



invites you to a Forum on

## CO-MORBIDITY

Hotel Grand Chancellor, 1 Davey Street, Hobart

16 April 2010

**“The Challenges of Co-morbidity: A Forum to help us understand co-morbidity and how we can better help people with co-occurring alcohol and other drug addictions and mental health problems.”**

Four internationally recognised experts will speak at the Forum:

- Professor Margaret Hamilton - *Responding to multiple difficulties and deficits in people's lives and in service systems.*
- Professor Dan Lubman – *Cannabis and mental health – what is the link?*
- Professor Amanda Baker – *Co-existing depression or anxiety and alcohol and drug problems: reasons for optimism.*
- Barbara Hocking OAM - *Smoking and mental illness – common, overlooked and deadly – an Australian overview and outline of cessation activities for people with mental illness.*

A Panel discussion facilitated by Dr Raimondo Bruno from the University of Tasmania will follow the presentations. The Panel will include a consumer representative and representatives of the Tasmanian Alcohol and Other Drug non-government sector, the Tasmanian Mental Health non-government sector, the Department of Health and Ageing, the Department of Health and Human Services and Tasmanian General Practitioners.

There will be opportunities to discuss issues with the speakers throughout the day.

Attendance will be free and lunch will be provided, however numbers will be limited. Registration will open at 8.30am for a 9.00am start. The event will formally close at 3.00pm. **Hotel Grand Chancellor, 1 Davey Street, Hobart, Friday 16 April 2010.**

For further information and registration please email [reception@atdc.org.au](mailto:reception@atdc.org.au) or phone ATDC on 03 62247780.

Funded by the Department of Health and Ageing

## GUEST SPEAKERS



### **Professor Margaret Hamilton**

Professor Hamilton has over 35 years experience in the field including clinical work, education and research. She has a background in social work and public health and has conducted research in epidemiology, policy, evaluation (prevention and treatment), young people and drugs, women and alcohol, alcohol problems in remote Australia and evaluation of treatments including therapeutic communities and self help. She was the founding director of Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre in Victoria. She has written text books and papers in this field and initiated the Drug Policy Modeling Research Programme based at NDARC. For the past five years she chaired the Multiple and Complex Needs panel, a statutory body in Victoria. She serves on various alcohol and drug related boards and government policy advisory groups including the Australian National Council on Drugs and the PM's Council on Homelessness.

Professor Hamilton will chair the Forum.



### **Professor Dan Lubman**

Professor Dan Lubman has worked across mental health and drug treatment settings in both the UK and Australia. He is Director of Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre and Professor of Addiction Studies and Services at Monash University. Dr Lubman's research focuses on investigating substance use and comorbidity in youth. This includes a number of pharmacological and psychological treatment trials in psychosis and depression, as well as psychophysiological, neuropsychological and neuroimaging studies examining the neurobiology of addiction. A particular research interest is exploring the impact of substance use on adolescent brain development. Dr Lubman has published over 100 peer-reviewed scientific papers and book chapters, and is Chair of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists' Section of Addiction Psychiatry and an advisory board member of Addiction Neuroscience Network Australia, the National Cannabis Prevention and Information Centre, and the National Drug Research Institute.

## GUEST SPEAKERS



**Professor Amanda Baker**

Professor Amanda Baker is a Clinical Psychologist who has practiced in both mental health and alcohol and other drug treatment settings in the United Kingdom and Australia and has specialised in the treatment of co-morbidity. She is Deputy Director of the University of Newcastle Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research and is currently NHMRC Senior Research Fellow at the Centre. Professor Baker and her team at the National Alcohol and Drug Research Centre recently won the prestigious Excellence in Research National Drug and Alcohol Award. Professor Baker and her team were nominated for the award for the development of two new tools that enable front-line service organisations to better identify and treat co-occurring mental health and drug/ alcohol abuse.



**Barbara Hocking OAM**

Since 1995, Barbara has been Executive Director of SANE Australia – the national mental health charity. SANE works for a better life for Australians affected by mental illness, through education, applied research and campaigning for improved services and attitudes.

Good physical health is a growing issue for people living with mental illness, who have reduced life expectancy of 15 to 20 years. SANE Australia's Mind and Body Initiative recognises that a healthier life includes both mental and physical wellness, and promotes common sense steps to improve overall health.

In other areas of work, Barbara represents the community perspective on a wide range of committees and advisory groups. With special interests in suicide prevention and stigma reduction, she is a member of the Australian Suicide Prevention Advisory Council and the National Media and Mental Health Group which oversees the Mindframe National Media Initiative.

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## PANEL DISCUSSION

### Facilitator

#### **Dr Raimondo Bruno**

Dr Raimondo Bruno is a lecturer at the School of Psychology, University of Tasmania. He has been involved in the alcohol and drug sector in Tasmania for the past decade in numerous research, evaluation and consultancy roles. His main research interests include the health and cognitive consequences of use of substances such as 'ecstasy' (MDMA), cannabis, and benzodiazepines; illicit drug market trends, in particular those relating to unsanctioned use of pharmaceuticals; and approaches to the reduction of harm associated with the injection of tablet-based pharmaceuticals. As part of his academic roles, he leads a group of postgraduates, doctoral candidates and research fellows conducting research within these areas, and teaches trainee clinical psychologists in the areas of psychopharmacology and substance use, among others. He is the Tasmanian Chief Investigator on the Illicit Drug Reporting System and Ecstasy and Related Drug Reporting System series of projects in collaboration with the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, and is an honorary fellow of Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre.

### Members

**Sally Upton** is the Manager of the Salvation Army Bridge Centre in Hobart.

**Aron Perkins** is the mental health advocate for Advocacy Tasmania Inc.

**Michelle Swallow** is the Executive Officer of the Mental Health Council of Tasmania.

**Kim McLachlan** is Assistant Director of the Improved Services Initiative, Treatment and Indigenous Programs Section, Australian Department of Health and Ageing, Canberra.

**Coral Musket** is the Director of Nursing for Mental Health & Statewide Services, Department of Health and Human Services.

There will also be a representative of General Practice on the Panel.