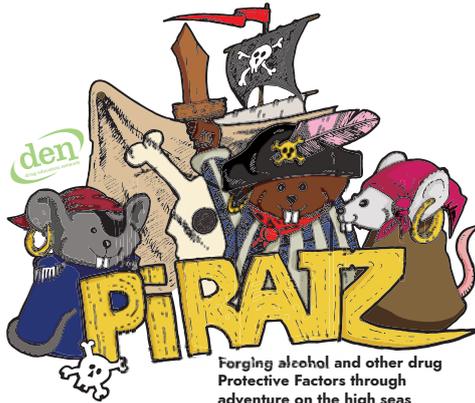
[www.pinterest.com/drugedtas](http://www.pinterest.com/drugedtas)

### AOD Storytelling Dice:

New stock arriving soon!

[www.den.org.au/resources](http://www.den.org.au/resources)

## Projects



### Piratz:

An holistic classroom kit for Primary School drug education

### Tobacco Free Communities:

A second trial occurring in George Town

### Peer Worker Project:

An exciting new collaborative project

### FASD messaging for young people:

A new campaign to prevent FASD

[www.den.org.au/projects](http://www.den.org.au/projects)

# Who are we?

## Board of Directors

### Chairperson

Philip Holliday

### Vice Chairperson

Wayne Moore

### Vice Chairperson

Allison Matthews

### Treasurer

Emma Lovibond

### Founding Member, Public Officer

David Daniels

### Secretary

Judy Travers

### Member

Michael Robinson

### Member

Sandra Lovell

## The Team

Full Time Equivalent: 7.5

### Chief Executive Officer

Shirleyann Varney

### Finance & Payroll Coordinator

Anita

### Administration Officer

Mary-Jane

### Administration Assistant

Michelle

### Project, Systems + UX Developer

Zoe

### Educator

South

Maria

### Educator North

Maurice

### NOFASD Shine National Educator, TFC Coordinator, Educator North

Marion

### wungana makuminya Project Coordinator and Trainer

Dave

### wungana makuminya Lead Trainer and Assessor

Janet

### Policy & Research Officer

Elida

### AOD Curriculum Project Officer

Margaret

## Talk to us



[facebook.com/  
drugeducationnetwork](https://facebook.com/drugeducationnetwork)



**Our Website**  
[www.den.org.au](http://www.den.org.au)



[youtube.com/  
drugeducationnetwork](https://youtube.com/drugeducationnetwork)



[pinterest.com/  
drugedtas](https://pinterest.com/drugedtas)

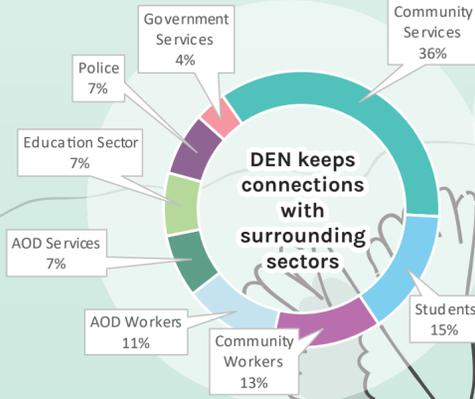


**Everybody's Business**  
[www.everybodys.business](http://www.everybodys.business)



[twitter.com/  
DEN\\_TAS](https://twitter.com/DEN_TAS)

# 2018 - 2019 A year of courageous partnerships



DEN collaborates inside a number of working and advisory groups including:

- PPEI Advisory Group
- Tobacco Coalition
- Young People Smoke Free ...and many more!

The Connection: DEN's Newsletter continues to make connections across the world

[den.click/connect](http://den.click/connect)

Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drug Promotion, Prevention and Early Intervention (ATOD PPEI) Statewide Progress Report

[den.org.au/ppei](http://den.org.au/ppei)

