



2015-2016 Annual Report

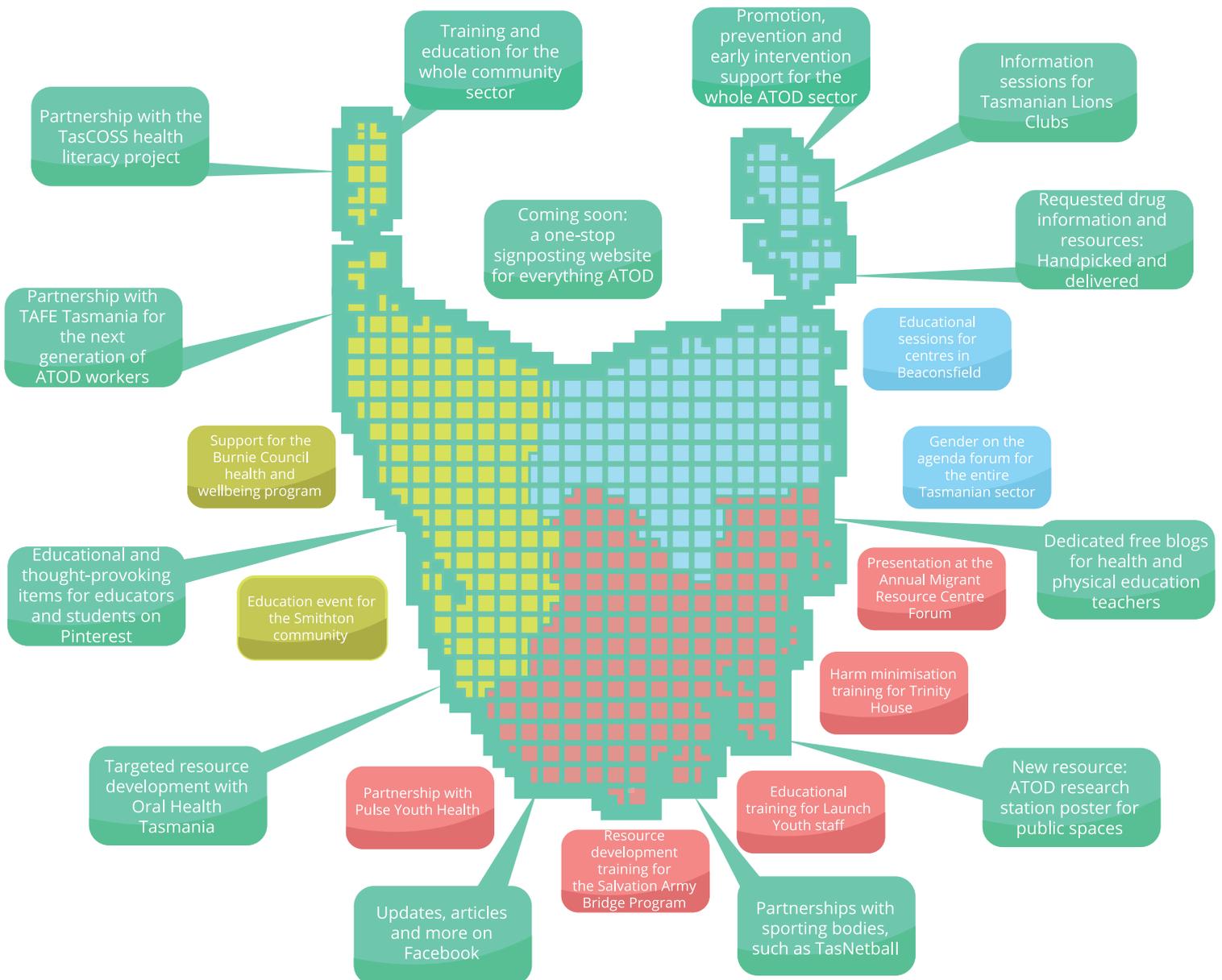
Executive Summary

Position statement

The Drug Education Network (DEN) neither condones nor condemns the use of drugs. Rather, we acknowledge that drug use exists, irrespective of legal status or societal norms.

DEN provides community members with the resources, information and connections they need to keep themselves and their community safer in relation to their individual circumstances.

Our goal is to meet people where they are and encourage open dialogue that empowers the individual to be the primary agent of their own physical, mental and emotional wellbeing.



