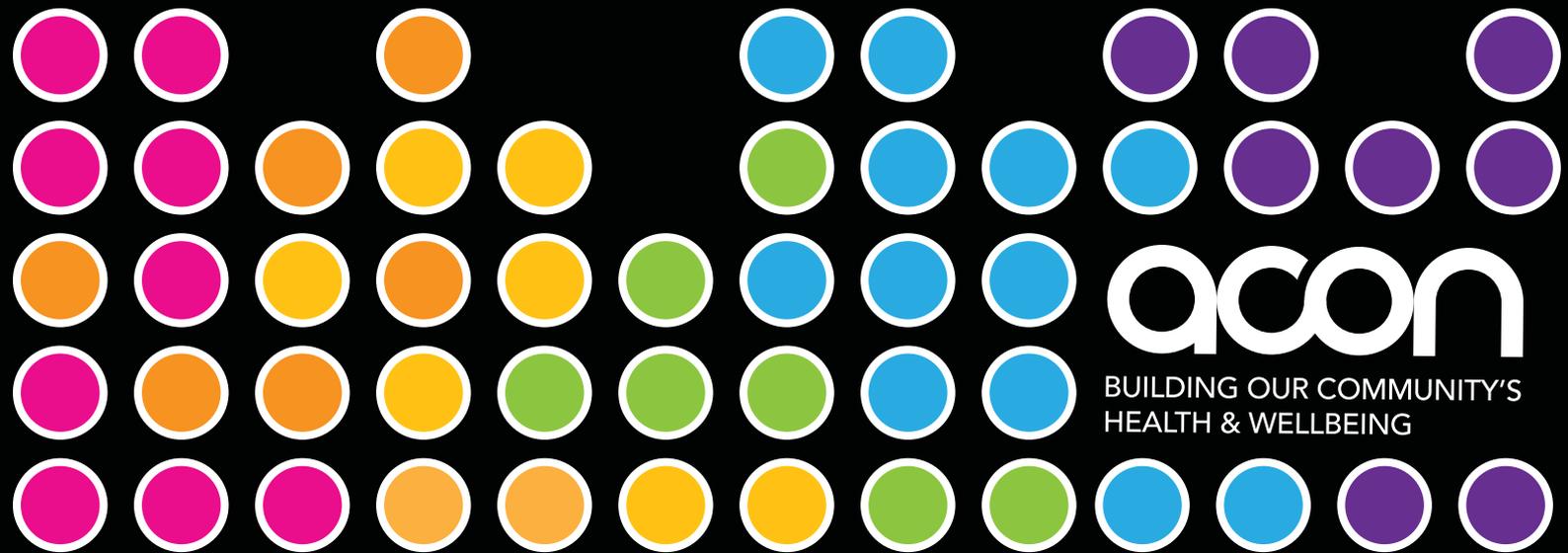
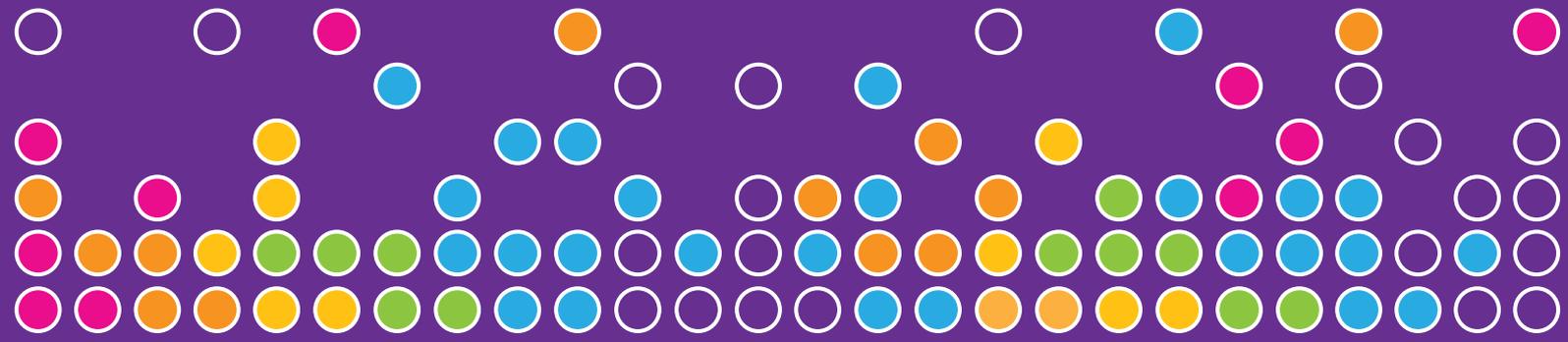


BUILDING THE FUTURE

ACON ANNUAL REPORT 07/08





ACON ANNUAL REPORT 07/08



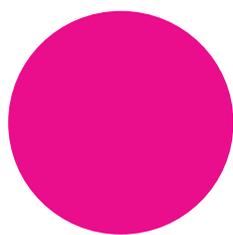
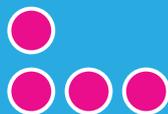
Contents



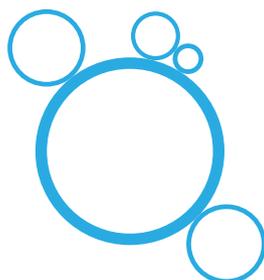
1. Contents
2. Who We Are
3. Who We Serve
4. Organisational Structure
5. ACON Staff *Big Day In* 2008 Group Photo
6. Message From President & CEO
8. Year In Review
10. HIV Prevention
12. Living With HIV
14. Men's Health
15. Women's Health
16. Mental Health
17. Alcohol & Other Drugs
18. Anti-Violence
19. Young GLBT People
20. Mature Age GLBT People
21. Aboriginals & Torres Strait Islander People
22. Culturally & Linguistically Diverse GLBT People
23. Sex Workers
24. Western Sydney
25. Regional & Rural NSW
26. International Projects
27. Advocacy
28. Fundraising
29. Social, Environmental & Community Responsibility
30. Operations
 - Communications
 - Human Resources
 - Finance & Administration
 - Information Technology
 - Reception Services
 - Knowledge Centre
 - Vitamin Service
 - Quality Improvement
 - Planning & Evaluation
 - Governance
31. Financial Report
42. Acknowledgements
48. Contacts



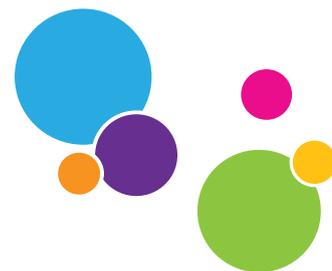
WHO WE ARE



COURAGE



EMPATHY



DIVERSITY

What We Do

We promote the health and wellbeing of NSW's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) community. We also provide information and support for people living with HIV or at risk of acquiring HIV, including sex workers and people who use drugs.

A lot of our work is related to HIV/AIDS because it's one of the biggest health issues facing our community. We run HIV prevention and education campaigns, assist people living with HIV and develop policy across a wide range of HIV-related issues. But our work also covers other health issues such as sexual health, mental health, lesbian health, alcohol and other drugs, anti-violence, youth, ageing, community care and advocacy.

We're a community-based non-government organisation. This means the work we do is done in our community, for our community and by members of our community. Most of our funding comes from the NSW Government to help us with our HIV work. Our other work is financed by small grants from the public and private sectors, fundraising activities and donations.

What We Seek

- An end to the HIV/AIDS pandemic.
- A strong, healthy and resilient gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community.
- A society that respects the link between health and social justice.



What We Believe In

- social justice
- creativity, innovation and excellence
- strengthening community
- the equal right to health
- working in partnership
- harm minimisation
- inclusiveness, respect and self-determination
- sex positivity
- minimising our environmental impact
- leading by example in a caring workplace
- social responsibility as an organisation



WHO WE SERVE



Our Community

The community we come from, work in and are most accountable to is the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) community. This is not one homogenous group but is made up of many different individuals. Some are younger or older, of different genders, economic, geographic or social backgrounds, some are from different cultures, some have disabilities and some have HIV/AIDS. We appreciate these differences as a strength of our community and not a point for division. So we speak of one community even though it has many parts.



Our Clients

Our clients most often come from within our community but not always. We provide services for all people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS about 15% of whom, at this time, are heterosexual. Many of our HIV and STI prevention programs target people who don't necessarily identify as part of our community but who interact with our community such as non-gay identifying men who have sex with men. We often work in partnership to develop programs where only a component will focus on our community.

The Sex Workers Outreach Project (SWOP) is a large and important part of ACON with a distinct focus and client group. SWOP represents sex industry workers and management as well as sex industry clients.

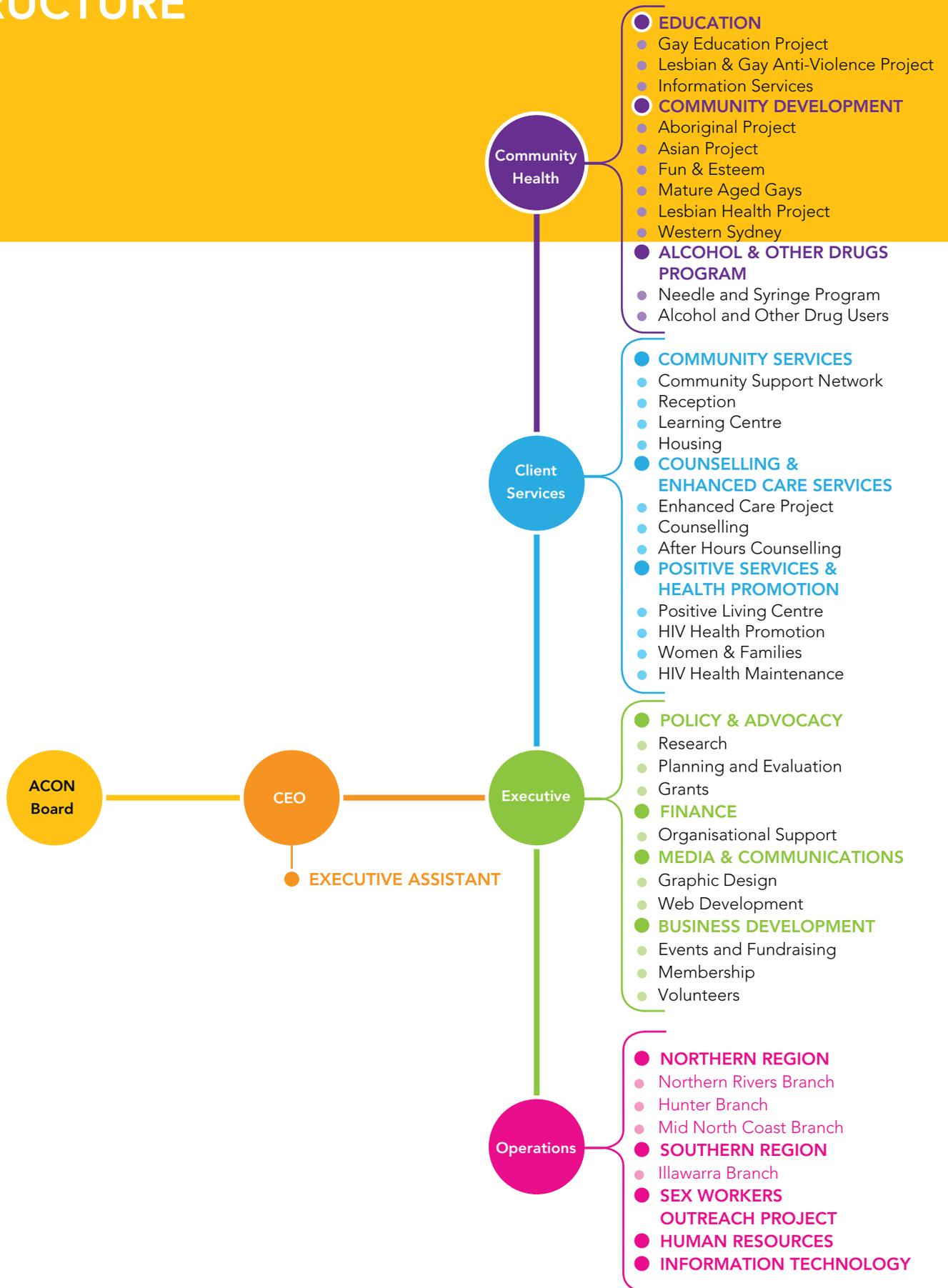
Why We Do It

Our community faces the same broad health issues as everyone else. However, mainstream service providers don't always respond adequately to the needs of GLBT people due to a lack of knowledge, understanding or acceptance. Our community also has specific health needs that are best met by a community-based organisation with expert knowledge and experience, particularly in relation to HIV, sexual health, discrimination and social isolation.

We meet this dual challenge by providing information and services that support the specific needs of our community, particularly people with HIV. We also work to close the gap by improving our community's access to mainstream services. Right across NSW, our team of caring and professional people understand and genuinely value the unique character of our community and work hard to help build our community's health and wellbeing.



ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

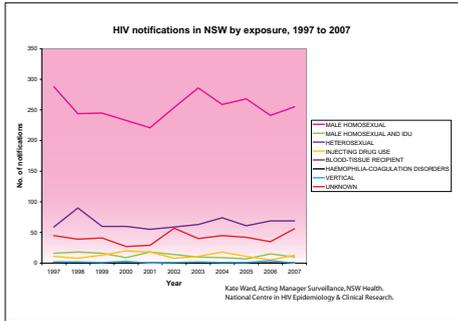




ACON Staff at the Big Day In 2008



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CEO



HIV Notifications in NSW by exposure, 1997 to 2007



Parliament House, Canberra



GLBT NSW 2020

For 23 years, ACON has been delivering important outcomes for the health and wellbeing of our community. Looking back, our work can probably be characterised in three very distinct phases. Between 1985 and 1991, HIV prevention was as important but much more basic than today and we cared for people as they became sick, helping them to die with dignity while supporting family and friends. Between 1992 and 1999, our programs began to change to take a more holistic approach and medical advances meant a change in emphasis to 'living with HIV'. Between 2000 and 2007, we expanded further to become a health promotion agency for the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community. Our HIV work has stayed at the heart of what we do but we have been building new programs around it.

Our achievements over the last financial year offer an insight into how we're building for the future of ACON and for our community's health and wellbeing. The launch of our *Rural and Regional Action Plan* has set us on the path to becoming a truly state-wide organisation. Our Alcohol and Other Drugs Program expanded significantly last year. We launched one of the most comprehensive strategies ever for improving health outcomes for lesbians and same-sex attracted women. We began

the serious long-term task of planning for an ageing GLBT community. And while doing all this, we kept our eye on the central part of our work – HIV. NSW is one of the only places in the western world that has kept HIV infections relatively stable and ACON is the single biggest provider of services to people living with HIV in Australia. These are all great achievements – as are the many others that are detailed in the pages of this year's annual report – and we congratulate and thank everyone who has contributed to our work over the last year.

Of particular note has to be our long serving President, Adrian Lovney, who retired from the ACON Board in February 2008 after an unparalleled eight years as President of ACON. His leadership saw ACON successfully navigate many challenging and difficult times. Adrian always pushed us to make the right decision no matter how much courage it might require at the time, even in the face of extraordinary criticism. He has left ACON an organisation that many around the world are trying to emulate.

The quality and sophistication of our work clearly demonstrates that, as an organisation, ACON is ready to move to a new level of service and program delivery.

