

Project Update – April 2020

This project has been making steady progress with all the Project partners working on preparing and planning for recruiting, training and supporting peer trainees.

An important step in this process is for each organisation to complete training that will equip staff with the knowledge and skills for developing a peer worker model in their services.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused some disruption, however this training is still going ahead as planned at the end of April, but will be delivered via video-conference instead of a face to face delivery.

This will provide each organisation with more information and understanding of what peer work is about, how it can work in their service and how the partners can work together to provide support and supervision for the peer trainees.

PEER TRAINEE RECRUITMENT STAGE

The next important step in the project will be the recruitment of peer trainees. At this stage due to social distancing measures this process will need to be delayed by a few months.

Our expectation is that this recruitment and interview process can begin in the next six months around September or October, depending on government recommendations around social distancing and what they look like at that time. If possible, we are aiming to deliver the first 3 – day face to face training module in November this year.

NEEDING MORE INFORMATION?

We will have an information pack available to share with interested trainees by the end of May. This pack can provide an overview of the project, what the training will look like and hopefully answer most of your questions. This then can help you in your thinking about applying to do the training and what this will look like for you.

If you have any questions at this stage, please get in touch with your organisation.

We will also keep you posted as the situation unfolds over the next couple of months.

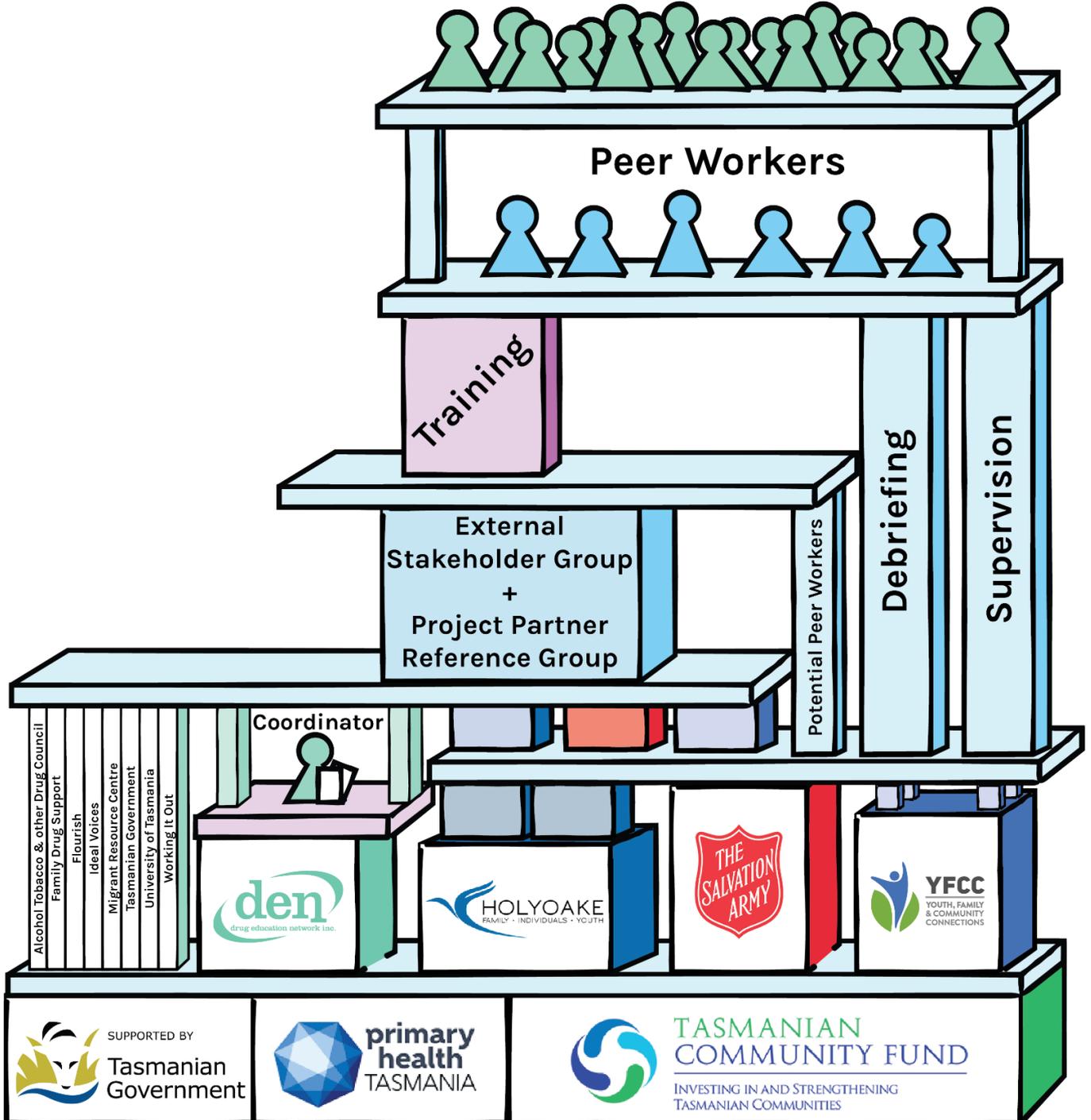
Regards,

Maria Duggan

On behalf of the Peer Workforce Project and the DEN Team

Funding Partners:

Tasmanian Community



Funding Partners:

3 day training 2 times per year

Year 1

1 regroup day
1 time per year

12 Peer Worker Students

Alcohol Tobacco & other Drug Council
Family Drug Support
Ideal Voices
Flourish
Tasmanian Government
Working It Out
University of Tasmania
Migrant Resource Centre

Supported training by a minimum of 4 local community organisations

12 Peer Workers

Regroup for shared learning and support

3 day training 2 times per year

Year 2

1 regroup day
1 time per year

12 Peer Worker Students

Alcohol Tobacco & other Drug Council
Family Drug Support
Ideal Voices
Flourish
Tasmanian Government
Working It Out
University of Tasmania
Migrant Resource Centre

Supported training by a minimum of 4 local community organisations

24 Peer Workers

Regroup for shared learning and support

3 day training 2 times per year

Year 3

1 regroup day
1 time per year

12 Peer Worker Students

Alcohol Tobacco & other Drug Council
Family Drug Support
Ideal Voices
Flourish
Tasmanian Government
Working It Out
University of Tasmania
Migrant Resource Centre

Supported training by a minimum of 4 local community organisations

36 Peer Workers

Regroup for shared learning and support

Year 4

