

# 2026 Victorian AOD Service Providers Conference

## Shaping the Future of AOD: Culture Connection and Innovation

<b>Registration</b>	<b>Registrations, Tea and Coffee</b>			<b>8.30am - 9.30am</b>
<b>Welcome &amp; Minister's Address</b>	<b>Welcome</b> Clare Davies   Acting President, VAADA			<b>9.30am - 9.35am</b>
	<b>Welcome to Country</b> Uncle Tony Garvey			<b>9.35am - 9.40am</b>
	<b>Minister's Address</b> The Hon. Ingrid Stitt   Minister for Government Services, Minister of State, Minister for Ageing, Mental Health, Multicultural and Multifaith Victoria			<b>9.40am - 9.50am</b>
<b>Updates</b>	<b>VAADA Update   Strategic Plan Launch</b> Chris Christoforou   Chief Executive Officer, Victorian Alcohol & Drug Association (VAADA)			<b>9.50am - 10.05am</b>
	<b>Department of Health Update</b> Pam Anders   Deputy Secretary, Mental Health and Wellbeing			<b>10.05am - 10.20am</b>
	<b>Keynote: On Integrating</b> Associate Professor Sophie Adams   Chief Psychiatrist of Victoria			<b>10.20am - 11.00am</b>
<b>Morning Tea</b>	<b>Celtic Hall / Exhibitor Space (Ground Level)</b>			<b>11.00am - 11.30am</b>
<b>Presentation</b>	<b>Integrating SEWB in Mainstream Practice</b> Sheree Lowe   Executive Director Balit Durn Durn			<b>11.30am - 12.00pm</b>
<b>Move to Breakouts</b>	<b>Main Plenary Room (Ground Level)   Studio Rooms (Level 1)</b>			<b>12.00pm - 12.05pm</b>
<b>Breakout Themes</b>	<b>Innovation and Experience</b> (Main Plenary   MC Gillian Clark)	<b>Culture, Care and Stigma: Towards Culturally Safe and Stigma-Free Care</b> (Studio 3 & 4   MC Daniel Wilson)	<b>Research</b> (Studio 7 & 8   MC Sara Voegtline)	
<b>Breakout session 1</b>	<b>The Maribyrnong Community Residential Facility: Accommodation and Wraparound Support for Men Leaving Prison</b> Suzi James-Nevell   Jesuit Social Services Kerstin Hinrichsen   Corrections Victoria	<b>Baringurrak (Our Journey) A Bendigo &amp; District Aboriginal Co-Operative (BDAC) Program</b>  Celeste Hamilton   BDAC Dawson Thomas   BDAC Christopher McGhee   BDAC Danny Fawcner   BDAC	<b>Intervention Opportunities for People Who Drive Under the Influence of Drugs</b> Dr Michael Savic   Turning Point and Eastern Health	<b>12.05pm - 12.25pm</b>
	<b>From Station to Sobriety: Rethinking Recovery Through Unlikely Partnerships</b> Damian Anderson   South East Community Links Marcia Harkins   South East Community Links		<b>Guanfacine as a Treatment for Problematic Cannabis Use Among Young People Aged 15-21 in Residential Youth Withdrawal Settings</b> Dr Alex Guerin   Orygen TBC   YSAS	<b>12.25pm - 12.50pm</b>
<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Celtic Hall / Exhibitor Space (Ground Level)</b>			<b>12.50pm - 1.30pm</b>
<b>Breakout Themes</b>	<b>Culture, Care and Stigma: Towards Culturally Safe and Stigma-Free Care</b> (Main Plenary   MC Scott Drummond)	<b>Innovation and Experience</b> (Studio 3 & 4   MC Oscar Grano)	<b>Research</b> (Studio 7 & 8   MC Jane Moreton)	
<b>Breakout session 2</b>	<b>Panel Discussion</b> <b>AOD Raise it Campaign: A Multi-Year Multi-Media Strategy to Reduce Stigma</b> Amelia Berg   Harm Reduction Victoria Nyachan Nyak   NAS Recovery Centre Angelo Pricolo   Pharmacist Dr Owen Harris   General Practitioner	<b>GHB: Treatment Guidelines Project</b> Professor Vic Manning   Turning Point	<b>Understanding What Makes Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Work for LGBTQ+ People</b> Dr Adrian Farrugia   La Trobe University	<b>1.30pm - 1.50pm</b>
		<b>Risks and GHB</b> Liam Neale   Harm Reduction Victoria		<b>1.50pm - 2.20pm</b>
<b>Move to Main Plenary</b>	<b>Main Plenary Room (Ground Level)</b>			<b>2.20pm - 2.25pm</b>
<b>Presentation</b>	<b>Use of AI in AOD and Social Services</b> Dr Roisin McNaney   Associate Professor, Digital Health, School of Computing and Information Systems   University of Melbourne			<b>2.25pm - 3.05pm</b>
<b>Event Close</b>	<b>Wrap Up, Thank You and Farewell to Jane Moreton</b>			<b>3.10pm</b>