So what does the future hold in store and what are the transformative forces that will shape ACON's development over the coming years? Firstly, the change of Federal Government presents significant opportunities and possibilities for our communities and for the work we do at ACON. In both the Government and the Opposition there is a move away from the conservatism of recent years which bodes well for our community and clients.

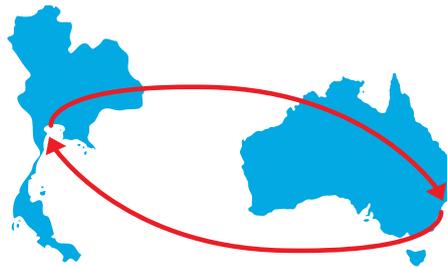
In preparing for that future, ACON wants to make sure that we have a strong and vibrant GLBT community. The recent *GLBT NSW 2020* roundtable was the beginning of a groundbreaking community consultation process which will map out a vision for the future of NSW's GLBT community. This plan, due for release in 2009, will have a significant and lasting effect on the direction and purpose of ACON's work.

With the change of government in Canberra, ACON is positioning itself to take advantage of the potential new opportunities for funding from the Commonwealth level. By leading the development of the National LGBT Health Alliance, ACON is opening up new doors in our nation's capital, which we know will lead to a wider range of income sources





National LGBT Health Alliance logo



Australia - Thailand.
HIV/AIDS Community Sector Partnership



ACON's new web site

for the diverse areas of work that ACON does under the banner of GLBT health.

As the HIV/AIDS epidemic continues to expand relentlessly in the Asia/Pacific region, ACON, as a world leader in HIV prevention and education as well as GLBT health and wellbeing, is uniquely placed to work with our Asia/Pacific neighbours to improve the programs, systems and strategies they employ in their particular countries. In return, we gain fresh perspectives on our own work which enables us to improve our response to the epidemic.

Now that we're well and truly living in the digital age, it's essential that we jump on the digital band wagon and ride it with all our might. The gateway to this brave new world, for both ourselves and our clients, is the ACON website. A brand new website will be launched in January 2009 and will significantly improve how we deliver many of our services and programs to people in our community. This will be particularly important in relation to our work in regional and rural NSW where we'll finally be able to provide a comprehensive service to people in even the most remote areas of the state.

Over the coming years, these forces will combine with the expertise and commitment of our Board, our staff and our volunteers to produce an ACON that's bigger, better and smarter. Firstly, we'll increase our capacity and our reach. Secondly, we'll become much better at serving people in our community. Thirdly, we'll become much more sophisticated in the way we approach all areas of our work.

In a nutshell, we're about to take a great leap forward and grow significantly as a community organisation to be more politically connected, globally relevant, tech savvy and financially secure. This is the future we're building for ACON and we look forward to working with our stakeholders and our community to make this vision a reality. With this in mind, it is with great pleasure that we present to you ACON's Annual Report for 07/08.



Mark Orr
President

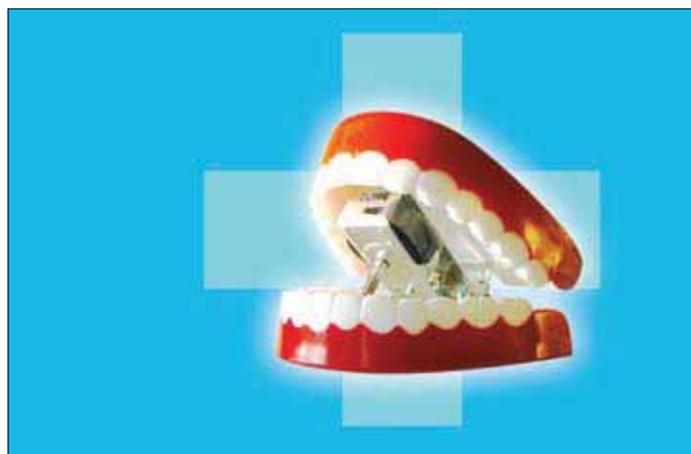


Stevie Clayton
Chief Executive Officer

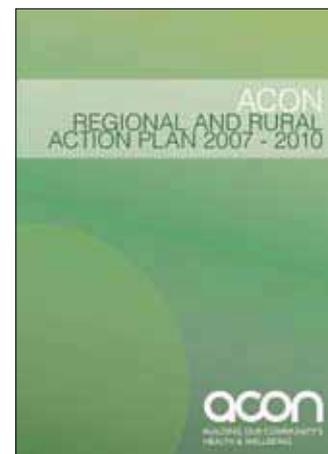
YEAR IN REVIEW



You Just Don't Know HIV prevention poster



New online resources for people with HIV



Rural and Regional Action Plan 2007 - 2010

2007/2008 saw new and significant outcomes for ACON. In terms of HIV prevention, the rate of new HIV diagnoses in NSW remained relatively stable when viewed over a ten year period, as is usual. Surveillance data compiled by NSW Health recorded 404 new HIV notifications in 2007. While this was a small increase over 2006, it's important to note that this rise was attributable to an increase in new diagnoses rather than new infections which were at the same rate as the previous year.

This means people who've been HIV-positive for some time were diagnosed, allowing them to change their behaviour and seek treatment. This indicates that the education campaigns and prevention strategies developed by ACON and our partner organisations such as NSW Health, Positive Life NSW, Area Health Services, GPs and research bodies remain salient and effective. At the same time, of course, this situation is always fragile and we work as if a major increase could occur at anytime.

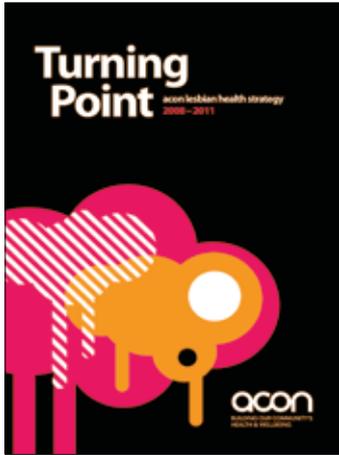
Launched in April, *You Just Don't Know* was one of several HIV and sexually transmissible infection (STI) prevention and education campaigns created by ACON that featured in community media and at pubs, clubs, sex on premises venues (SOPVs) and community events throughout NSW. The campaign was designed to help gay men understand the risks of choosing sex partners by presuming their HIV status. Another major campaign, *Together We Can*, was created for the Mardi Gras season. This multi-platform campaign, which included a stand-alone website and a range of merchandise, featured messages about preventing STIs, challenging HIV-related discrimination, improving lesbian sexual health, taking action against homophobic violence and reducing the harms associated with alcohol and drug use.

This year, ACON launched a range of new online resources for people with HIV, providing up to date information on topics including superannuation, the disability support pension (DSP), dental care, hepatitis A, B or C & HIV co-infection,

employment rights and managing money and debt. More online chapters are being developed to ensure that people with HIV have access to a range of medical, clinical and general information that can help them improve their health and wellbeing.

In relation to our broader work in GLBT health and wellbeing, ACON developed or implemented three ground-breaking strategies in 07/08. Launched in October, ACON's *Rural and Regional Action Plan 2007-2010* is a three-year strategy that sets out a raft of projects, services and partnerships that will enable ACON to progress its work in regional NSW and keep on building our community's health and wellbeing throughout the state. A comprehensive Lesbian Health Strategy, the first of its kind in Australia, was developed in consultation with a broad range of community stakeholders. Called *Turning Point*, the three-year plan will guide and integrate lesbian health activities across all ACON projects and programs. The development of a Mental Health Strategy for the GLBT community, again a first for Australia, also progressed significantly and is due for release in 2009.





Lesbian Health Strategy 2008 - 2011



Panelists at the Ageing Disgracefully forum



Would You Wear It? anti-racism poster

Addressing the needs of particular groups within the GLBT community was also a focus of ACON during 07/08. Federal and State government grants facilitated the expansion of our Alcohol and Other Drugs program to help people with co-morbidity issues, a special community forum attended by High Court judge Justice Michael Kirby explored ageing and ageism in the GLBT community, and a social awareness campaign was launched to encourage people in the GLBT community to take a stand against racism.

Throughout the year, ACON continued to advocate on a range of issues affecting the GLBT community and people living with HIV/AIDS. Chief among these was reducing homophobic violence in and around Sydney's Oxford St Precinct. This included the establishment of the Oxford St Safe Place, a seven-month project which, as part of a wider campaign, helped raise awareness about homophobic violence, increased reporting of violence, and improved the response from NSW Police and the NSW Government. Changes to senior police positions in the

Surry Hills LAC and Metro South-East Region have led to a new era in police and GLBT community relations with ACON and the AVP now working closely with the NSW Police Force on a range of different projects and levels. In this regard we particularly want to acknowledge the role of Surry Hills Local Area Commander, Superintendent Donna Adney and the efforts of Lord Mayor of Sydney and Member for Sydney Clover Moore.

Of course, efforts to deal with violence after it occurs is only part of the story, we also work to create a world where young people will not grow up thinking that violence is the appropriate solution to dealing with fears of difference. A range of ACON projects do work in schools across the state to reduce homophobia and of particular note this year was the *That's So Gay* Conference held by the Anti-Homophobia Interagency of which ACON is a part. It was attended by over 250 teachers, students, community and health workers from all over Australia and New Zealand.

Finally, this year has seen a renewed focus on state co-operation in two distinct areas. Firstly, we have worked together with the other state-based AIDS Councils (or equivalents), AFAO and Gay & Lesbian Health Victoria on the establishment of the National LGBT Health Alliance (NLHA). Formed initially as a simple MOU between the organisations, and only in its infancy, the NLHA was successful in delivering significant promises from the major parties in the lead up to the last federal election. It is now set to become a fully fledged organisation in its own right with a major policy development and lobbying agenda before it.

Secondly, the same HIV organisations have also come together with the AIDS Trust of Australia to enable truly national HIV/AIDS fundraising to be undertaken for the first time in the history of the epidemic in Australia. We are hoping through this new era of collaboration to reduce duplication and competition and increase synergies and opportunities for national sponsorship, thereby increasing the amount donated to HIV programs nationally.



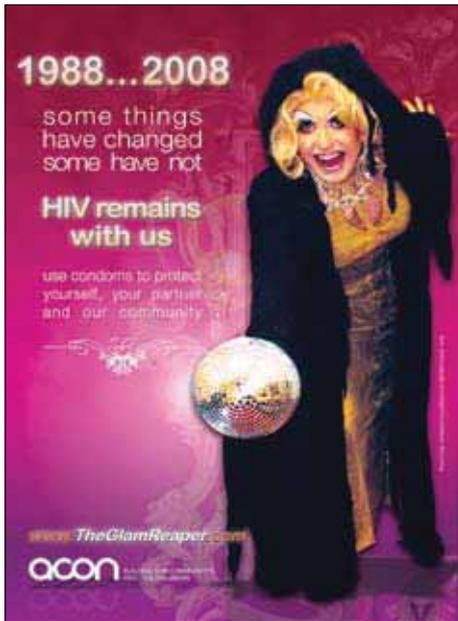
HIV PREVENTION

What We Do

We work to reduce HIV transmission by educating gay men about how to protect themselves and their partners. We do this by producing campaigns and other educational resources, giving them the skills and resources to enable safe sex, and creating an environment where condom use is the norm.

Why We Do It

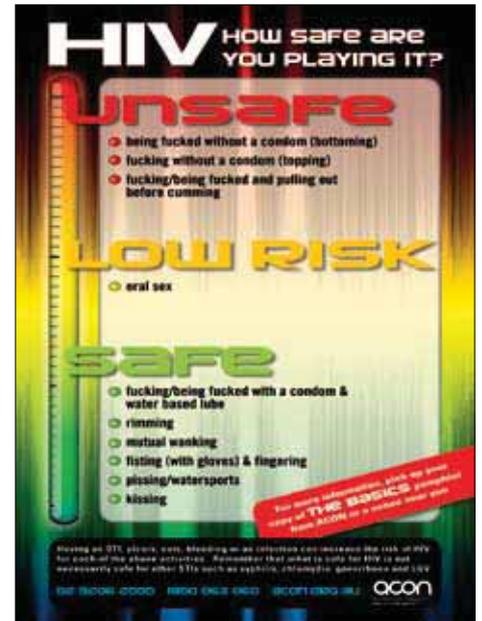
At least one person in NSW receives a positive HIV diagnosis every day and about 80% of these people are gay men.



The Glam Reaper poster



HIV Increases poster



HIV Basics poster

How We Did It in 07/08

The Glam Reaper

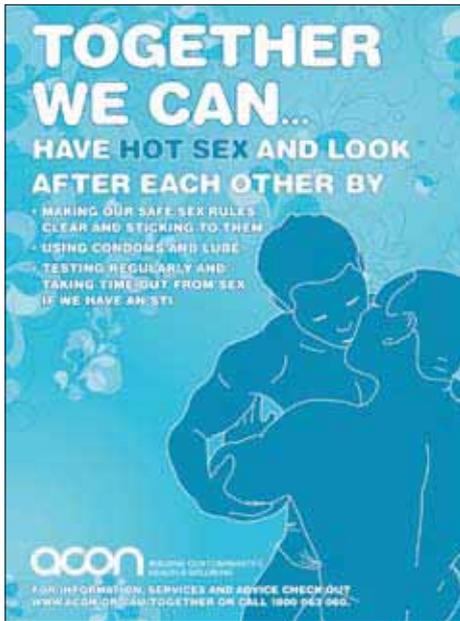
ACON's first ever online viral marketing campaign reinvented the infamous *Grim Reaper* campaign from 1987 with a more contemporary and optimistic approach to HIV prevention. The foundation of the campaign was a 1min 42 sec video featuring Sydney drag identity Mitzi MacIntosh as the Glam Reaper and various community members as the 'ten pins' who prevent themselves from getting bowled over by embracing the safe sex message. *The Glam Reaper* was first released at the Queerdoc festival in September 07 and was available shortly after on YouTube.com and MySpace.com. The print component of the campaign was released later in the year.

HIV Increases

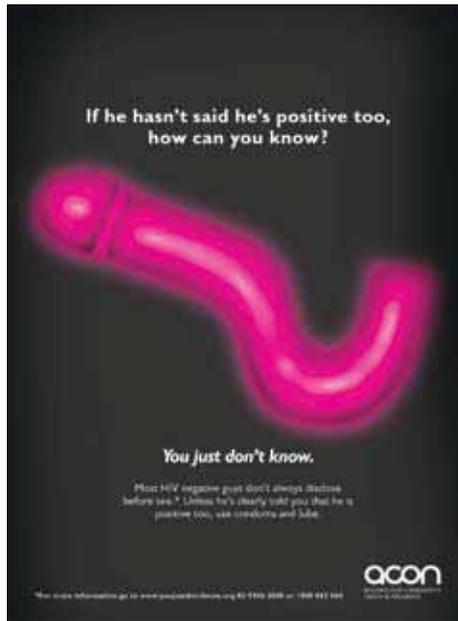
By constantly monitoring HIV surveillance and behavioural data, ACON was able to identify an increase in diagnoses mid-year and quickly respond with a rework of a previously successful campaign focussing on the behaviours most likely to be contributing to the increase. Released during October, this campaign focused on HIV transmission in relationships, HIV sero status, and infectiousness and risk in undiagnosed men.