Who are we?

The DEN is funded to improve the wellbeing of Tasmanians through prevention, resource development, and education and training to service providers and the wider community on alcohol and other drugs.

DEN's Theory of Change

AOD-related harms are linked to the **Social Determinants of Health**

Health Promotion, Prevention and Early Intervention approaches help to address these

ATOD and other organisations work with individuals, families and communities to **develop strengths and resilience**

People are empowered to **be the primary agent of their own physical, mental and emotional wellbeing**

Chairperson

Wayne Moore

State Manager

Shirleyann Varney

The theme for this year has been one of **renewal and new beginnings**. We re-established a new Educator team in Launceston, following some internal restructuring for a fully operational Educator team in the south. We also welcomed Shirleyann Varney as State Manager, and we are currently preparing to celebrate **30 years of service**.

As part of our work providing information to the community, we have **distributed over 1,200 resources to community members across Tasmania**. Education and training sessions were held, covering key themes such as **debunking ice myths and dealing with challenging behaviours in an ATOD context, helping parents talk to their children about drugs, drug education and motivational interviewing skills, AOD and trauma**, and the **Gender on the Agenda statewide forum**.

DEN embraced the opportunity to be involved as a pilot organisation in **TasCOSS's health literacy project** and looks forward to continued collaboration in this important area of work.

The DEN team collaborated to develop valuable resources that will be launched in late 2016, including the **Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Handbook**, which is available both as a booklet and electronically on the DEN website.

This year, we laid down extensive ground work for the new **everybody's.business** website, a one-stop portal for everything ATOD. We are looking forward to launching this state-of-the-art website in late 2016.

and counting!



95 Facebook posts

Supporting change

Health Promotion, Prevention, and Early Intervention

DEN is proud to have been active in health Promotion, Prevention and Early Intervention (PPEI) initiatives and strategies with individuals, families, third sector organisations and government organisations for 30 years. During this past year DEN has provided over 1200 paper-based resources to schools, community organisations and individuals. DEN's Facebook posts, Pinterest boards and the soon-to-be launched **everybody's.business** website will continue to provide access to quality ATOD resources and information.

Working with ATOD and other services

DEN works closely with other ATOD, community, private and government services. We develop resources in partnerships with other organisations and provide workforce development training and educational workshops on request.

DEN provided **51 workshops** in this past year, held a gender forum in partnership with ATDC, and developed several resources for schools, health professionals and community organisations.

What you're telling us

100% of participants surveyed following DEN training and education sessions reported they **would use the information from the session in their daily personal or work life**.

"Excellent, the content was delivered in a **safe and age appropriate** manner."

"A valuable session for all students embarking on a career in education."

"Quality! Liked the **connection between Addiction & Trauma & Person & Addiction**."

"Very informative. Good for those who are not familiar with most drugs."

"**Was very informative and activities showed how to implement into daily contact**."

"Staff really enjoyed the session and **we are very interested in getting DEN back in future months**. It has really begun the conversation and is creating awareness for our staff."

"The DEN presenters both had **excellent knowledge & passions for the field**. Thank you!"

Proudly partnered with...

Advocacy Tasmania, Alcohol and Drug Service, Anglicare Tasmania, Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drugs Council, Australian Drug Foundation, Autism Australia, Break O'Day Networking Group, Burnie Council, Child and Family Centre Burnie, COTA, Catholic Care, Department of Education and Schools, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Police and Community Management, Department of Primary Industries Parks, Water and Environment, FADE New Zealand, FASD Tasmania, Gamechanger Campaign, Glenorchy City Council, Good Sports, Hobart City Council, Hobart College, Huon Football Club, Huon Valley Council, Kingston High School, Launch Youth, LINC, Lions Club Australia, Mental Health Carers Tas, Migrant Resource Centre, Mission Australia, Mt Carmel College, My Pathways, Netball Tas, Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania, PCYC, Poppy Industry Safety and Education Committee, Pulse Youth Health, QUIT, Red Cross Tasmania, Salvation Army Tasmania, Smoke Free Young People, Social Determinants of Health Network, Sorell Council, TasTAFE, Taroona High School, Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre, TasNetworks, TasCOSS, Tasmania Police, Trinity House, The Link Youth Health Service, University of Tasmania, White Lion, WorkCover, Workskills