

# Highlights - 2017

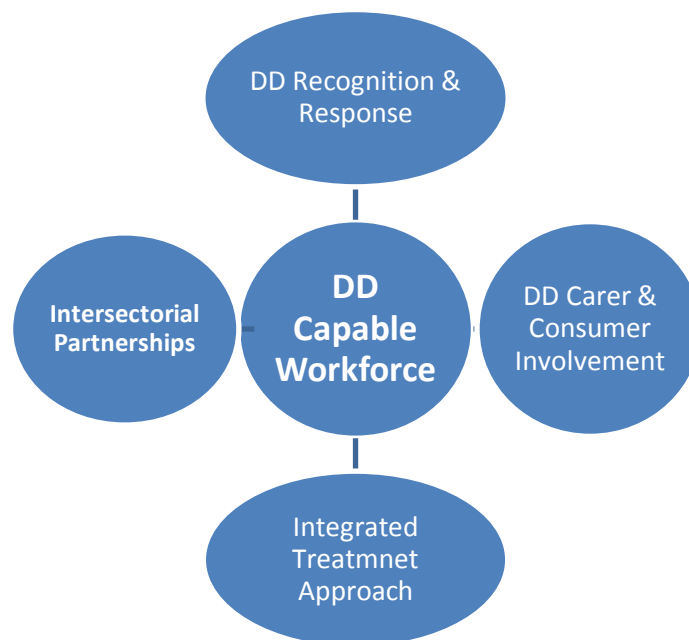
It is often challenging to select a **HIGHLIGHTS** reel, when the breadth and depth of the work we do is so varied, complex and at times abstract – capacity Building!

The following highlights are a sample of some of the work we have been engaged in during 2017.

In addition we have been participating in and driving a variety of DD Network alliance work – NERDD; NEDDY; Yarra MH Alliance; Yarra Drug & Health Forum; NE MH Alliance etc.; Primary, Secondary and Tertiary consultations with stakeholders across the sectors – MH, AOD, MHCSS, Youth, Adult and Aged; Co-production projects with consumers and carers; collaborations with our VDDI Colleagues across the state through the VDDI LG, BUDDYS & BUDDHAS; Engaged in contributing to DHHS workforce development – 10 year MH Plan; AOD workforce etc.

These highlights / projects were all done in collaboration with individuals and services committed to improving DD outcomes with their consumers.

The NEXUS model /approach to capacity building and workforce development is made up of a number of elements (see below)

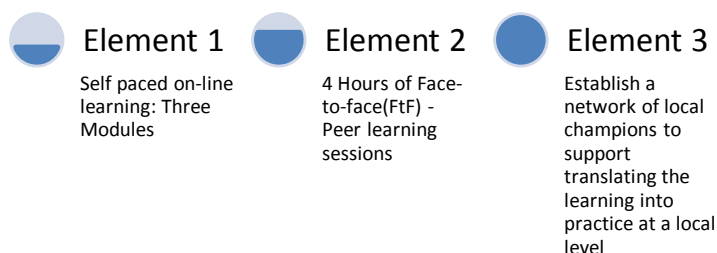


We have chosen a sample of projects that will highlight these multi blended approaches to increasing knowledge, skills and confidence when working with Dual Diagnosis consumers.

## Austin Mental Health Service - Amphetamine-Type Stimulants Blended Learning Package & Project

The primary objective of this project was to enhance MH staff's recognition, response and referral processes for consumers affected by ice. The project assisted in building MH workforce capacity by providing targeted training that enhances staff knowledge and skills to better manage problems related to ATS & ICE affected consumers.

The project had the following structure / elements



This project included over 200 hours of consultation and program logic design for the development of the three on line modules. An additional 100 hours went into the development of the FtF component. Nexus provided 453 occasions of targeted in-service, a blend of online and face-to-face elements. A unique feature of this project was the use of lived experience people sharing their stories of recovery. Nexus collaborated with Association Participating Substance Users (APSU – a Peak AOD Consumer Participation body) to recruit, co-ordinate and support lived experience consumer and carer speakers.

### Before During & After (BDA) Package

The Before During After harm reduction tool and associated package has been developed by Simon Kroes of Nexus to provide staff with a structured conversation to explore harm reduction issues with consumers in a non-threatening, engaging and systematic manner.

“The response from consumers, when using BDA & HR focus was more engaging, with consumers readily talking about their use, and it promoted empowerment, with consumers feeling more in control of decisions about their life” staff participant.

St Vincent's MH roll out: 16 Footbridge staff, 8 PARC staff & 7 MST staff.

Joint presentations at VAADA & TheMHS conference & conference proceedings article Successful pilot with MIND Australia involving 5 practice leaders from 4 Melbourne sites.

### Murray PHN Dual Diagnosis & MI training

Nexus were engaged by Murray PHN to provide face to face training in Dual Diagnosis and Motivational Interviewing for a range of service providers including; clinical MH, AOD Housing & Aboriginal Services. This project included 60 hours of consultation, 80 hours of developing training material 18 days of face to face training in Mildura, Shepparton, Kilmore, Wangaratta, Nurmurkah, Bendigo and Wodonga. Nexus also provided post training support via follow up of participant commitment statements.



63 staff attended 4 x two day Dual Diagnosis training sessions  
74 attended 5 x two day Motivational Interviewing training sessions

## Reasons For Use Package

A resource that facilitates therapeutic conversations with consumers to explore issues relating to the interaction between their mental health and alcohol and other drug use designed by Simon Kroes & Kevan Myers of Nexus.

Continued Australia-wide roll out across Neami National

Roll out with Cohealth: Both AOD and MH staff across numerous metro Melbourne sites VAADA conference presentation. A paper on the role of Mentoring in the RFUP will be published in New Paradigm summer edition.

International presentations, building on collaborations in Copenhagen Denmark and Swansea University Wales.

## St Vincent's MH Blood Borne Virus Project / Nexus, St V MH SDU, Victorian Viral Hepatitis Education, Nurse & Gastroenterology

Developed a partnership to support MH consumers accessing treatment and Dr Kah Seong Loke has successfully applied for a \$50k research grant to support this project.



## Nexus Training Calendar

8 different topics – 31 agencies – 96 participants

[Link to training calendar](#)

## Networking and Collaborations

Significant support and presentation at BUDDYS expo with 75 attendees

BUDDHAS involvement and contributions

Yarra Drug & Health Forum Executive position

Continued hosting of VDDI Leadership Group

Continued hosting and coordination of the VDDI Rural Forum

Monash University – Consumer and Carer animated stories project

Boroondara Council worker training with over 80 participants

Family Violence portfolio holder, inc. prompt card roll out

RMIT – 6 month student placement

Guest lecturers at ACU & Monash University & Melbourne

Social Work Text Book Chapter: published through Allen & Unwin

APSU, auspiced by SHARC – 28 event-specific lived experience guest speakers

Austin Hospital: 2 x information sessions with 21 participants.