



# SUPPORTING CARERS & FAMILIES

**CHAIR: JANE MORETON, PROJECT MANAGER SECTOR CAPACITY BUILDING, VAADA**

1. A mixed-methods study of online peer-led support for family members of people living with addiction
2. "Life is a roller coaster, we all have to ride it". How Uniting supports families
3. Intersectional and Family approaches to youth AOD treatment and care

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Shifting Landscapes

Building the Holistic Treatment Mosaic

**CONFERENCE**  
FEBRUARY 9-10  
**2023**



# Intersectional and Family approaches to youth AOD treatment and care

The Zone, Drummond Street Services

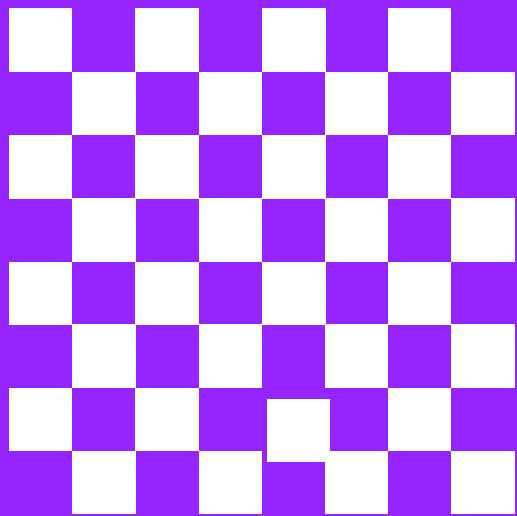
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VAADA acknowledges the traditional owners of the land on which the conference is gathered, the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation and pay their respects to Aboriginal culture and Elders past and present.



ODYSSEY HOUSE  
VICTORIA

**TaskForce**  
Where hope finds help.



**The Zone-  
Intersectional &  
Family  
approaches to  
Youth AOD care**







# Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge the Ancestors, Elders and Families of the Kulin Nation who are the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet.

We commit to working respectfully in honouring and learning from the ongoing connection to traditions, culture, and country.



# Why The Zone?

“Our approach to intersectionality recognises the interconnected nature of identities and categorisations such as race-faith, gender identity, sexuality, having a disability, socio-economic status to name a few, which shape multiple, overlapping and interdependent experiences of discrimination and disadvantage”

– Karen Field, CEO, Drummond Street Services

“At The Zone, we are learning how to create systems, processes and practices that values and draw on people’s lived experience, knowledge, culture, identity and the potential power of their connection with families and communities”

– Andrew Bruun, CEO, YSAS

“It works! Much less bureaucratic mucking around for the client. We can work holistically with the young person and their family without them having to jump through hoops. We are reaching young people and their families and communities that don’t come to AOD services. We engage with the community with clinicians who are trusted by the community”

– Neos Zavrou, Executive Manager, Odyssey House Victoria



# Why: The Zone Approach



Interconnected Categories of Intersectionality

Race

Faith

Gender Identity

Sexuality

Having a Disability

Experiencing Homelessness



Discrimination, Disadvantage, Failure to Engage End Service-Users and Re-Traumatization

# What: The Zone Collaboration

Youth AOD program: aged 12-25 and families

Intersectional Care Co-ordination

- Lived-experience Workers
- Pasifika, African and LGBTIQ+ communities

Partnership between YSAS, Odyssey and Drummond Street Services

- Funded and supported by North Western Melbourne PHN



# What: The Zone Collaboration

A service-user from the Blueprint Report

*“... My community keeps me safe,  
And offers me support.”*





# How: Our approaches

- Building workforce diversity by hiring people from community
- Valuing cultural knowledge alongside other forms of knowledge; research, practice, lived-experience
- Community engagement
- Collaborative practice
- Whole of family engagement



# How: Intersectional Care Coordination

Braiding the knowledge – Collaborative Practice:

- how we work together to bring in different forms of knowledge and to wrap services around the young person and their family
- Representation; the importance of young people seeing people like them in services; engagement and hope

How we understand “family” – Whole of Family approach:

- Family of choice and community
- Protective factors and harm reduction
- Many ways of engaging and supporting families



# An example of The Zone: Case Study

## Case Example

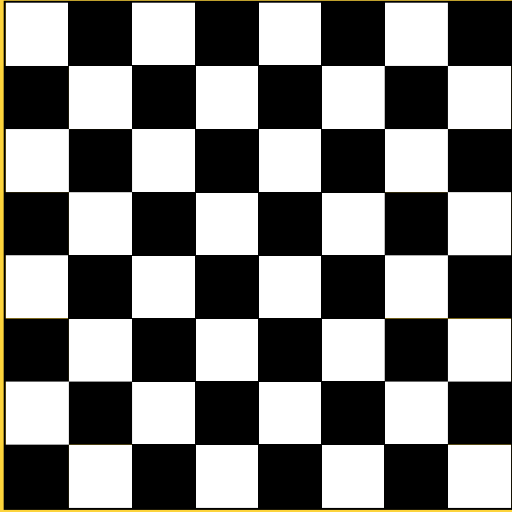
- Referral pathway and community engagement
- Identity and presenting issues - how this formed the YP's goals
- Intersectional lens and approaches
- Whole of family working approach

## Reflections

- Collaborative practice
- Cultural knowledge
- Priority cohorts
- Collective Care







**Please get in touch!**

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**Thank**

**You!**

