

125  
YEARS  
ST VINCENT'S CARES.  
ALWAYS HAS. ALWAYS WILL.



ST VINCENT'S  
HOSPITAL  
MELBOURNE

A FACILITY OF ST VINCENT'S HEALTH AUSTRALIA

# Tuesdays with Nexus

## Never above you, never below you, always beside you – integrating peer workers into existing services

28 June 2022

Antony Alder and Kate Dobson  
Lived Experience Peer Workers  
The Department of Addiction Medicine

# Introduction

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## **Antony Alder**

LE Peer Worker

Department of Addiction Medicine (DoAM)

- Inpatients ED and hospital wards
  - Direct contact and referral
- Outpatients
  - Via referral from DoAM staff

## **Kate Dobson**

LE Peer Worker

DePaul House (DPH)

- 12 bed residential withdrawal unit
  - Direct contact
- Outpatients
  - Via referral from DoAM staff
  - DPH clients discharging to the community

# How the service was set up

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- SHARC Peer Worker Organisational Readiness training prior to Peer Workers commencing
- Six week induction
- Created referral form which was active week three
- Roles developed organically over time
- Created Peer Worker information flyer for clients and database to capture our activities
- Created surveys to seek feedback from clients

# Supports we require

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- External discipline specific supervision
- Internal line management and clinical supervision
- Attending the Victorian AOD Peer Workforce Community of Practice (CoP)
- Being a part of the wider Lived Experience Workforce - St Vincent's
- Having the freedom to work collaboratively to best implement the roles
- Peer specific training

# How St Vincent's supports us

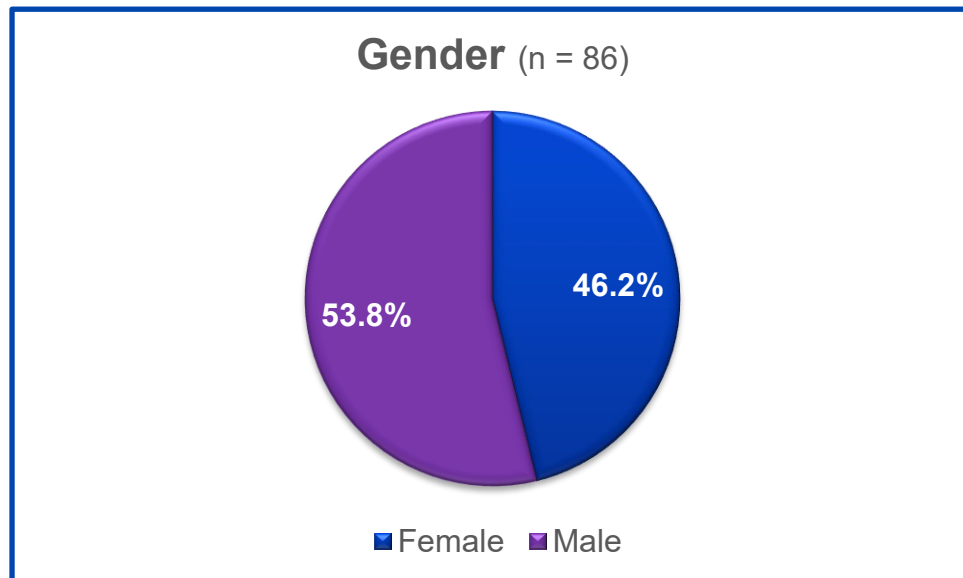
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- Staff advocacy
- Organisational readiness training
- Having an organisational understanding of peer work and the value of lived experience
- Being able to work in a positive and inclusive culture
- Flexible working arrangements