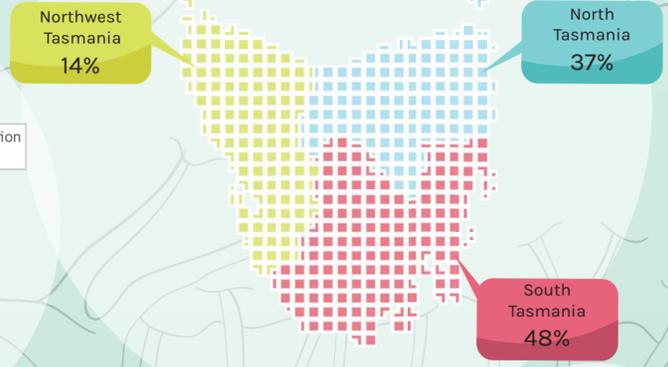
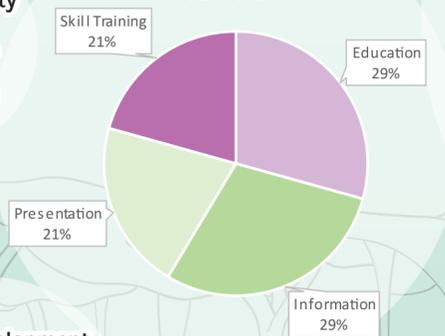
Tobacco Free Communities Glamorgan Spring Bay Pilot Project Launch

A collaboration with the Royal Flying Doctors, the University of Tasmania, Cancer Council Tasmania, QUIT Tasmania, the Glamorgan Spring Bay Community, and local businesses

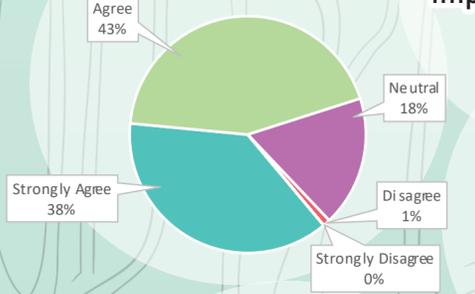
39 Training Sessions across Tasmania

More than 320 participants across Tasmania

What type of sessions do we deliver?

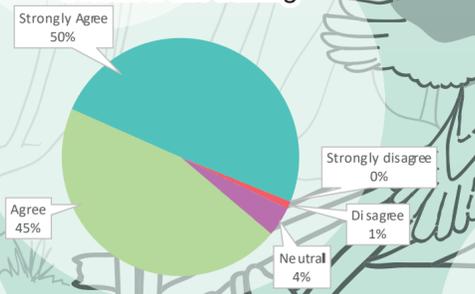


"I intend to change my practices and behaviours [as a result of this training]"



DEN constantly seeks feedback to help us improve our services

"I have built on my knowledge of this topic [as a result of this training]"



DEN in the National AOD Awards 2019

- Runner up in Education category
- Shortlisted in First People's category

New Community Drug Information Brochures

A partnership with the Australian Lions Drug Awareness Foundation

7 new brochures covering topics important to communities across Australia

[den.click/communityinfo](http://den.click/communityinfo)

'Shine' Project

A collaboration with NOFASD Australia

A national FASD Trainer on behalf of NOFASD Australia



Local Community Sessions

In collaboration with many Neighbourhood Houses

Sector Development 3 Statewide Sessions

"Engaging tools to help refresh your case management skills"

The Tasmanian Alcohol and Other Drug Brief Intervention Framework



Advocacy: Discussion Papers e-Cigarettes and Medicinal Cannabis released

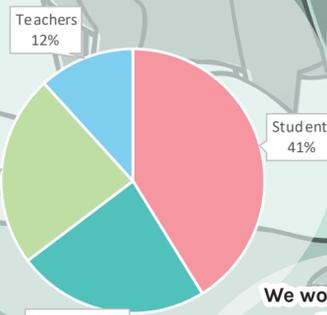
[den.click/discussionpapers](http://den.click/discussionpapers)

The Brief Intervention Scaffold: A training package and resource for workers at all levels



9 boards on Pinterest with over 1,000 monthly views

[pinterest.com/drugedtas](http://pinterest.com/drugedtas)

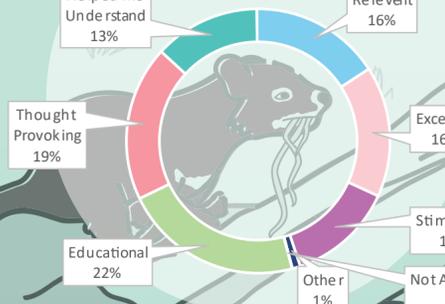


More than 2,586 resources distributed across Tasmania

Supporting a new generation of teachers, social workers, and community service workers

A collaboration with UTAS and TasTAFE

What you're telling us about our sessions



A new initiative: Promotion, Prevention and Early Intervention (PPEI) Community of Practice

"Understanding Alcohol and Drug Use in Australia"

