

THE CHANGE AGENT NETWORK

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Introduction and Aims: This presentation is about the implementation of the Change Agent Network Community of Practice in the Victorian Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) sector. The Change Agent Network, initiated by Turning Point and the Department of Health and Human Services, aims to identify new and emerging leaders committed to culture and practice change who will drive the effective translation of evidence based practice across AOD service delivery and treatment.

Design and Methods: It is the first AOD Community of Practice uniting existing and emerging leaders in the Victorian AOD sector who are committed to developing and sharing leadership knowledge and expertise; to sharing values and principles around collaboration and evidence-based practice; and to generating and supporting culture and practice change.

Results: CAN achievements to date include the:

- Establishment of a cohesive collaborative state-wide leadership network
- Development of a framework for the first Victorian AOD sector Community of Practice
- Design of a state-wide practice translation model that puts Evidence Based Practice as a cornerstone for the sector

Discussion and Conclusions: This will be a discussion about experiences and challenges to date and the potential value that the Change Agent Network can bring to the sector in the longer term.

The CAN has clear objectives to improve the Victorian AOD sector, which include the support of a dynamic workforce, the promotion of Evidence Based Practice, and the facilitation of sustainable and beneficial outcomes for clients and communities.

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