HIV Basics

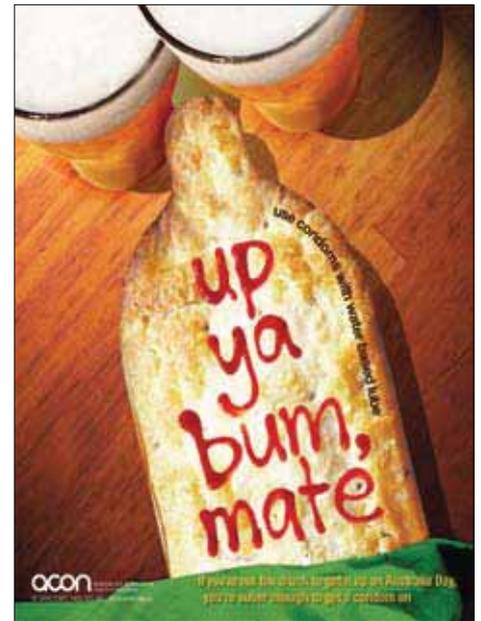
Released over summer, the *HIV Basics* campaign targeted younger men, those newly 'out' or those who had just somehow missed the HIV prevention message. Taking a back to basics approach to information on HIV and sex, topics included "what are HIV and AIDS", "what is safe sex and what is not", and "how to get tested for HIV and other sexually transmissible infections".



Together We Can poster



You Just Don't Know poster



Up Ya Bum poster

Together We Can

ACON's 2008 Mardi Gras campaign in February contained safe sex messages for men engaging in one-on-one and group sex. Posters were displayed and merchandise was distributed at more than 20 festival events and in most GLBT venues and sex on premises venues. The messages were screened during every session of Queer Screen's Mardi Gras Film Festival and promoted in a range of gay publications over the six weeks of the campaign.

You Just Don't Know

Helping gay men understand the risks of presuming a sexual partner's HIV status was the focus of a campaign launched in April. With a tagline of "You just don't know", this campaign questioned the effectiveness of trying to prevent HIV transmission by only having sex with partners presumed to have the same HIV status. The campaign was promoted in gay publications and venues and included a range of innovative merchandise that significantly increased its uptake.

Up Ya Bum

During the year we continued to develop and promote our long-running *Up Ya Bum* condom reinforcement campaign including two new executions – one for winter and one targeting sex workers. The purpose of this campaign is to ensure there is a constant message reinforcing condom use as the norm but with fresh images to keep it interesting and salient.



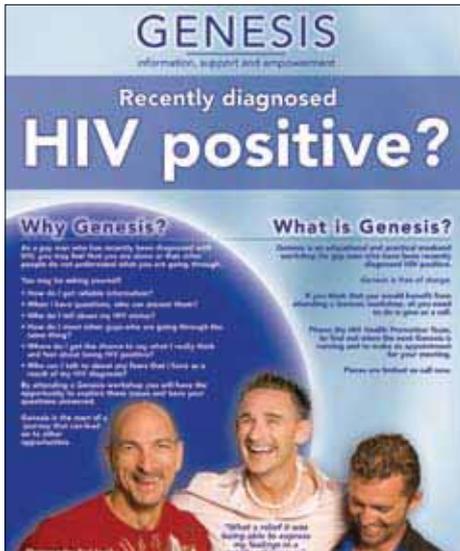
LIVING WITH HIV

What We Do

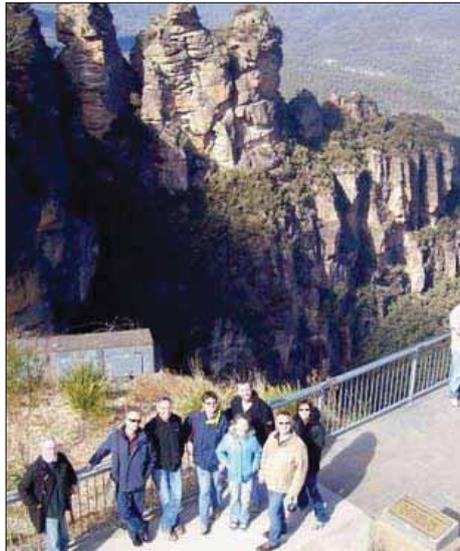
We help people with HIV to maximise their health and minimise the effects of HIV by providing a diverse range of services and programs including support groups, workshops, information about HIV treatments, home-based care, transport services, emergency housing, counselling, therapies, discount vitamins, meals and social events.

Why We Do It

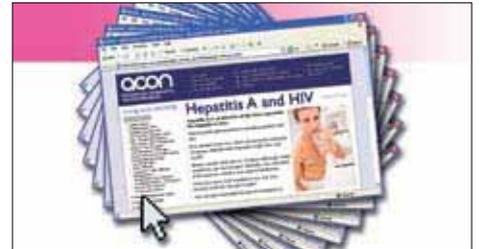
The health outcomes for most people with HIV have improved dramatically over the last 10 years. However they still face significant challenges and have particular information and support needs. The needs of people who have lived with the virus long term can be dramatically different to those who have been more recently diagnosed, involving multiple co-morbidities and a range of service needs.



Genesis poster



CSN volunteers visit the Blue Mountains



New online resources for people with HIV



CSN promotional DVD launch

How We Did It in 07/08

Support Groups

Our HIV Men's Health Promotion team provides peer-based support to newly diagnosed men. One of its key programs is an intensive weekend retreat called *Genesis*. In 07/08, we ran three *Genesis* retreats which were attended by a total of 31 newly-diagnosed men. We also ran our monthly *After Hours* and *Nexus* support groups. On average 13 HIV positive men attend each meeting to discuss topics such as health issues, relationships, disclosure, HIV transmission, sexually transmissible infections (STIs) and stress management.

Workshops & Projects

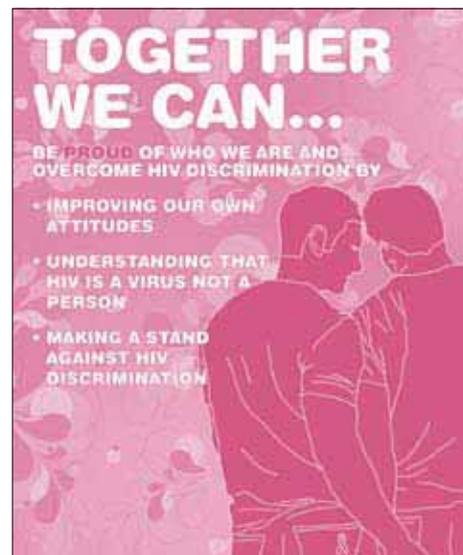
Healthy Life+ is a health promotion program designed to help HIV+ men with their physical fitness. The 12-week program, which includes access to a gym and a personal trainer, was attended by 27 clients throughout the year. During Mardi Gras, we held a consultation session with HIV positive men about potential interactions between alcohol, illicit drugs and HIV medications. We also presented two dental forums during the year focusing on the private and public dental systems. Following a review in 06/07, our Women and Families Project became more active this year and provided information, care and support for HIV positive women and their families. This included eight monthly dedicated Women's Days which featured lunches, massage therapies and an arts and crafts program funded by a grant from the City of Sydney.

Information & Resources

Our HIV Health Maintenance Team assists people with HIV to navigate the complex world of HIV treatments and health. During 07/08, the team provided over 950 one-to-one information sessions on a wide range of subjects including practical advice on overseas travel, HIV transmission risk management, treatment side-effect management, mental health and wellbeing as well as information about relationships and living with HIV. As well as delivering telephone and face-to-face support, the team also develops print and web-based information resources and during the year developed a comprehensive suite of online resources about a range of issues such as accessing dental care, the Disability Support Pension, managing money and debt, early access to superannuation and employment rights for people with HIV.



CSN volunteers at Mardi Gras



Together We Can poster

Home-based Care

Through our Community Support Network, we provide home-based care and support as well as transport to people living with HIV/AIDS. During 07/08, CSN staff delivered 2,665 occasions of service to carers, clients and service providers. Our 131 volunteer carers delivered a total of 5,907 hours of support to 232 people. CSN assessed 47 new clients and supported 15 clients through palliative care. CSN trained 16 new volunteers and provided further training for 34 volunteers. Over 70 volunteers were engaged in other CSN promotional events.

Housing Assistance

Our Housing Project supports people with HIV on low incomes who are experiencing difficulties in finding somewhere to live. We help them with emergency accommodation

in one of the homes that we manage or we provide assistance to navigate the public housing system. In 07/08, we helped provide emergency accommodation for 33 people with HIV and assisted a further 95 HIV positive clients who were experiencing housing stress.

Positive Living Centre

ACON's Positive Living Centre is a drop-in centre with almost 800 registered clients 75 of whom came on board during 07/08. One of the primary programs at the centre is its complementary therapies service. Over the last year, our team of volunteers provided over 400 therapeutic sessions including remedial, Swedish and Shiatsu massage as well as acupuncture and acupressure. The centre also provides a Friday lunch and Tuesday breakfast service to people living with

HIV as part of the PLC's diet and nutrition program. About 4,000 meals were served throughout the year. The PLC held its first Wellness Week in September, a five day program of workshops and seminars covering a range of topics including HIV medication, cooking, skin care, nutrition, and yoga/meditation.

The Luncheon Club

In May, ACON and the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation commenced co-management of The Luncheon Club, a community centre in the Sydney suburb of Waterloo which provides food and essential items free of charge to disadvantaged people with HIV. The centre serves a total of about 200 meals a week at Monday and Wednesday lunchtimes and provides groceries each week for about 15 people who experience severe hardship .



MEN'S HEALTH



What We Do

We help and enable gay and bisexual men to improve their health and wellbeing by providing relevant knowledge, skills, resources and social networks.

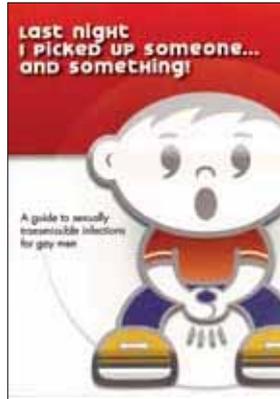


Why We Do It

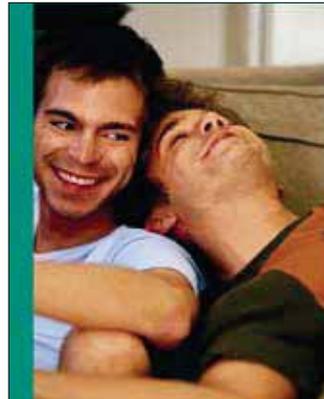
Gay and bisexual men have specific health needs that are not always met by mainstream service providers due to a lack of knowledge, understanding or acceptance, particularly in relation to HIV. They are also more likely than the general population to be affected by sexually transmissible infections (STIs), are up to six times more likely to be assaulted, have higher rates of anxiety and depression, and are more likely to use alcohol and other drugs.



Syphilis campaign poster



STI booklet



Ad for sexual health workshop



How We Did It in 07/08

Campaigns and Resources

A dramatic increase in syphilis rates amongst gay men in recent years prompted the production of a campaign to encourage mass testing and treatment. Featuring well known community members, *Join Me For A Test In October* targeted specific groups such as HIV positive men, sexually adventurous men and party boys. In addition to producing and promoting a range of HIV prevention campaigns, we also revised, updated and promoted our popular STI booklet *Last Night I Picked Up Someone ... and Something*.

Safe Sex Packs

Throughout the year we produced and distributed 151,100 safe sex packs containing condoms, lube and safe sex information. In addition to maintaining and updating the ACON tool boxes in all the major gay venues, we also produced and distributed over 280 specially designed play packs for men who engage in group sex.

Sex on Premises Venues

We continued to work with sex on premises venues (SOPVs) to ensure their compliance with the ACON Code of Practice. We conducted two six-monthly

audits and certified all venues participating in the program. We also worked with a number of key SOPVs to train their staff about HIV and STIs, infection control and drug overdose.

Community Outreach

Throughout the year, we made over 600 visits to more than 80 venues, clinics and community events to distribute campaign information and safe sex equipment. We also provided 775 individual occasions of service to gay men and men who have sex with men (MSM). There were 156 volunteers involved in a range of programs who provided 5,097 hours of volunteer service.

Training and Education

We facilitated workshops for over 100 gay men throughout the year on issues related to HIV prevention, sexual health and anal health, finding and maintaining a relationship, how to cruise safely for sex and navigating the gay community. ACON staff also presented 17 information sessions and guest lectures to over 220 people from various professional bodies, community groups and educational institutions. The presentations included topics such as HIV and safe sex, gay sex and sexuality issues, and the use of alcohol and other drugs.

Websites

We continued to promote and make improvements to the *whytest.org* website which provides information about being tested and treated for STIs. More than 18,000 unique visitors used the site throughout the year with over 220 email reminders and over 2,600 SMS messages being forwarded from the site.

Community Partnerships

We partnered with a variety of community groups and organisations throughout the year to help us promote our health and wellbeing messages. These included the STIs In Gay Men Action Group (STIGMA), MEN, New Mardi Gras, Queer Screen, the Sydney Convicts and a range of event producers who cater to the gay community. We also established a new partnership with Team Sydney.

Strategic Direction

A board working group of researchers, educators and interested community members helps to steer ACON's work in HIV and STI prevention by analysing available research and providing expert advice on policy and strategic direction.



WOMEN'S HEALTH

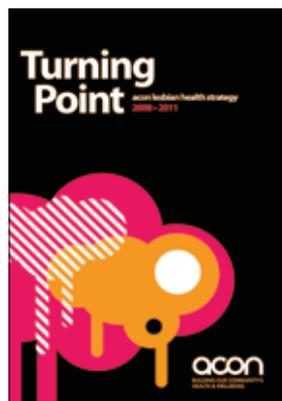


What We Do

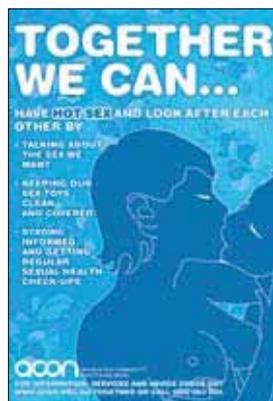
We help and enable lesbians and same-sex attracted women to improve their health and wellbeing by providing relevant knowledge, skills, resources and social networks.

Why We Do It

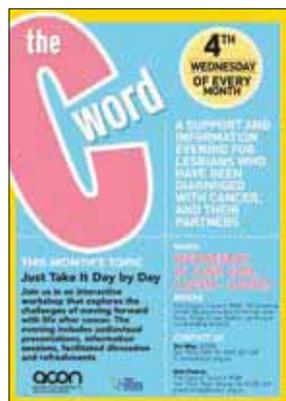
Lesbians and same-sex attracted women have specific health needs that are not always met by mainstream service providers due to a lack of knowledge, understanding or acceptance. Lesbians are under screened for all cancers and sexually transmitted infections, and, compared to women in the general population, are up to four times more likely to be assaulted, have higher rates of anxiety and depression, and are more likely to use alcohol and other drugs.



Lesbian Health Strategy



Together We Can poster



Ad for cancer support group



Ad for Lesbian Counselling Service

How We Did It in 07/08

Lesbian Health Strategy

A comprehensive plan for addressing the health needs of lesbians and same-sex attracted women was produced by a Board working group of people engaged in lesbian health, chaired by ACON Vice-President Kate Connors. Called *Turning Point*, the strategy was the result of an extensive state-wide consultation process with a range of healthcare and community organisations as well as GLBT community members. The strategy aims to inform, integrate, fund and raise awareness of lesbian health work in NSW over the next three years. *Turning Point* identifies nine key areas of focus: sexual health, alcohol and other drugs, mental health, violence, cancer, youth and ageing, relationships, parenting and fertility.

Campaigns & Resources

Our 2008 Mardi Gras campaign in February contained a safe sex message for lesbians and same-sex attracted women. Posters were displayed and merchandise was distributed at more than 20 festival events and in most GLBT venues. The message was screened during every session of Queer Screen's Mardi Gras Film Festival and promoted in a range of relevant publications over the six weeks of

the campaign. We continued to distribute lesbian specific health promotion resources on smoking cessation, sexual health, breast cancer prevention and general health and wellbeing.

Training and Education

Over 50 women attended two training seminars in Sydney's Inner West on sex-positivity and sexual health which were run in partnership with adult store MaXXX Black. We also ran a drug and alcohol forum in Sydney where lesbians and same-sex attracted women discussed decisions about drug use, safer partying and sexual health. In Western Sydney we delivered sexual health workshops to a variety of lesbian support groups. *The Building Healthy Lesbian Relationships* workshops in Lismore were delivered in partnership with the Lismore Women's and Children's Refuge to an overwhelmingly positive response. The Northern Rivers branch also produced two women's sexual health workshops in partnership with Red Shoe Events.

Support Groups

We continued to run *The C Word* in partnership with the The Cancer Council NSW. These monthly meetings are based

in Sydney and provide much needed support and information for lesbians who have been diagnosed with cancer and their partners. In Wollongong, we helped set up the REAL (Respecting Equality Amongst Lesbians) group in late 2007 which has since grown into a vibrant and active social and support group for lesbians in the Illawarra.

Events

Volunteers from our Young Women's Project produced an art exhibition in memory of Cecilia Bailey, a Project participant who passed away in 2007. The exhibition showcased 21 works from 12 young women, responding to the theme of fantasy. We also hosted *Invite a Lesbian to Lunch*, a forum on lesbians and ageing for the Northern Rivers region in NSW.

Community Partnerships

We continued to build successful partnerships with a range of lesbian community venues and other community organisations including sporting groups and women's health centres.

MENTAL HEALTH



What We Do

We help and enable people in our community to improve their mental health by providing a range of counselling, therapy and support services as well as a special service for people newly diagnosed with HIV. In the future we want to also look at how we can actively promote mental health and wellbeing rather than only early intervention and restoration.

Why We Do It

Because of their sexuality or HIV status, some people in our community are cut off from their families and friends, denied basic legal and social entitlements, bullied at school or in the workplace, or subjected to abuse or violence. As a consequence, our community experiences increased rates of homelessness, risk-taking behaviour, depression, anxiety, substance abuse, self-harm and attempted suicide. Also, some people in our community have mental health needs that are not always met by mainstream service providers due to a lack of knowledge, understanding or acceptance, particularly in relation to HIV.



New Diagnosis Priority Service poster



ACON runs a number of therapeutic groups.



Exploring the Blues poster

How We Did It in 07/08

Throughout the year, over 500 people were assisted by our mental health staff. Their requests for assistance related to mental health issues ranging from stress and anxiety through to support for a diagnosed mental illness. 42% of our clients were people living with HIV.

Counselling

In 07/08 our counselling team provided over 3,200 occasions of service to people requiring counselling, support, mental health-related information or referrals to other services. 138 clients received short-term counselling for a range of issues including HIV and other sexually transmissible infections (STIs), relationships, and the use of alcohol and other drugs. There was an increase in the number of people seeking support in relation to same sex domestic violence. A member of the Sydney-based counselling team continued to provide weekly counselling sessions to people living in the Illawarra, providing 72 sessions over 12 months.

After Hours Counselling

Skilled volunteer counsellors provided medium-term counselling to over 50 clients in 07/08 with a total of over 1,150 counselling sessions taking place. Through

this service, clients who work full-time but can't afford or don't wish to access private after hours services can receive up to six months counselling in the evenings at ACON's Sydney office.

New Diagnosis Priority Service

Receiving the diagnosis that you are HIV positive can have a profound affect on a person's mental wellbeing. This service ensures that there is a counsellor dedicated to responding within 24 hours to the needs of people newly diagnosed with HIV. 37 people were assisted through this service in 07/08.

Enhanced Primary Care Project

This project helps GPs coordinate the treatment, counselling and care planning for people with or at risk of acquiring HIV or hepatitis C. The number of GPs referring to the service as well the frequency of referrals increased to 86 clients in 07/08. 72% of the clients who accessed this service were living with HIV and 27% were Hep C positive.

Therapeutic Groups

Our group therapy work expanded dramatically in 07/08 with six groups being conducted over the 12 months. Each group runs for approximately 12

weeks and is facilitated by a private therapist together with a qualified, volunteer co-facilitator. Both the *Intimacy for Women* and the *Intimacy for Men* groups were each run twice over the year. Our *Exploring the Blues* and *Exploring Anger* groups received extremely high satisfaction results from the participants.



ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUGS



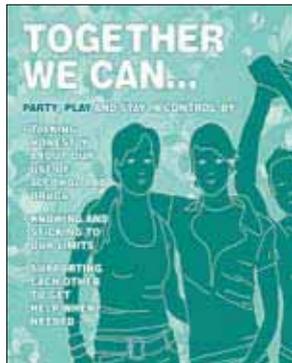
What We Do

We help and enable people in our community to stop using drugs or to reduce the harms associated with drug use by providing a range of targeted resources and support services.



Why We Do It

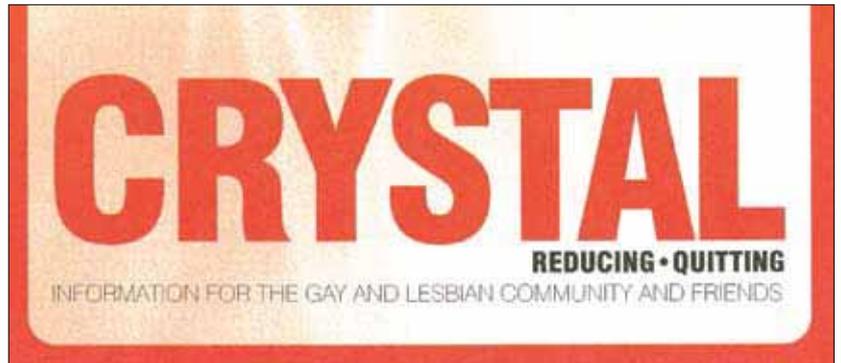
Gay men and lesbians are up to four times more likely than the general population to use alcohol and other drugs (AOD). By helping people in our community to be aware of and to reduce the harms associated with drug and alcohol use, we help to reduce the potential for HIV transmission as well as the impact that drug use has on the wellbeing of our community and the public health system.



Together We Can poster



Rover awareness poster



Methamphetamine booklet

How We Did It in 07/08

Information & Resources

We distributed a range of resources at community venues, events and online. This included a drug safety message in our Mardi Gras *Together We Can* campaign as well as reprinted editions of two booklets aimed at people who use methamphetamine. The AOD section of the ACON website was upgraded and a series of drug information fact sheets was added.

Needle & Syringe Program

Through this program, we provided 344,054 units of new injecting equipment through all our branches, through venue and sex worker outreach services and at major community events. Three handbooks for staff were also produced to guide and inform our NSP work, including modules on working with clients, policy and procedures and a comprehensive NSW AOD directory.

ACON Rovers

Helping partygoers keep safe at major community events is the job of the ACON Rovers, a team of specially trained volunteers who assist in the prevention and management of AOD related incidents. Throughout the year, we

provided the Rover service at all major community events. We also overhauled the Rovers' uniforms and produced a *Know Your Rover* poster to inform partygoers about the service and the Rovers' new look.

Co-morbidity Projects

Co-morbidity is when a person has a mental illness as well as a drug problem. Grants from the Commonwealth and State governments allowed us to employ specialists in Sydney and Newcastle to improve our response to co-morbid clients. These new staff are working with other AOD organisations to develop more appropriate referral and treatment options, as well as designing an internal training resource to help all ACON staff to give appropriate support and referrals to clients experiencing co-morbidity.

Forums & Workshops

During the Mardi Gras season, we ran a series of community forums around NSW on the relationship between drug use and sexual risk taking among gay men. We also ran a forum in Sydney at which young lesbians discussed decisions about drug use, safer partying and sexual health. We held a consultation session with HIV positive men about potential interactions

between alcohol and drugs and HIV medications and facilitated a range of drug education and harm reduction workshops with community groups and local businesses.

Policy Development

We produced a range of policy documents about AOD issues including the barriers and incentives that injecting drug users experience in relation to accessing needle and syringe programs as well as the needs of and challenges faced by GLBT people in prison.

AOD Strategy

Our three year AOD strategy was reviewed and updated by our AOD Board Working Group, a team of experts in the field of alcohol and other drug use. The group is chaired by Prof. Louisa Degenhardt from the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre. The revised strategy is due to be launched in 2009.



ANTI-VIOLENCE

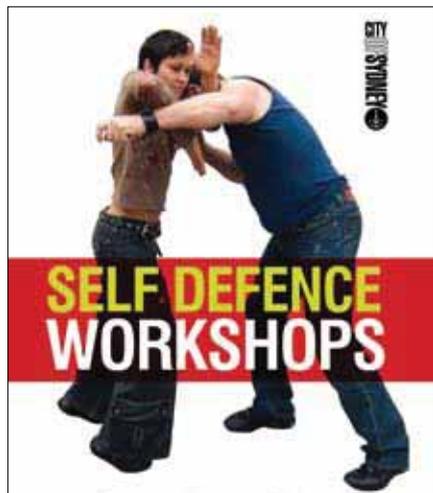


What We Do

We help people in our community who have experienced violence by taking reports and providing support. We help to make our community a safer place by promoting anti-homophobia education in schools, providing self-defence training, lobbying relevant authorities for better services for our community and by working with police, government and community organisations on a range of violence prevention initiatives.

Why We Do It

Gay men and lesbians in NSW are between four and six times more likely to be assaulted than men and women in the general population and 85% have experienced some form of homophobic violence such as abuse, harassment, or assault. With increasing awareness of same-sex domestic violence, it has become apparent that about one third of GLBT people will experience domestic violence and only 30% will seek help.



Self-defence workshop flyer



SSDV stickers for Fair Day



ACON staff and volunteers at the Oxford St Safe Place

How We Did It in 07/08

AVP Report Line

This service provides us with a picture of the levels and types of violence being experienced by people in our community. We use this information to measure trends, develop education strategies, inform police and lobby governments. The report line also gives victims of abuse and violence access to support. During 07/08, we received 122 reports of violence, up from 57 the previous year. Our staff and volunteers provided over 500 individual occasions of service, including information, referral, support and advocacy.

Oxford St Safe Place

Reducing homophobic violence in and around Sydney's Oxford St precinct was a major focus throughout the year. This included the establishment of the Oxford St Safe Place, a shopfront on Oxford St provided by the City of Sydney. A team of trained and dedicated volunteers staffed the Safe Place on Friday and Saturday nights, providing emergency support

and assistance to victims of violence. This seven-month project helped raise awareness about homophobic violence, increased reporting of violence, and improved the response from NSW Police.

That's So Gay Conference

We worked with the other members of the Anti-Homophobia Interagency to present a one-day conference about addressing homophobia in educational settings. Over 250 teachers, students, community and health workers attended from all over NSW, Australia and even New Zealand. Over 85% of participants reported that they felt better equipped to address homophobia and to create safe and supportive learning environments for GLBT young people after attending the conference.

Same-Sex Domestic Violence

As part of the Same-Sex Domestic Violence Interagency Working Group we worked to create awareness-raising resources and to organise educational

forums on aspects of SSDV for clinicians and members of the public. We were also successful in getting a grant from the NSW Office for Women to enable us to employ a full-time worker in 2009 who will focus on education and increasing access to mainstream services for people experiencing SSDV. In addition, we continued developing a NSW Attorney General's Department funded resource aimed at addressing homophobia and SSDV experienced by gay men, lesbians and sisters in Aboriginal communities.

Training & Education

We distributed a range of resources at community venues, events and online. This included a street safety message in our *Together We Can* Mardi Gras campaign as well as Fair Day resources about same-sex domestic violence. We were involved with training for Gay and Lesbian Liaison Officers with the NSW Police Force and in partnership with the City of Sydney we delivered two self-defence workshops for the GLBT community.

YOUNG GLBT PEOPLE



What We Do

We help and enable young people in our community to improve their health and connect with other young people by providing a range of programs, workshops, resources and events.

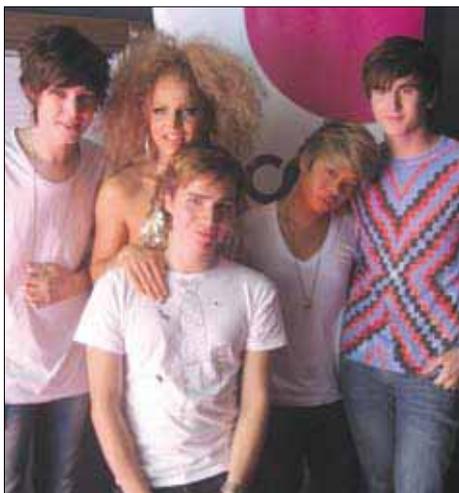


Why We Do It

While many young GLBT people live happy, healthy and productive lives, they still have particular health information needs. Some face bullying at school, social isolation and family difficulties linked to coming out. As a result, same-sex attracted youth are more likely than their heterosexual counterparts to practice unsafe sex, start using drugs, self harm or attempt suicide.



21 Down advertising



Participants at 21 Down



Detail of work from Fantasy exhibition

How We Did It in 07/08

Support Groups & Workshops

Our Fun & Esteem project has supported young gay and bisexual men since 1988 by providing a range of workshops, activities and events. *Start Making Sense*, a workshop for men aged up to 26, was conducted six times throughout 07/08 and was attended by over 70 young men. *School's Out*, a program for school aged young men, ran once with 14 attendees. Two new workshops were also presented for the first time in 07/08. *Adult Themes* focused on sexual health and wellbeing while *Mates & Dates* explored relationships. Our Young Women's Project continued to offer its *Ins & Out* workshop with 35 young women attending three groups that were conducted throughout the year.

Research

A major new area of work this year was a needs assessment of HIV positive men aged 29 and under. The project comprised five discussion nights and an online survey

and was driven by a committed group of volunteers. The results of this research will be available by the end of 2008. We also offered our first ever research scholarship which led to new research on scene-attached young gay men. This research was highlighted at the Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations HIV Educators Conference in May.

Events

In February, ACON presented the launch event for the Mardi Gras Youth Festival. Called *21 Down*, the five-hour drug, alcohol and smoke free event allowed leading GLBT community figures such as Geoff Field (2DayFM) and special guest Jess Origliasso (The Veronicas) to meet and inspire young gay men and lesbians in a fun and relaxed atmosphere. During the festival, we also presented three events for young same-sex attracted women. Over 25 young women attended a training seminar on sex-positivity and sexual health which was run in partnership with adult store MaXXX Black. We also

ran a drug and alcohol forum in Sydney where young lesbians discussed decisions about drug use, safer partying and sexual health. In addition, volunteers from our Young Women's Project produced an art exhibition in memory of Cecilia Bailey, a Project participant who passed away in the previous year.

Schools and Universities

Throughout 07/08, a range of sexual health workshops were run at several universities. We participated in anti-homophobia training at a variety of schools and supported several students to set up Gay Straight Alliances (student led groups that seek to facilitate more supportive environments in schools). Our youth staff also presented at the *That's So Gay* conference on homophobia in schools in April.



MATURE AGE GLBT PEOPLE



What We Do

We help and enable mature aged people in our community to improve their health and wellbeing by providing support groups, developing health promotion initiatives and advocating for improved mainstream health and aged care services.



Why We Do It

Aged care services in NSW are ill-equipped to meet the needs of the growing number of openly gay senior citizens and government policy-makers have been slow to recognise the unique needs of older GLBT people. As a consequence of not having children or being estranged from family networks, many older GLBT people are also at risk of health issues related to loneliness and isolation. In addition, some HIV treatments cause premature ageing and so some HIV positive people will require early access to geriatric health services.



MAG's 17th birthday celebrations



Panelists at the *Ageing Disgracefully* forum



Matinee guy-dolls at *Afternoon Delight*

How We Did It in 07/08

Support Groups

For the last 17 years, ACON has supported the Mature Age Gay (MAG) Men's group through a dedicated project with its own worker. MAG meetings bring together more than 100 men each fortnight for supper, socialising and a speaker-led discussion about health-related issues. In addition, MAG's bi-monthly newsletter is received by more than 600 older gay men across NSW and Australia. During the last few years, ACON has developed a stronger relationship with older lesbians. In 07/08, we continued to support the national L40 gathering of older lesbians which took place over Easter in the Northern Rivers region.

Policy Development

ACON's Ageing Working Group provided advice on the development and delivery of relevant policies and programs. Chaired by ACON President, Mark Orr, the group comprises a range of experts and committed community members. In October, ACON participated in the NSW Government Ageing 2030 Roundtable

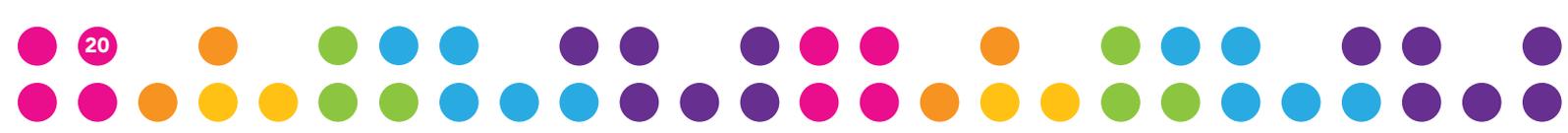
to raise issues and themes significant to the needs of mature age GLBT people. Topics discussed included prevention and early intervention, liveable homes and communities, and economic and social engagement. We also made submissions to a number of relevant inquiries.

Community Forums

In April, ACON presented a free community forum for mature age GLBT people at the Belvoir St Theatre in Sydney. Called *Ageing Disgracefully*, the forum was attended by 250 people and was designed to provide an entertaining way to discuss what really lies in the pot of "old" at the end of the rainbow. Hosted by journalist and broadcaster Julie McCrossin, the panel of community identities included High Court judge the Hon Justice Michael Kirby. The themes which were raised are informing the development of ACON's policies and programs for mature age GLBT people.

Events

In partnership with Queer Screen and the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care, ACON presented a gay and lesbian movie matinee and tea party for 200 older members of our community as part of the official program of events for NSW's Seniors Week (April 10-15). Called *Afternoon Delight*, the free event was hosted by the hilarious Auntie Mavis and included a double feature presentation of classic queer cinema plus a delectable high tea served by a bevy of matinee guy-dolls.



ABORIGINALS AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE

What We Do

We help and enable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender/sistergirl, HIV positive, engaged in sex work or who inject drugs to improve their health and wellbeing by providing relevant knowledge, skills, resources and social networks. We do this within a culturally appropriate model of holistic health that recognises emotional, spiritual, social and mental wellbeing. We also work with many different groups to tackle all forms of racism in our community.

Why We Do It

The significant health inequalities experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are well known. However, Aboriginal people in the community we serve also face a range of other challenges including invisibility, racism and homophobia. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people also continue to be a priority in state and national HIV/AIDS strategies.



Black Pearls poster



Would You Wear It?
anti-racism poster



Participants from the Blackbooty Mardi Gras float

How We Did It in 07/08

Community Outreach

Recognising the need for a whole-of-community approach to addressing the stigma associated with HIV, we continued to have a presence at important community events such as the Yabun Festival and NAIDOC Week. At these events, we distributed over 4,000 condom packs and sexual health education resources. We also maintained a monthly information spot on Koori Radio 93.7FM.

Community Partnerships

We worked with members of the NSW Aboriginal Sexual Health Workers Network to increase workers' capacity to engage with GLBT/S community members and to do sexual health promotion in regional areas. We worked with Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations to ensure the accessibility of our needle and syringe services in the Newcastle region. We also consulted with key stakeholders such as the NSW Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council and ACON's own Aboriginal Advisory Group to ensure the appropriateness of our initiatives.

Campaigns

We got under the skin of NSW's GLBT community with a new campaign targeting racism. Called *Would You Wear It?*, the social awareness campaign was designed to encourage people in the GLBT community to take a stand against racism. Promoted through community media and at community events, the campaign was developed in close consultation with members of Sydney's Aboriginal communities. The project received funding from the City Of Sydney.

Policy Development

We consulted widely with community and health stakeholders in the development of ACON's Organisational Action Plan for its work with Aboriginal people. This plan will steer ACON's work in this important area for the next two years as we focus on the internal changes necessary to improve our service to Aboriginal people across the organisation and develop a strategy for improving the health of Aboriginal people in our community into the future.

Events

ACON's Aboriginal Project supports the GLBT/S Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Support Group to stage the popular *Black Pearls* variety nights. In 07/08, this event brought together 400 participants for a night of performances and celebration. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community Mardi Gras Parade entry, also supported by the Aboriginal Project, attracted 150 participants. The support provided by ACON in the lead up to both events ensured many members of the community were familiarised with ACON services and resources. We also partnered again with the Boomalli Aboriginal Artists' Cooperative in presenting their annual Mardi Gras season exhibition, highlighting the work of their GLBT/S members. This raised the visibility of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people within the GLBT community and brought Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander GLBT/S people together, providing another opportunity to access ACON's resources and services.

CULTURALLY & LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE GLBT PEOPLE

What We Do

We help and enable GLBT and HIV positive people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds to improve their health and wellbeing by providing knowledge, skills and resources in culturally appropriate ways. We focus strongly on Asian gay men who remain a priority in NSW's HIV/AIDS strategy. We also work with many different groups to tackle all forms of racism in our community.

Why We Do It

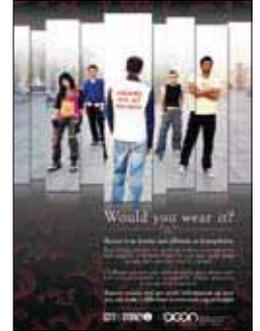
Cultural and linguistic background can have an important impact on access to health services. The community we serve is increasingly multi-racial so we deliver a range of programs and services to ensure our health promotion work is accessible to as many people as possible.



Asian Marching Boys at Chinese New Year



Salaam Namaste present *Butterflies of the Mughal Garden*



Would You Wear It?
anti-racism poster

How We Did It in 07/08

Campaigns

We worked closely throughout the year with the Multicultural HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C Service and Area Health Services to address the sexual health of gay men from cultural backgrounds that have been identified as a priority for health promotion. We repeated our successful Thai gay men's campaign, promoting HIV testing and raising awareness of sexual health issues in relevant GLBT and Thai media.

Tackling Racism

We got under the skin of NSW's GLBT community with a new campaign targeting racism. Called *Would You Wear It?*, the social awareness campaign was designed to encourage people in the GLBT community to take a stand against racism. Promoted through community media and at community events, the campaign was developed in close consultation with members of Sydney's Asian, Arabic and Aboriginal communities. The project received funding from the City Of Sydney.

Support Groups

Our Asian Project continued to strengthen its partnerships with a wide range of groups within Sydney's Asian GLBT community by providing meeting spaces, support for events, discussion groups, social evenings and health promotion information and resources. Community groups which received assistance included longstanding organisations such as the Asian Marching Boys and the Long Yang Club, as well as more recently formed groups such as Salaam Namaste and Trikone which are networks for GLBT people of South Asian backgrounds. For the second year in a row, we supported Salaam Namaste to produce a stage play during the Mardi Gras cultural festival. Work also commenced on developing a new support group for Spanish-speaking members of the GLBT community and our Anti-Violence Project began working with members of the Arabic community to combat homophobia.

Community Partnerships

As a member of the NSW Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) HIV/AIDS Interagency and of the CALD Gay Men Working Group (a working group of the Metro Gay Mens HIV Prevention Interagency), we collaborated on a range of campaigns targeting CALD communities.



SEX WORKERS

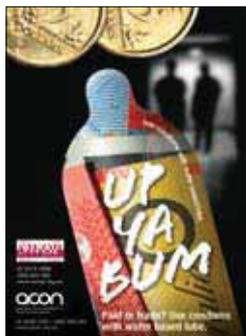


What We Do

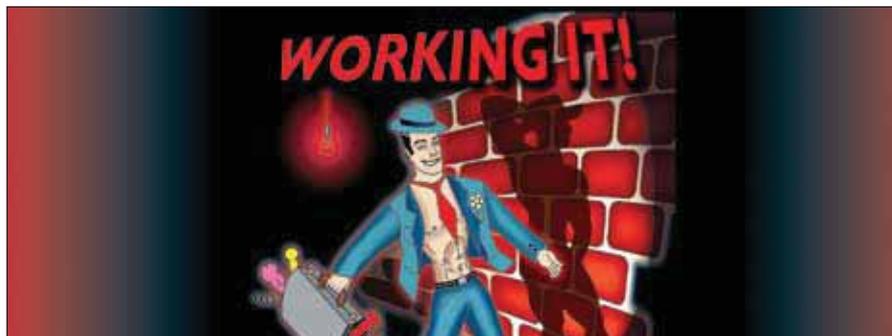
Through our Sex Workers Outreach Project (SWOP), we help and enable sex workers to improve their health and wellbeing by providing a range of information, resources and support services.

Why We Do It

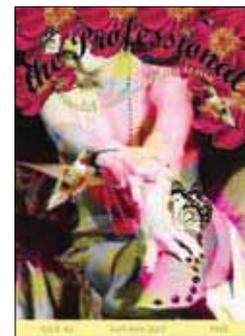
While the rates of sexually transmitted infections among NSW sex workers are very low, factors such as continuous turnover in the industry and high levels of social discrimination, stigma and isolation mean that many workers are in need of regular information and support. And by keeping sex workers healthy, the wider community also stays safe.



STI prevention poster for sex workers



Working It! forum poster – ad for male sex worker forum



The Professional cover Issue 60

How We Did It in 07/08

Services

In 07/08, we provided almost 23,000 occasions of service to a variety of clients including individual sex workers, industry owners and operators, service providers, police and other agencies. This was a 17% increase on the previous year. The assistance we provided covered a broad range of topics including safe sex, workplace health and safety, drug and alcohol issues, mental and other health issues. Peer education remained a strong focus with over 13,500 occasions of service being provided to workers in partnership with a range of allied agencies. This included increasing access to our services for male and transgender sex workers as well as Chinese speaking sex workers in Liverpool and Kings Cross.

Information & Education

We developed and produced a version of our successful *Up Ya Bum* campaign targeting male sex workers. The campaign was designed to increase condom use in both private and professional settings. Two workshops were conducted, one for male

sex workers and another, funded by the City of Sydney Council, which presented safety strategies for private workers as well as sex industry owners and operators. In partnership with the Centre for Community Welfare Training we conducted a successful training seminar about helping sex workers minimize the harms of alcohol and other drugs. The seminar attracted service providers from a broad range of sectors including youth, health and corrective services. In addition, we continued to give voice to NSW sex workers through *The Professional*, a quarterly magazine produced for and by sex workers. The publication covers a range of topics including HIV and STI transmission, relevant public policy and general health and wellbeing.

Advocacy

We continued to advise the NSW Government and other bodies on appropriate HIV/AIDS, health and planning policy for the NSW sex industry. Policy advice on male sex worker health issues, the Brothel Closure Orders Act (2007) and

impacts of anti-trafficking measures on the health and safety of migrant sex workers were amongst the issues addressed. A best practice policy for sex work was developed which provides analysis on a range of policies and practices impacting on the sex industry. A partnership with the Sexual Health Outreach Workers Network (SHOWNet) enabled us to monitor and assess the safety of workplace environments for sex workers.

Research

We worked collaboratively with the National Centre for HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research (NCHECR) this year to study the impact of legislation on the sexual health of sex workers. In partnership with the Attorney General's Department and the City of Sydney, we investigated safety issues in sex industry settings for street based and transgender sex workers. We also teamed up with the Scarlet Alliance and the Sexual Industry Network to conduct national research into the needs of Chinese sex workers.

WESTERN SYDNEY



What We Do

We help and enable GLBT and HIV positive people in Western Sydney to improve their health and wellbeing by providing a range of information, resources, support groups and events. We also provide information and training to relevant service providers and community groups in the region.

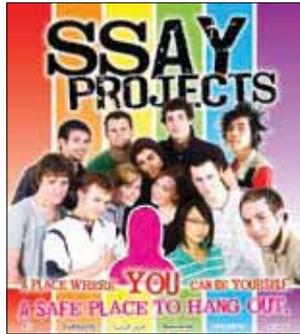


Why We Do It

By virtue of their geography and culture, the communities we serve in Western Sydney often have different needs to the communities we serve in the inner east and inner west of Sydney. The social isolation and lack of community attachment that some GLBT and HIV positive people in the region experience can have a significant impact on their health and wellbeing.



ACON stall at Parramatta Pride Picnic



Ad for GLBT youth groups in Western Sydney



Members of ACON-supported Parramatta social group Heaven

How We Did It in 07/08

Support Groups

In partnership with the Sydney South West Area Health Service and Family Planning NSW, we facilitated three continuous educational and social support groups for young same-sex attracted people. We also provided support to two new GLBT social groups in Western Sydney, the Macarthur Area Social Group and the Blacktown Outdoors Group.

Services

We supported people with HIV in the region by liaising with Positive Life NSW and ACON's Community Support Network. We regularly met with local sex on premises venues (SOPVs) to build strong relationships and ensure that they adhered to the relevant ACON Code of Practice.



Information & Resources

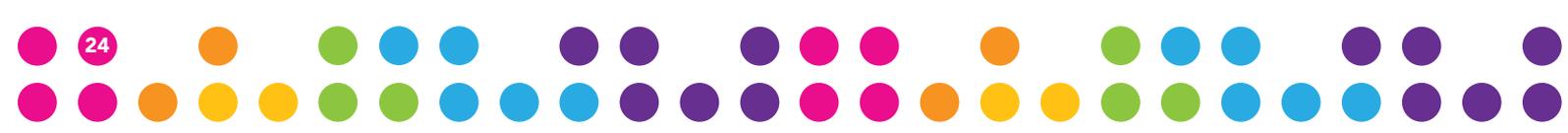
We provided educational materials and safe sex equipment to SOPVs, event producers and other GLBT-friendly businesses in Western Sydney. We also contributed a monthly column to GLBT community newspaper Sydney Star Observer with news and information for people in the region as well as participating in regular interviews on *Queer Out West*, a GLBT program on community radio station 89.3FM.

Events

Throughout October and November, we worked with local partners in the Blue Mountains to rejuvenate the Medlow Bath AIDS Memorial Gardens for World AIDS Day in December. We also helped organise and stage the annual Parramatta Pride Picnic and we hosted the Gay and Lesbian Services in Greater Western Sydney stand at the Mardi Gras Fair Day in February.

Community Partnerships

In 07/08, we collaborated with more partners in the region than ever before. These included Sydney West Area Health Service, Sydney South West Area Health Service, Family Planning NSW, Parramatta City Council, Cumberland Women's Health Centre, Penrith Women's Health Centre, PLWHA Blue Mountains and The Western Suburbs Haven.



REGIONAL & RURAL NSW

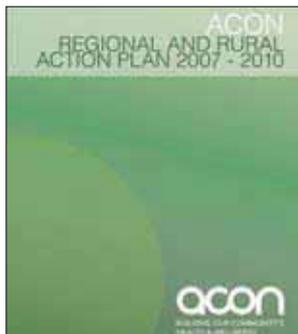


What We Do

We help and enable GLBT and HIV positive people, sex workers and drug users in regional and rural areas of NSW to improve their health and wellbeing by providing a range of services, resources, support groups and events. We also provide information and training to relevant service providers and community groups throughout the state.

Why We Do It

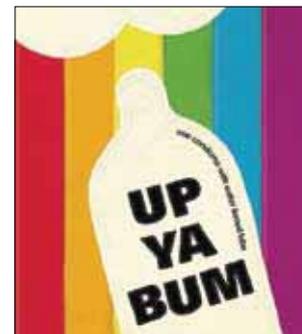
Throughout regional and rural NSW, there is a great need for health services for people in the community we serve. Concerns about confidentiality and discrimination can discourage people from seeking help. A lack of supportive social networks can make it hard for some people to understand, acknowledge or look after their health needs. And of course there's the tyranny of distance which often makes it difficult to get to whatever services are available.



Rural and Regional Action Plan 2007 - 2010



ACON regional staff at a training seminar in Wollongong



HIV prevention poster for Hunter Rainbow Festival

How We Did It in 07/08

Services

Over 18,000 occasions of service were delivered to GLBT and HIV positive clients by staff in our Hunter/Mid North Coast, Northern Rivers and Illawarra branches. This included face-to-face and telephone counselling, home-based care, support groups, community forums, access to vitamins, accommodation referrals and assistance for clients in crisis. Approximately 12,000 of these were for gay men, 5,000 for lesbians and same-sex attracted women with about 8,000 for people with HIV. Additionally about 9,500 occasions of service were for injecting drug users via our needle and syringe programs (NSP).

Rural and Regional Action Plan

In October, we launched our *Regional and Rural Action Plan 2007-2010*. This comprehensive strategy will help us build partnerships with local service providers and GLBT community groups to improve access to health services for our communities in rural areas. It will also help ensure that there are community

development programs in place and that appropriate health promotion efforts are maintained for our communities where we don't have an office. A key part of the plan was the division of our regional work between two administrative zones. Our new Northern Region is managed from our Hunter branch and includes the Central Coast, Hunter, New England, Mid North Coast and Northern Rivers. Our Southern Region is managed from our Illawarra branch and includes the Illawarra, South Coast, Riverina and Southern Tablelands.

Southern Region

We began work with the Greater Southern Area Health Service on a campaign to promote testing for sexually transmissible infections (STIs) by men who have sex with men and initiated a project to support Albury-based group Hume Phoenix in their GLBT community work. We also partnered with the Port Kembla Sexual Health and First Step NSP to provide outreach to sex workers in the Illawarra and Shoalhaven. In addition, a monthly chat series called *Café Q* was conducted at different venues in the Illawarra and a transgender support group

was piloted in the Illawarra in partnership with South Eastern Sydney Illawarra Area Health Service.

Northern Region

In Lismore, the Safe Place program was consolidated with over 70 businesses, community services and schools now participating. We presented four forums in partnership with several Northern Rivers alcohol and other drug services, conducted a series of sexual health workshops with local event producers and provided treatment information and peer support through retreats and workshops for people with HIV. In Port Macquarie we helped run *Chinwag Chat*, a support group for 40 HIV positive people and their supporters. On the Central Coast, we conducted 17 GEN-Q workshops for same-sex attracted young people. In Newcastle we presented a *Men in the Middle* workshop for gay men and rolled out the first phase of a new Aboriginal needle and syringe program. Also, while renovation of the Hunter office continued throughout 07/08, effective planning ensured regular service delivery was maintained.

INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS



What We Do

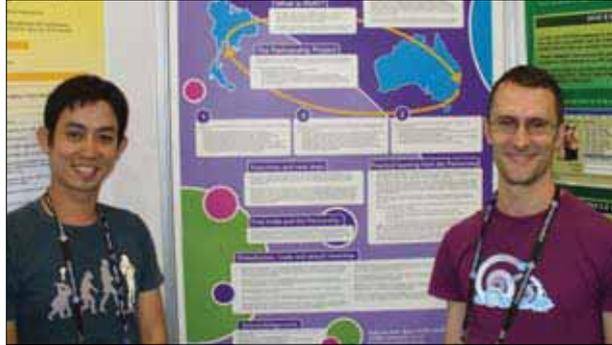
We support community-based organisations in the Asia-Pacific region to improve their response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic by forming ongoing partnerships, collaborating on joint projects and providing relevant information, resources and expertise.

Why We Do It

As a world leader in HIV prevention and education, ACON is uniquely placed to work with our Asia-Pacific neighbours to improve the programs, systems and strategies they employ in their countries. In return, we gain fresh perspectives on our own work which enables us to improve our response to the epidemic.



Mexico AIDS Conference logo



ACON and RSAT reps at IAS Conference in Mexico



Top: AIDS Concern Hong Kong logo

Bottom: Rainbow Sky Association of Thailand

How We Did It in 07/08

New International Unit

ACON's work in the Asia-Pacific region has expanded significantly in recent years. To give direction and coordination to this work, we established a new international unit in 07/08 with a dedicated staff manager. The initial focus of this unit has been working with the Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO) to secure AusAID funding for long term collaborations with MSM groups in Asia and the Pacific.

Bangkok Partnership

We continued to develop our partnership with the Rainbow Sky Association of Thailand (RSAT). RSAT is the key organisation in Thailand working with GLBT communities. They have a strong focus on HIV prevention work with MSM and, like ACON, undertake this work within a broader framework of GLBT community health and human rights. Funding from AusAID's Australian Youth Ambassadors for Development Program enabled us to place an ACON staff member in Bangkok for a twelve-month assignment. This work includes collaborating with RSAT to develop their capacity to deliver HIV education campaigns. The assignment also includes working with UNAIDS on their growing advocacy work on MSM and

HIV in the Asia Pacific region. A key aspect of this is the Asia-Pacific Coalition on Male Sexual Health Project which brings together international donors, community organisations and other stakeholders in the region to galvanise support for addressing the escalating HIV epidemic among MSM.

Hong Kong Partnership

In December, a delegation from AIDS Concern Hong Kong visited ACON to share information on a range of health promotion programs. This connection has now developed into a long term partnership and in 2009, we will undertake a series of staff exchanges with AIDS Concern following a successful funding application to the Australia China Council.

New Relationships

In August, ACON representatives were invited to attend the annual Purple Sky Network meeting in Bangkok. This newly formed network brings together organisations and donors working on MSM issues in the greater Mekong sub-region, encompassing Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and the Chinese provinces of Yunnan and Guaxi. We also met with Australia's newly appointed Ambassador for AIDS Mr Murray Proctor.

International Conferences

ACON staff attended the 17th International AIDS Conference in Mexico City. ACON had submissions accepted on several topics including a recent ACON-developed HIV prevention campaign (*You Just Don't Know*), our successful partnership with RSAT, Australian HIV transmission offences policy, and HIV prevention with Chinese migrant sex workers. We also participated in a special pre-conference satellite forum on the global HIV epidemic among MSM, the second such meeting to take place alongside an international AIDS conference.



ADVOCACY



What We Do

We keep policy-makers and legislators informed about the issues that affect our community. We also encourage community members to support our advocacy efforts through direct mail and online campaigning.

Why We Do It

Our advocacy work ensures that GLBT and HIV positive people are getting the best possible health outcomes. It also involves our community in the development and implementation of relevant programs and policies.



GLBT NSW 2020



Participants at the GLBT NSW 2020 roundtable



National LGBT Health Alliance logo

How We Did It in 07/08

Political Engagement

ACON continued to maintain strong relationships with key politicians from all major political parties at both the state and federal level. In 07/08, our CEO and President met with the then NSW Health Minister Reba Meagher as well as NSW Opposition Leader Barry O'Farrell and Shadow Health Minister Jillian Skinner. Both meetings reflect the level at which the organisation is recognised as an important community health organisation. ACON and the National LGBT Health Alliance were also the first GLBT or HIV organisations to meet with the new Federal Health Minister Nicola Roxon to discuss how GLBT issues can be included in the national health agenda.

GLBT NSW 2020

In 07/08, we helped coordinate *GLBT NSW 2020*, a wide-ranging discussion about the future of NSW's GLBT community. The aim of the 2020 project is to develop an action plan that can help inform and coordinate the activities of GLBT community organisations and assist with strengthening the GLBT community between now and 2020. The plan will also identify how the GLBT community can develop future leaders and achieve law reform. The process began with a one-day roundtable

involving GLBT community organisations across the health, legal, business, sporting, youth, media and cultural sectors. Other groups and individuals will contribute through a series of community forums, written submissions and other processes. The final strategy is due for release in 2009.

National LGBT Health Alliance

In the lead up to the 2007 federal election, the newly formed Alliance met with leaders from both major parties and secured commitments on a number of health issues. Throughout 2008, ACON worked with the other founding members to develop the Alliance from a simple MOU between organisations into a stand alone organisation, the National LGBT Health Alliance. Under the new structure, the Alliance will ensure that our health issues are part of the national health policy agenda, provide greater opportunity to access Commonwealth funding and lead to greater capacity and skills development among organisations and individuals working in GLBT health.

NSW Sex Industry Legislation Roundtable

In June, we hosted a NSW roundtable on sex industry legislation which brought

together all key stakeholders including the NSW Government, local government, sex worker advocates and health professionals. The outcome of the roundtable was a series of recommendations on how the industry legislative framework can be amended to ensure that the system is equitable and protects the health and wellbeing of sex workers.

Submissions & Presentations

This year, we broadened the range and scope of the policy submissions that we produced. We were active in advocating for the rights of our communities at the Commonwealth, state and local levels of government, providing submissions into inquiries such as *Australia 2020*, HREOC's *Sex Discrimination Listening Tour* (which resulted in lesbians and HIV positive women being recognised in the final report) and the City of Sydney's *2030 Plan Consultation*. We also presented a paper at the annual Australian Council of Social Services national conference which was themed around the social inclusion agenda of the new federal government. Titled *GLBT Perspectives On Social Inclusion/ Exclusion*, the presentation led to GLBT issues being recognised by ACOSS and conference participants as an important part of the social inclusion agenda.



FUNDRAISING



What We Do

We raise money through a range of programs and events to help finance areas of our work that do not attract government funding or are not fully funded.



Why We Do It

Every year, ACON receives a significant amount of funding from NSW Health. But that money can only be spent on work we do in relation to HIV/AIDS. Much of our broader work in relation to GLBT health and wellbeing – such as alcohol and other drugs, lesbian health, anti-violence, mental health, ageing, community care and advocacy – is financed primarily by small grants, fundraising activities and donations. To keep this important work going, we rely on the generosity of people and businesses in our community.



Red Ribbon Appeal volunteer



Peter Trebilco accepts his award at Honour



Mitzi and Naomi promoting BIG Scary Bingay

How We Did It in 07/08

Red Ribbon Appeal

Our 2007 Red Ribbon Appeal raised almost \$46,000 for HIV prevention work and services for people living with HIV/AIDS in NSW. Over 15,000 people in NSW purchased Red Ribbon merchandise or made a donation. A series of special benefit events in Sydney and throughout the state also contributed to the result. And in a moving tribute to those lost to HIV/AIDS, more than 100 people attended the Candlelight memorial in Sydney's Hyde Park.

Tax Time Appeal

Our Tax Time Appeal generated funds equal to 2007 but with a significant reduction in cost. This year's appeal took a broader view of ACON's work in the community as opposed to the 2007 campaign which focused on raising awareness and funds for our Anti-Violence Project.

Honour

ACON's community service awards event Honour celebrated its second year of acknowledging people who display

exceptional commitment to and leadership of the GLBT community. The 2008 recipients of the award were Peter Trebilco and Bruce Pollack. Ticket sales and a silent auction generated almost \$25,000. ACON would like to thank Foxtel and Brian Walsh for continuing to support the event through generous production subsidies.

ACON Angels

Launched in 06/07, this long-term regular giving program encourages people to give an ongoing monthly donation to ACON. With a tagline of "Help Support Our Angels", the campaign features six staff members carrying out their work in the community in the guise of angels. We continued to develop the program during 07/08 with an emphasis on upgrading our in-house systems in order to develop more effective relationships with current regular givers.

Bingay

Bingay continued as ACON's long term, grass roots weekly fundraising event. Now in its tenth year, Bingay is a great ACON success story and has raised more than

\$700,000 for ACON. This event is vital to the organisation and we thank Mitzi Macintosh and Naomi Palmer for their tireless energy and support.

Mardi Gras Events

Throughout the four weeks of Mardi Gras, our events staff and volunteers delivered a range of first class events, raising money and awareness around key issues for the community. Once again ACON's Mardi Gras float, was a huge success with over 400 participants. We produced six Mardi Gras festival events including *Hats Off* and *The Great Debate* as well as a significant presence at Fair Day. Our Mardi events raised over \$50,000 for our work in the community.

New Advisory Group

We established a Board working group to help us take a more strategic approach to funds development, including our fundraising activities. Chaired by fundraising specialist Siri Kommendahl, the group is focused on recruiting other experienced fundraisers to assist with our fundraising efforts.

SOCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL & COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY



What We Do

We work to minimise our impact on the environment and maximise the benefits we bring to our community.

Why We Do It

By seeking community evaluations of our work, by reducing our impact on the environment and by supporting smaller community organisations, we help to create a more just, equitable and inclusive society.



ACON Safe Sex Sluts at DIVA



Hockey demo at Team Sydney's Sports Day Out



Guests at the opening night of Queerdoc

How We Did It in 07/08

Social

Throughout the year, ACON maintained regular feedback systems for clients, community and other stakeholders as well as the opportunity for them to contribute to ACON's planning processes. We sought regular feedback from clients throughout the year via client satisfaction surveys and community consultations, the results of which then formed the basis for ACON's strategic planning process and the ongoing review of ACON programs.

Environmental

Through ACON's Reduce Reuse Recycle Committee (ARRRC), we continued to decrease ACON's environmental impact. We reduced our amount of waste by continuing a recycling scheme for paper, glass, bottles and cans. We reduced our carbon emissions by encouraging staff to turn off computers at the wall and by continuing to replace old equipment with more energy-efficient models. And we cut our daily average water usage by repairing leaking taps and cisterns and introducing waterless urinals in all our men's toilets. In addition to environmental benefits, these measures helped reduce our running costs.