Spoken in Tigrinya, Nepali, Arabic and Farsi

wungana makuminya Project

A collaboration with the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre Registered Training Organisation

Certificate IV in Alcohol in Other Drugs: 26 students

Cultural Safety Course: 30 students

Cultural Awareness Workshops: 63 students

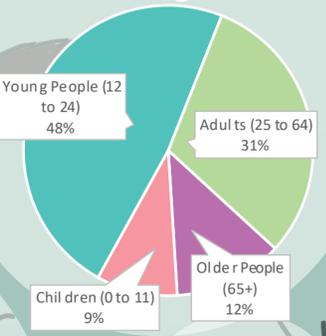
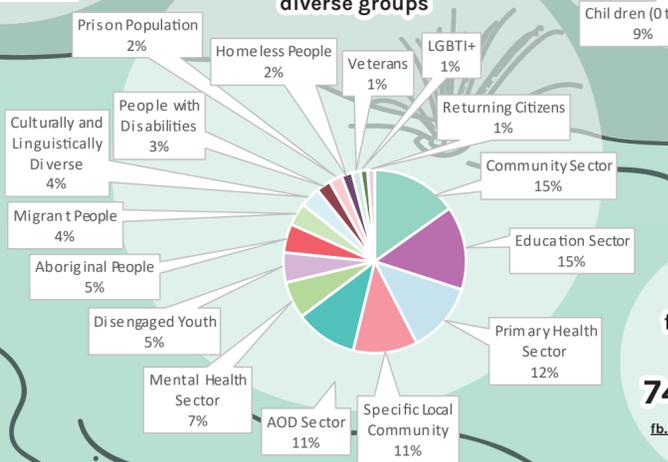
Ongoing School Community Support

A collaboration with the Dept. Education and the School Nursing Director

Resource: A collaboration with SHE and Yemaya

AOD Worker's Guide to Domestic and Family Violence

We work to support many diverse groups

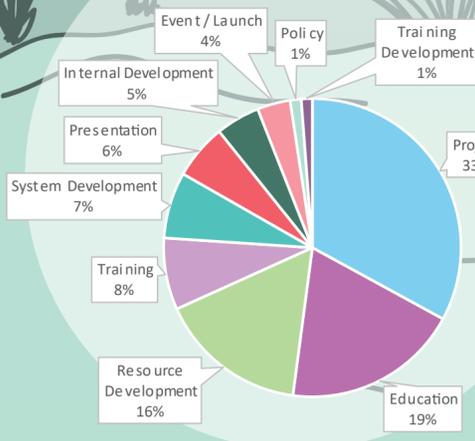


Statewide Delivery of Professional Development for Mental Health Carers

213 facebook posts, reaching 74,250+ people

[fb.me/drugeducationnetwork](http://fb.me/drugeducationnetwork)

DEN focuses effort where it's needed

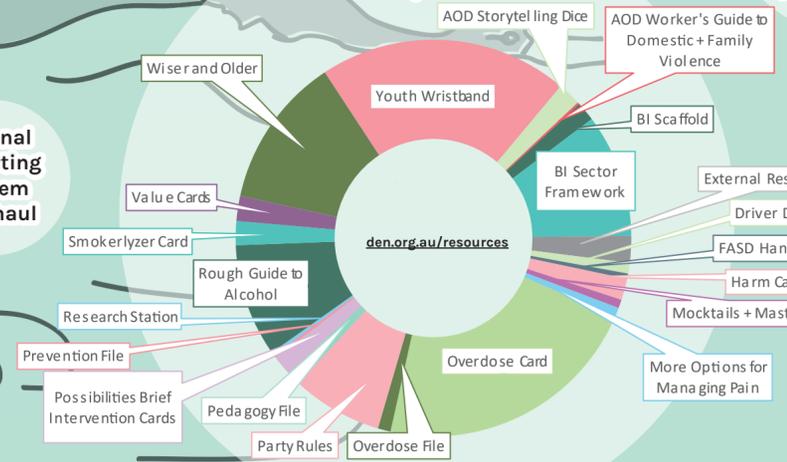


Staff satisfaction survey conducted

Internal Reporting System Overhaul

New Internal Onboarding Program

We create and distribute a wide variety of resources



New Project: "Piratz" A classroom toolkit for Primary Schools

Resource Launched: More Options for Managing Pain

[den.click/moreoptions](http://den.click/moreoptions)