# Data collected from 1 Feb 2022

Total number of clients = 145

Total points of activity = 433



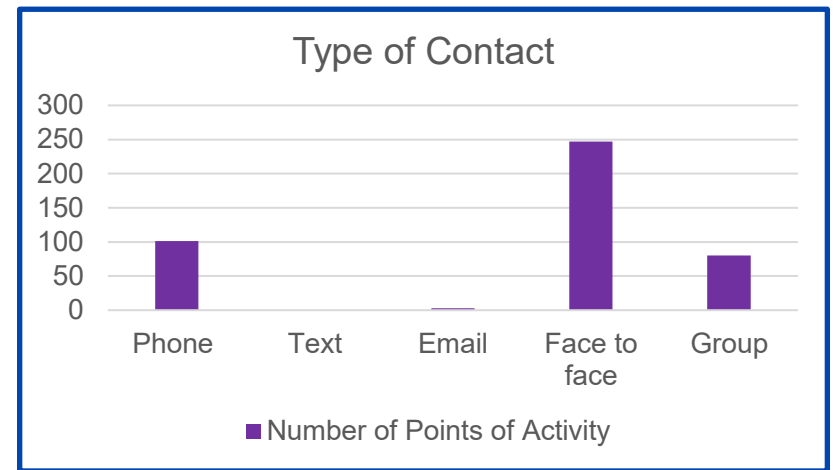
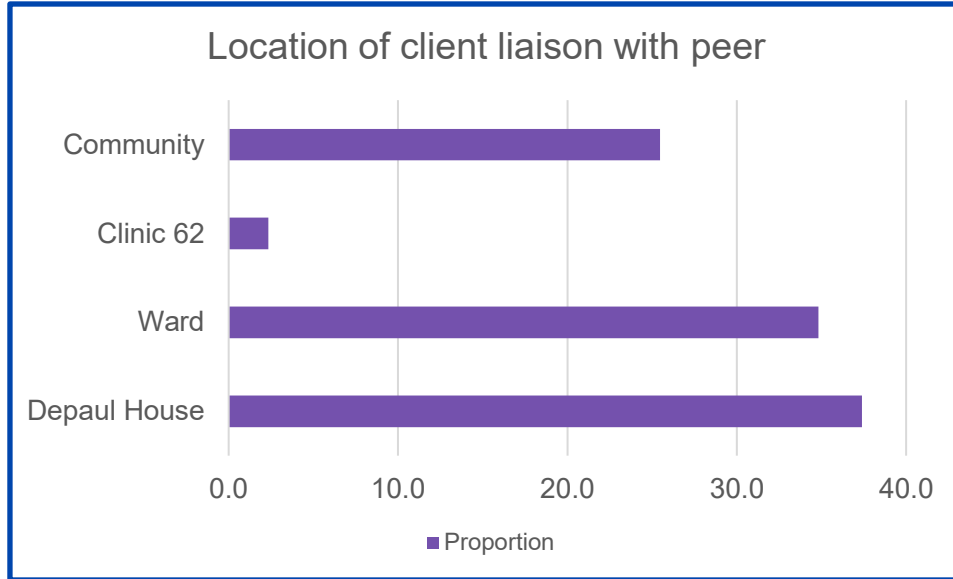
## Average Age

**44.1 years**

Females 44.5 (Min = 21.9; Max = 67.6)

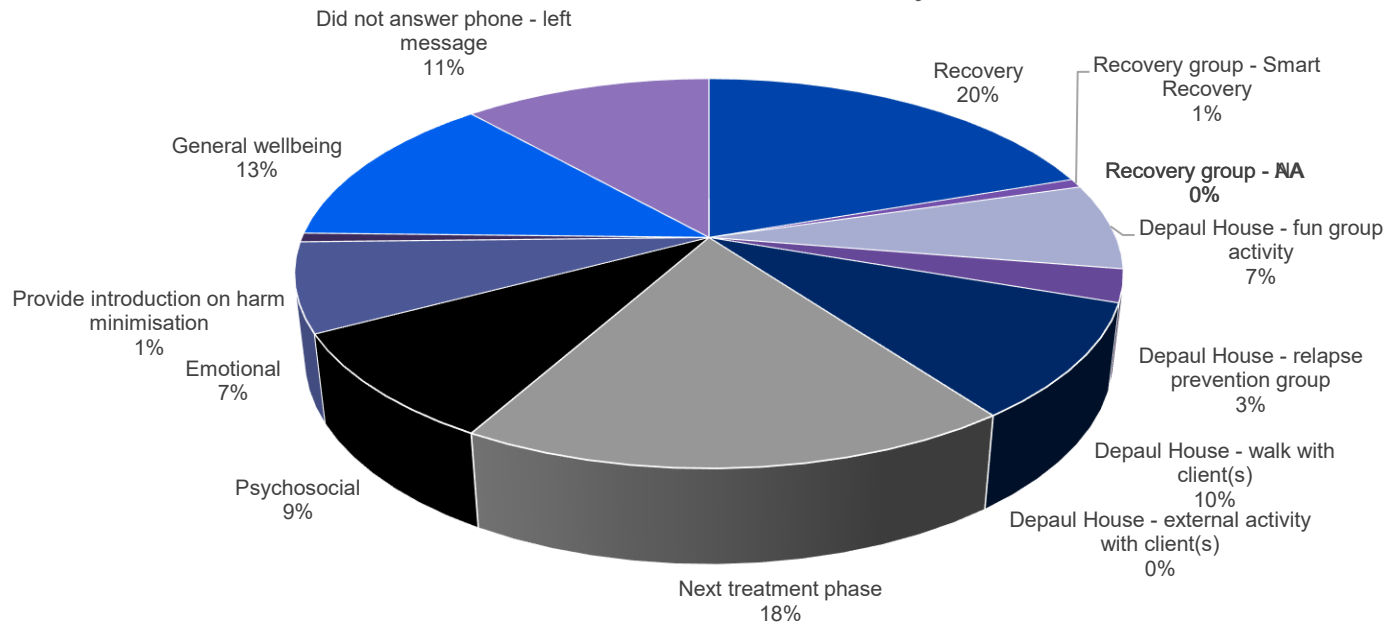
Males 43.6 (Min = 27.1; Max = 74.9)

# Location and type of contact



# Reason for meeting with clients

Reason for Point of Activity



- Recovery
- Recovery group - NA
- Depaul House - fun group activity
- Depaul House - walk with client(s)
- Next treatment phase
- Emotional
- General wellbeing
- Recovery group - Smart Recovery
- Recovery group - AA
- Depaul House - relapse prevention group
- Depaul House - external activity with client(s)
- Psychosocial
- Provide introduction on harm minimisation
- Did not answer phone - left message



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