Evaluation
Framework
Wrap Up

Funding Partners:



The Tasmania ATOD Peer Work Project

The Structure

This project is funded by the Tasmanian Community Fund, Primary Health Tasmania, and the Tasmanian Health Services South.

There are four key partners, plus many partners who will support the project.

- The Drug Education Network (DEN) is coordinating the project. DEN will provide resources, guidelines and policies, training and evaluation plans, and produce the final resources and reports.
- Holyoake Tasmania is one of three Peer Worker hosts. They will help recruit peer workers, and provide clinical support, debriefing and supervision for the Peer Workers during the project.
- The Salvation Army is one of three Peer Worker hosts. They will help recruit peer workers, and provide clinical support, debriefing and supervision for the Peer Workers during the project.
- Youth, Family and Community Connections (YFCC) is one of three Peer Worker hosts. They will help recruit peer workers, and provide clinical support, debriefing and supervision for the Peer Workers during the project.

Peer Work Project Network:

The key partners and the additional partners will form the Peer Work Project Network, which will guide the whole project. These partners include: Alcohol Tobacco & Other Drug Council (ATDC), Family Drug Support (FDS), Flourish, Ideal Voices, Migrant Resource Centre, Working It Out, and the University of Tasmania.

The 'Why'

This project is a first for Tasmania and has three core goals:

1. To place Peer Workers in ATOD prevention and treatment programs, to better support the Tasmanian Community. This project aims to create a workforce of 36 peer workers over 3 years.
2. To improve knowledge and skills in the Community Sector, enabling them to support Peer Workers. This project will create a 'model of support' framework as well as develop training resources, which will help other organisations create their own peer workforces.
3. To increase community capacity and reduce alcohol, tobacco and other drug stigma in Tasmania. This project aims to create a state-wide network of peer workers, who will all have skills and knowledge to assist the community to access any help they need and have the important conversations that break down stigma.

The Timeline

Year 1: 12 Peer Worker Students will be recruited. Twice in this year, Year 1 students will meet in 3 day training workshops. At the end of the year, the students will regroup to share learning and support. Opportunities for ongoing peer support and sharing with the learning group will be explored. If needed will be offered throughout the project via video-conferencing or another workable meeting format.

Year 2: 12 Peer Worker Students will be recruited. Twice in this year, Year 2 students will meet in 3-day training workshops. At the end of the year, Year 1 and Year 2 students will regroup to share learning and support.

Year 3: 12 Peer Worker Students will be recruited. Twice in this year, Year 3 students will meet in 3-day training workshops. At the end of the year, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 students will regroup to share learning and support.

Year 4: The project will be evaluated and the Framework and Training Resources published.

Funding Partners: