

Project Update – August 2020

The peer workforce project has been making steady progress with the Project partners now having completed two sessions and a follow up Q & A session of organisational readiness training with SHARC (Self Help Addiction Resource Centre).

This was followed by information sessions delivered across the wider teams to develop shared understanding of peer work and the processes involved in recruiting, mentoring and training the peer trainees.

The training evaluations have indicated that each organisation feels well prepared in terms of developing designated peer worker roles and planning the process of supporting peer workers in their new roles once the training is completed. The training and information sessions have also allowed discussion and identification of some of the unique challenges of peer work and how each organisation can work effectively as a team to respond to and work with these challenges in a proactive and supportive way.



Peer workforce project information sessions with Salvation Army teams

PEER TRAINEE RECRUITMENT

Peer trainee recruitment is currently underway with a planned timeline of recruitment being completed by the end of September. We expect to have up to 12 peer trainees recruited for the first year's round of training. Induction processes with each partner organisation will follow as well as the establishment of an online community of practice (COP) for the group.

The COP will be facilitated by DEN to support the trainees in establishing connections with each other, providing a space of mutual support and to share and reflect on the learning from the training. It is also planned to invite the peer trainees to provide input on the training program content.

PEER TRAINING PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Alongside this the DEN team has been liaising with partner and external organisations in developing the peer training program. Input will be sought on specialist training content including working with diverse clients, cultural safety, trauma informed practice and how peer work can complement specialist AOD counselling and treatment.

Funding Partners:

Alcohol & Other Drug Peer Workforce Project



The training program is on track to deliver the first module in November. The second module will be delivered in March 2021. Once this second training program is complete, peer trainees will be ready to begin their peer work roles with their sponsoring organisations.

NEEDING MORE INFORMATION?

Any further questions about the Project please contact Maria Duggan: maria@den.org.au

Maria Duggan

On behalf of the Peer Workforce Project partners and the DEN Team

Funding Partners:

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