Community

ACON is strongly committed to supporting smaller groups in the HIV/AIDS and GLBT community sectors through an annual small grants program, the provision of ad hoc donations for good causes and by providing groups with office accommodation and meeting spaces at a nominal cost. In 07/08, these groups included the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation, Community Support Network, Palliative Care NSW, Mature Age Gays, Gay Married Men's Association, HIV/AIDS Legal Centre, Gay and Lesbian Immigration Taskforce. SMART, Harbour City Bears, Meditation, Gay Freethinkers and Gay and Lesbian Deaf Association.

In addition, ACON has in place and continues to develop valuable partnerships with relevant community and corporate organisations to improve how we provide services to and communicate with people in our community. These organisations include New Mardi Gras, Queer Screen, Team Sydney, the Drag Industry Variety Awards, the Sydney Convicts rugby team, the Sydney Women's Baseball League and the Freezone Volleyball Club.

OPERATIONS



Communications

The construction of a new ACON website began in June following an extensive consultation process with staff and stakeholders. Due to go live in January 2009, the new site will include a range of interactive components and new service delivery capabilities. Two editions of our biannual magazine *Shine* were produced as well as 12 editions of *ACONews*, a monthly email newsletter. Close relationships were maintained with GLBT media while relationships with mainstream media continued to develop. Over 40 media releases were distributed to a range of local, state and national media organisations.

Human Resources

The Human Resources team continued to provide a range of employment and people management services to ACON staff and managers. The team undertook an exhaustive survey of staff satisfaction, revealing high levels of engagement with ACON's mission, purpose and values. The team also coordinated a range of learning and development opportunities including media training and a longer-term management development program.

Finance & Administration

During 07/08, the Finance and Administration team continued negotiations over ACON's triennial funding agreement with NSW Health. Through new investment strategies, the team achieved a 25 percent increase on interest income. In addition, new systems of control were implemented to ensure financial records were represented fairly and in accordance with accounting standards. This resulted in improved monthly reporting timelines to managers and directors.

Information Technology

During 07/08, the Information Technology team continued its dedication to IT support services. The process of centralising all data at head office which began in 06/07 continued during 07/08 and is due to be completed by the end of 2008. The team also continued the roll-out of our capital replacement program which addresses the organisation's PC, server and printer needs across the state.

Reception Services

Our reception staff continued to provide excellent in-house and external services, ranging from room and car bookings for staff to maintaining the organisation's phone lists and providing referral, information and support for clients and visitors. This year, the team handled close to 19,500 calls through the switch board and dealt with approximately 15,000 occasions of service to clients, visitors and staff.

Knowledge Centre

With it's broad range of books, journals and newspapers as well as free internet access, our library in Sydney continued to provide our community with a wealth of information about HIV/AIDS and GLBT health and wellbeing. Clients and community members accessed computer services on 2340 occasions throughout the year with 86% of users reporting that the resources accessed were good to excellent.

Vitamin Service

ACON continued to provide a cost-price vitamins and food supplement service to people living with HIV/AIDS and to anyone in our community requiring cheaper vitamins and food supplements. 223 people were registered for the service during 07/08 and we sold over 3,600 products to those in need.

Quality Improvement

We strive to deliver the best possible services and programs, while making sure that our administrative and organisational support functions are targeted, cost effective and appropriate. To do this we engage in a nationally recognised quality improvement program against which we measure ourselves. This year, we were once again successful in achieving full three year accreditation with the Quality Improvement Council of Australia.

Planning & Evaluation

ACON's Planning and Evaluation team undertook a range of initiatives to enhance the organisation's planning and evaluation processes. As well as organising the Big Day In, ACON's annual two-day staff training and planning seminar, a major focus was placed on business planning for 2008/2009 as well as ensuring that a highly efficient and rigorous reporting process was employed for acquitting our major funding agreement with NSW Health.

Governance

All operational areas are overseen by the Governance and Finance Working Group of the Board which is chaired by the President and members include the CEO, Treasurer, Finance Manager and various other board members.



FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008



TREASURER'S REPORT

for the Year ended 30 June 2008

I am pleased to present the Treasurer's report for ACON for the 2007 – 2008 financial year.

ACON finished the 2007-08 year with an operating surplus of \$505,368 compared to a surplus of \$146,510 last financial year and a budgeted surplus of \$144,139. This surplus includes \$315,605 provided in a capital grant for the improvement of our Hunter Branch which has now increased our non-current assets and will be expensed over the life of the lease. The underlying surplus of \$189,763 is close to the budgeted amount.

The 2007-08 financial year resulted in ACON realising a number of new grants to expand our work particularly in the areas of drug and alcohol use, international programs and same-sex domestic violence. Unfortunately, many of these grants were received at the end of the financial year resulting in an amount of \$832,643 in grants in advance to be carried into the new financial year.

This year was also the last under our previous triennial funding agreement with NSW Health which covers most of our work in the prevention of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, and our services for people with HIV. A new agreement is currently being negotiated with the NSW Health Department for the next three years.

Throughout the year ACON continued to explore ways to reduce administrative expenses and you will note in the financial report that we have achieved almost 20% reduction in this area. Some of this has been achieved through our focus on being responsible for our environment by reducing, reusing and recycling.

I take this opportunity to thank the CEO, management, staff, board and other volunteers for their efforts throughout the year that enables ACON to achieve so much more than just what we could with dollars alone. ACON staff work well beyond the hours they are paid for and our 700 active volunteers provide over 37,000 hours of volunteer time every year.

I also take this opportunity to thank our principle funders NSW Health, our pro bono solicitors Freehills, our auditors PricewaterhouseCoopers and our other supporters for their assistance throughout the year.

Jason Bradshaw
Treasurer

BOARD REPORT

for the Year ended 30 June 2008

The Board of the AIDS Council of New South Wales Incorporated submits its Report on the Association for the year ended 30 June 2008.

1. The principal activities of the Association during the year were the provision of education, health promotion, advocacy, care and support services to members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities, including indigenous people, injecting drug users, to sex workers and to all people living with HIV/AIDS.
2. After providing \$nil for income tax, operations for the year ended 30 June 2008 resulted in a net surplus of \$505,368 (2007: net surplus \$146,510) compared to a budget surplus of \$144,139. The current year result includes grants received in advance of \$832,643 (2007: \$834,620) recognised as income, as well as funding for the Hunter extension project. An amount of \$315,605 has been capitalised and will be expensed over the lease term of 10 years.
3. The Association is incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1984 (NSW) and is restricted from declaring any dividends.
4. During the year ended 30 June 2008, there was no significant change in the state of affairs of the Association other than those referred to in the above review or financial statements.
5. There have not been any matters or circumstances that have arisen since the end of the financial period, other than those referred to in the review or financial statements that have significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Association, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Association in subsequent years.

6. Members of the Board at 30 June 2008



Mark Orr - President
BSc (Hons), MHSM, Grad Dip Spec Ed, Grad Cert App Fin & Inv
A former senior executive in the State public sector and a psychologist with a long history working with people with disabilities. Past member and Co-chair of the New Mardi Gras board.



Scott Berry
Previously ACON Client Services Director and Queensland AIDS Council HIV Services Director. During this year Scott was President of Positive Life NSW and a manager with Carers NSW, the peak advocacy group for people with a disability.



Kate Connors - Vice President
BA, LLB (Hons)
Over 10 years experience in public sector policy advice and analysis. Kate is currently employed as a lawyer with the Australian Law Reform Commission.



Louisa Degenhardt
BA (Hons), M Psych, PhD
With 10 years experience in research, she is currently a Professor at the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre at the University of NSW. She has examined illicit drug markets across Australia and is involved in national and international collaborative projects examining illicit drug use and its links with mental health as well as physical harm.



Jeremy Hutton - Secretary
Experience as a political staffer and in the bookselling, advertising and marketing sectors. Jeremy has operated retail bookshops in country NSW and Victoria, and recently opened his own international media representation business.



Joseph Jewitt
BA (Psych), MPH
Joseph has more than 10 years experience working with HIV organisations spanning the community, government and research sectors. He also has significant senior health management experience in clinical service development, operational strategy and performance management.



Jason Bradshaw - Treasurer
BA, Dip Bus (Frontline Mgt), Cert IV Proj Mgt, AIMM
Has over 14 years experience in banking, finance and retail including delivery of operations to the corporate and government clients of a leading telecommunications company. Twice nominated as Young Queenslander and Young Queensland Manager of the Year, Jason has a solid track record of community involvement.



Andrew Purchas
BEC LLB
Has worked for many years as a senior executive in the financial services sector. He also has significant commercial experience in business process redesign, change management and risk management.



Rod Bruem
Rod Bruem is a communications specialist with 21 years experience in journalism, politics and media management. Currently employed as a corporate relations manager for Telstra. He has a keen interest in rural and regional issues and services.



Jonathan Stambolis
BEC, LLB, Grad Dip Leg
Jonathan Stambolis is a lawyer with Clayton Utz with experience in corporate law, banking and international humanitarian law. He is also director of a number of private-sector corporations.



Garrett Prestage
BA (Hons), PhD
Senior Lecturer at National Centre in HIV Epidemiology & Clinical Research and Senior Research Fellow at the Australian Research Centre in Sex Health & Society, with twenty-five years experience researching gay and lesbian community and health issues.



Anders Neilson - Staff Representative
Anders has been employed at ACON for the past three years and is currently the coordinator of CSN. He brings with him extensive experience working in various roles within the community services sector.



Siri Kommedahl
16 years experience in IT business development. Currently works as a financial and strategic development consultant. She has also chaired fundraising committees for organisations including the Human Rights Campaign Federal Club, a 700,000 member civil rights organisation in the US which works to ensure GLBT equal rights.



Stevie Clayton - CEO
OAM, JP, MAICD, AIMM CEO
Seven years as ACON CEO & previously Deputy CEO. Prior to this Stevie has a background in management positions in the Commonwealth and NSW Public Service. She also has an extensive history of involvement in GLBT community based organisations, health sector reform and human rights activism.

Attendances by Members of the Board who held office during the year at meetings of the Board during the year ended 30 June 2008 were as follows. Elections for the elected Board Members were held in December 2007.

Elected Members and Ex Officio	Meetings held	Meetings attended
Scott Berry	12	7
Jason Bradshaw	6	5
Rod Bruem	12	7
Stevie Clayton	10	10
Nicolas Parkhill (A/Ex Officio)	2	2
Kate Connors	12	11
Louisa Degenhardt	12	9
Jeremy Hutton	1	1
Joseph Jewitt	12	11
Siri Kommedahl	6	5
Adrian Lovney	8	7
Simon Moore	6	4
Anders Neilson	12	10
Mark Orr	12	10
Garrett Prestage	12	11
Dean Price	6	3
Andrew Purchas	12	8
Jonathan Stambolis	12	8

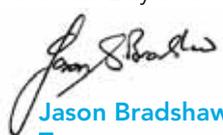
7. Other than Staff Representatives and the Chief Executive Officer, no Member of the Board has received or has become entitled to receive, during or since the financial year, a benefit because of a contract made by the Association with the member, a firm of which the member is a member or an entity in which the member has a substantial financial interest.
8. There are no significant environmental regulations which affect the Association's operations.
9. The Association has paid a premium of \$ 14,584.02 (2007: \$6,237) to insure certain officers of the Association. The officers of the AIDS Council of New South Wales Incorporated covered by the insurance policy include the Members of the Board. The liabilities insured include costs and expenses that may be incurred in defending civil or criminal proceedings that may be brought against officers of the Association.
10. The net surplus obtained from fundraising activities was applied to the purposes of the AIDS Council of New South Wales Incorporated as set out in Note 1 above.
11. PricewaterhouseCoopers continues in office as auditors to the AIDS Council of New South Wales Incorporated.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board.

Dated at Sydney this Fifteenth Day of October 2008



Mark Orr
President



Jason Bradshaw
Treasurer

INCOME STATEMENT

for the Year Ended 30 June 2008

	Notes	2008 \$	2007 \$
REVENUE FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS			
Grants:			
NSW Department of Health		8,045,195	7,561,595
NSW Department of Community Services		93,620	90,637
Area Health Services		614,276	594,746
NSW Users & AIDS Association		2,830	2,376
Other grants		138,496	403,131
Fundraising	20(a)	450,638	516,493
Interest received/receivable		153,032	121,373
Membership		1,307	4,193
Rent received		59,941	52,144
Sale of Vitamins		71,983	73,190
Sale of Materials		72,050	94,295
Registration Fees		11,453	3,139
Other Revenue		59,896	146,200
TOTAL REVENUE FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS		9,774,717	9,663,512
EXPENDITURE			
Salaries & Associated Costs		5,971,942	5,976,611
Program Materials and Services		659,926	739,661
Rent and Rates		229,061	231,764
Depreciation – Plant & Equipment		129,337	137,931
Building Maintenance		291,609	278,348
Communications		250,967	278,252
Travel and Representation		385,864	367,791
Donations given		44,470	18,910
Advertising costs		417,224	420,588
Events and Activities		122,726	106,040
Administrative costs		715,509	892,079
Cost of goods sold		50,714	69,027
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		9,269,349	9,517,002
OPERATING SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	2	505,368	146,510

The above Income Statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

BALANCE SHEET

as at 30 June 2008

	Notes	2008 \$	2007 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash	4	1,879,523	1,728,506
Receivables	6	231,602	106,437
Inventories	7	20,004	14,576
Other	8	106,832	164,098
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		2,237,961	2,013,617
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, Plant & Equipment	9	647,976	339,198
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		647,976	339,198
TOTAL ASSETS		2,885,937	2,352,815
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts Payable	10	638,018	611,207
Employee Entitlements	11	493,908	493,597
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,131,926	1,104,804
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Employee Entitlements	12	230,052	235,740
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		230,052	235,740
TOTAL LIABILITIES		1,361,978	1,340,544
NET ASSETS		1,523,959	1,012,271
MEMBERS' FUNDS			
Retained Surplus at the end of the Year	23	1,492,139	986,771
Revaluation Reserve	22	31,820	25,500
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS		1,523,959	1,012,271

The above Balance Sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

for the year ended 30 June 2008

	2008 \$	2007 \$
Total equity at the beginning of the financial year	1,012,271	865,761
Net income recognised directly in equity	6,320	-
Operating surplus for the year	505,368	146,510
Total recognised income and expense for the year	511,688	146,510
Total equity at the end of the financial year	1,523,959	1,012,271

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

CASHFLOW STATEMENT

for the year ended 30 June 2008

	Notes	2008 \$	2007 \$
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Receipts from customers, granting bodies and fundraising (inclusive of goods and services tax)		9,548,358	9,590,244
Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of goods and services tax)		(9,118,578)	(9,205,325)
		429,780	384,919
Interest received		153,032	121,373
Net cash inflow from operating activities	5	582,812	506,292
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Cash flows from investing activities. Payment for plant and equipment		(431,795)	(109,937)
Net cash outflow from investing activities		(431,795)	(109,937)
Net increase in cash held		151,017	396,355
Cash at beginning of the financial year	4	1,728,506	1,332,151
Cash at end of the financial year	4	1,879,523	1,728,506

The above Cash Flow Statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial report are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated. The financial report includes the financial statements for the AIDS Council of NSW (ACON) as an individual entity.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 30 June 2008

(a) BASIS OF PREPARATION

This general purpose financial report has been prepared in accordance with Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRSs), other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and Urgent Issues Group Interpretations.

Compliance with IFRSs

Australian Accounting Standards include AIFRSs. Compliance with AIFRSs ensures that the financial statements and notes of ACON comply with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs).

Historical cost convention

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of available for sale financial assets, financial assets and liabilities (including derivative instruments) at fair value through profit or loss, certain classes of property, plant and equipment and investment property.

Critical accounting estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with AIFRS requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Association's accounting policies.

(b) GRANT REVENUE

Grant revenue received is brought to account when received or receivable.

(c) RECEIVABLES

Trade receivables are recognised at the amounts receivable as they are due for settlement no more than 30 days from the date of recognition.

Collectability of trade debtors is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Debts which are known to be uncollectible are written off. A provision for doubtful debts is raised where some doubt as to collection exists.

(d) INVENTORIES

Inventories are represented by vitamin stock and are stated at the lower of cost or net realisable value on the basis of first in first out.

(e) RECOVERABLE AMOUNT OF NON-CURRENT ASSETS

The recoverable amount of an asset is the net amount expected to be recovered through the cash inflows and outflows arising from its continued use and subsequent disposal.

Where the carrying amount of a non-current asset is greater

than its recoverable amount, the asset is written down to its recoverable amount. Where net cash inflows are derived from a group of assets working together, the recoverable amount is determined on the basis of the relevant group of assets. The decrement in the carrying amount is recognised as an expense in net profit or loss in the reporting period in which the recoverable amount write-down occurs.

(f) REVALUATION OF NON-CURRENT ASSETS

The Association is gifted works of art from time to time. Works gifted are valued at the time of the gift and are capitalised at that amount.

Works of Art are valued at three yearly intervals. Revaluations reflect independent assessments of the fair market value of works of art.

Revaluation increments are credited directly to the asset revaluation reserve, unless they are reversing a previous decrement charged to the income statement, in which case the increment is credited to the income statement.

Revaluation decrements are recognised as expenses in the income statement, unless they are reversing revaluation increments previously credited to, and still included in the balance of, the asset revaluation reserve in respect of that same class of assets, in which case they are debited directly to the asset revaluation reserve.

Revaluation increments and decrements are offset against one another within a class of non-current assets, but not otherwise.

Potential capital gains tax is not taken into account in determining revaluation amounts unless it is expected that a liability for such tax will crystallise.

Revaluations do not result in the carrying value of Works of Art exceeding their recoverable amount.

(g) DEPRECIATION OF PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

Depreciation is calculated on a straight line basis so as to write off the net cost of each depreciable non-current asset over its expected useful life to the Association. Estimates of remaining useful lives are made on a regular basis for all assets, with annual reassessments for major items.

The expected useful lives are as follows:

Plant and Equipment, Office Equipment, Equipment under lease: 2-5 years

Works of Art are not depreciated.

(h) LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS

The cost of extensions to the Hunter branch on premises leased at 129 Maitland Road, Islington have been capitalised as leasehold improvements and will be amortised over the remaining lease period of 10 years.

(i) LEASED NON-CURRENT ASSETS

A distinction is made between finance leases which effectively

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 30 June 2008

transfer from the lessor to the lessee substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to ownership of leased non-current assets, and operating leases under which the lessor effectively retains substantially all such risks and benefits.

Finance leases are capitalised. A lease asset and liability are established at the present value of minimum lease payments. Lease payments are allocated between the principal component of the lease liability and the interest expense.

The lease asset is amortised on a straight line basis over the term of the lease, or where it is likely that the Association will obtain ownership of the asset, the life of the asset. Lease assets held at the reporting date are being amortised over 5 years.

Incentives received on entering into operating leases are recognised as liabilities. Lease payments are allocated between interest (calculated by applying the interest rate implicit in the lease to the outstanding amount of the liability,) rental expense and reduction of the liability.

Other operating lease payments are charged to the income statement in the periods in which they are incurred, as this represents the pattern of benefits derived from the leased assets.

(j) TRADE AND OTHER CREDITORS

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Association prior to the end of the financial year and which are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

(k) WEB SITE COSTS

Costs in relation to the web site controlled by the Association are charged as expenses in the period in which they are incurred unless they relate to the acquisition of an asset, in which case they are capitalised and amortised over their period of expected benefit.

Generally, costs in relation to feasibility studies during the planning phase of the web site, and ongoing costs of maintenance during the operating phase, are considered to be expenses. Costs incurred in building or enhancing the web site, to the extent that they represent probable future economic benefits controlled by the Association that can be reliably measured, are capitalised as an asset and amortised over the period of the expected benefits which vary from 2 to 5 years.

(l) EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS

Wages and salaries, annual leave and sick leave

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and accumulating sick leave expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in respect of employees' services up to the reporting date and are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled. Liabilities for non-accumulating sick leave are recognised when the leave is taken and measured at the rates paid or payable.

Long Service Leave

The liability for long service leave expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date is recognised in the provision for employee benefits and is measured in accordance with the policy above. The liability for long service leave expected to be settled more than 12 months from the reporting date is recognised in the provision for employee benefits and measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date

Superannuation

Contributions are made by the Association to several employee superannuation funds of choice and are charged as expenses when incurred.

(m) BORROWING COSTS

Borrowing costs are recognised as expenses in the period in which they are incurred.

(n) CASH

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes deposits at call which are readily convertible to cash on hand and are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 30 June 2008

2. OPERATING SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR

Operating surplus from ordinary activities includes the following specific expenses:

	2008 \$	2007 \$
Provision for Employee Entitlements	(5,377)	96,012
Rental expense relating to operating leases	250,502	241,916

3. INCOME TAX

The AIDS Council of New South Wales Incorporated as a public benevolent institution is exempt from paying income tax.

4. CURRENT ASSETS - CASH

	2008 \$	2007 \$
Cash on hand	10,920	10,300
Cash at bank:		
Cheque account - Operations	405,153	501,157
Deposits	1,463,450	1,217,049
	1,879,523	1,728,506

5. RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING SURPLUS TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2008 \$	2007 \$
Operating surplus for the year	505,368	146,510
Depreciation and Amortisation	129,337	137,931
Changes in Operating Assets and Liabilities:		
(Increase)/Decrease in Receivables	(125,165)	26,452
Decrease in Other Current Assets	57,266	21,269
(Increase)/Decrease in Inventory	(5,428)	384
Increase in Creditors	26,811	77,734
(Decrease)/Increase in Employee Entitlements	(5,377)	96,012
Net cash inflow from operating activities	582,812	506,292

6. CURRENT ASSETS – RECEIVABLES

	2008 \$	2007 \$
Accounts Receivable	224,394	70,079
Accrued Income	7,208	36,358
	231,602	106,437

7. CURRENT ASSETS - INVENTORIES

	2008 \$	2007 \$
Finished Goods (Vitamins) at cost	20,004	14,576

8. CURRENT ASSETS – OTHER

	2008 \$	2007 \$
Goods and Services Tax Receivable	106,682	71,354
Prepaid expenses	150	92,744
	106,832	164,098

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 30 June 2008

9. NON-CURRENT ASSETS - PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of each class of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the current financial year are set out below.

2008	Furniture & fittings \$	Office equipment \$	Equipment under lease \$	Library Works of Art \$	Leasehold improvements \$	Totals \$
As at 1 July 2007						
Opening cost	1,256,584	985,071	48,116	138,493	60,452	2,488,716
Accumulated depreciation	(1,229,579)	(821,867)	(48,116)	-	(49,956)	(2,149,518)
Net book value	27,005	163,204	-	138,493	10,496	339,198
Year ended 30 June 2008						
Opening net book value	27,005	163,204	-	138,493	10,496	339,198
Additions	15,314	80,984	-	-	335,497	431,795
Revaluations	-	-	-	6,320	-	6,320
Depreciation charge	(6,223)	(119,100)	-	-	(4,014)	(129,337)
Closing net book value	36,096	125,088	-	144,813	341,979	647,976

2007	Furniture & fittings \$	Office equipment \$	Equipment under lease \$	Library Works of Art \$	Leasehold improvements \$	Totals \$
As at 1 July 2006						
Opening cost	1,252,783	887,458	48,116	138,493	51,928	2,378,778
Accumulated depreciation	(1,224,536)	(692,444)	(48,116)	-	(46,490)	(2,011,586)
Net book value	28,247	195,014	-	138,493	5,438	367,192
Year ended 30 June 2007						
Opening net book value	28,247	195,014	-	138,493	5,438	367,192
Additions	3,801	97,611	-	-	8,525	109,937
Depreciation charge	(5,043)	(129,421)	-	-	(3,467)	(137,931)
Closing net book value	27,005	163,204	-	138,493	10,496	339,198

10. CURRENT LIABILITIES – ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

	2008 \$	2007 \$
Goods & Services Tax Payable	45,085	39,423
Trade Creditors	401,199	375,312
Accrued Expenses	191,734	196,472
	638,018	611,207

12. NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES – EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS

	2008 \$	2007 \$
Employee Entitlements - Long Service Leave	230,052	235,740

11. CURRENT LIABILITIES – EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS

	2008 \$	2007 \$
Employee Entitlements - Annual Leave	493,908	493,597
Employee Numbers	Number	Number
Number of employees at reporting date (Full time equivalent)	99	96

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 30 June 2008

13. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

(a) Credit Risk Exposures

The credit risk on financial assets of the Association is the carrying value, net of any provision for doubtful debts.

(b) Interest Rate Risk Exposures

The Association's exposure to interest rate risk and the interest rate for each class of financial assets and liabilities are set below.

Interest Rate Risk Exposures

2008	Floating interest rate \$	Fixed interest rate 1 year or less \$	Non-interest bearing \$	Total \$
Financial Assets:				
Cash and deposits	405,153	1,463,450	10,920	1,879,523
Accounts Receivable	-	-	231,602	231,602
	405,153	1,463,450	242,522	2,111,125
Weighted average interest rate	2.86%	7.58%		
Financial liabilities:				
Trade and other creditors	-	-	638,018	638,018
Net financial assets/(liabilities)	450,153	1,463,450	(395,496)	1,473,107
2007	Floating interest rate \$	Fixed interest rate 1 year or less \$	Non-interest bearing \$	Total \$
Financial Assets:				
Cash and deposits	501,157	1,217,049	10,300	1,728,506
Accounts Receivable	-	-	106,437	106,437
	501,157	1,217,049	116,737	1,834,943
Weighted average interest rate	0.99%	6.00%		
Financial liabilities:				
Trade and other creditors	-	-	611,207	611,207
Net financial assets/(liabilities)	501,157	1,217,049	(494,470)	1,223,736

(c) Net Fair Value of Financial Assets and Liabilities

Financial assets and liabilities comprise cash and borrowings. The net fair value of financial assets and liabilities approximates their carrying value.

14. REMUNERATION OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Members of the Board, including the CEO and staff representatives, serve on the Board of the Association in a voluntary capacity and receive no remuneration for this service to the Association. An employee of the Association serving on the board receives normal salary and employment benefits commensurate with their position as an employee.

15. REMUNERATION OF AUDITORS

Remuneration for audit and review of the Association's Financial report - PricewaterhouseCoopers	43,300	42,000
Remuneration for other services - PricewaterhouseCoopers	7,440	8,100
	50,740	50,100

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 30 June 2008

16. SEGMENTS

The principal activities of the Association during the year were the provision of education, health promotion, advocacy, care and support service to members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities, including Indigenous people and injecting drug users, to sex workers and to all people living with HIV/AIDS. The Association operates predominantly in one geographical area, being New South Wales, Australia.

17. SHARE CAPITAL

The Association is incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1984 (NSW) and as such does not have authorised or issued capital.

The liability of a member of the Association to contribute towards the payment of the debts and liabilities of the Association or the costs, charges and expenses of the winding up of the Association is limited to the amount, if any, of unpaid annual fees by the member in respect of membership of the Association.

18. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY

The major source of funding for the Association is an annual grant from the NSW Health Department (the Department). The Association is currently negotiating a triennial funding agreement with the Department for the period 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2010. In the interim period until the new funding agreement is finalised, the Department has continued to provide funding to the Association consistent with that received in the prior year. The Association expects to finalise the funding agreement during the course of 2008/09 and does not expect that the delivery of services to the community will be affected by any delay in finalising the arrangement.

19. RELATED PARTIES

There were no transactions with related parties during the year ended 30 June 2008.

20. CHARITABLE FUNDRAISING ACT 1991

The AIDS Council of New South Wales Incorporated was re-issued with an authority to fundraise by the Office of Charities for the period 4 September 2006 to 3 September 2011.

Information and declarations to be furnished under the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991.

(a) Details of aggregate gross income and total expenses of fundraising appeals

	2008 \$	2007 \$
Gross proceeds from fundraising:		
Red Ribbon World AIDS Day Appeal	110,387	145,722
Other including Donations & Sponsorship	340,251	370,771
Total gross income from fundraising	450,638	516,493
less total costs of fundraising		
Red Ribbon World AIDS Day Appeal	64,544	45,799
Other	268,361	365,579
Total costs of fundraising	332,905	411,378
Net surplus obtained from fundraising appeals	117,733	105,115

(b) Forms of fundraising appeals conducted during the period covered by these financial statements were: Dance Parties, Appeals, Bingo, Dinners and Special Nights at Venues.

(c) Comparative Ratios	2008	2007
Ratio of costs to gross proceeds	74%	80%
Ratio of net surplus to gross proceeds	26%	20%
Ratio of total cost of services to total expenditure	7%	8%
Ratio of total cost of services to total income	7%	8%

In the view of the Board, all expenses incurred by the AIDS Council of New South Wales Incorporated contribute to the delivery of its programs and services.

21. COMMITMENTS FOR EXPENDITURE

LEASE COMMITMENTS

Operating Leases

Commitments for minimum lease payments in relation to non-cancellable operating leases contracted for at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities, payable:

	2008 \$	2007 \$
Within one year	237,971	219,314
Later than one year but not later than 5 years	253,701	233,812
Later than 5 years	132,702	94,968
	624,374	548,094

22. RESERVES

	2008 \$	2007 \$
Revaluation Reserve		
Opening balance	25,500	25,500
Revaluation increment	6,320	-
Closing balance	31,820	25,500

The Revaluation Reserve is used to record increments and decrements on the revaluation of non-current assets as described in Note 1(f).

23. RETAINED SURPLUS

	2008 \$	2007 \$
Retained surplus at the beginning of the year	986,771	840,261
Current year surplus	505,368	146,510
Retained surplus at the end of the year	1,492,139	986,771

Included in the retained surplus is an amount of \$832,643 (2007: \$834,620), which is restricted in its use. This relates to grants received not yet expended for the purpose for which they were intended.

Also included in the retained surplus is \$315,605 in grant funding expended on the Hunter extension project. This expenditure has been capitalised as a leasehold improvement and will be amortised as an expense over a 10 year period.

DECLARATION BY THE BOARD

The members of the board declare that the financial statements and notes set out on pages 33 - 41:

- comply with Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; and
- give a true and fair reflection of the association's financial position as at 30 June 2008 and of its performance, as represented by the results of its operations and its cash flows, for the financial year ended on that date.

In the board's opinion:

- the financial statements and notes are in accordance with the *Association's Incorporation Act 1984 (NSW)*, the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW)* and the *Charitable Fundraising Regulations 1993 (NSW)*;
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable;
- the provisions of the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW)* and the regulations under this Act and the conditions attached to the authority to fundraise have been complied with; and
- the internal controls exercised by the association are appropriate and effective in accounting for all income received.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the board, and is signed for and on behalf of the board by:

Mark Orr
President

Kate Connors
Vice-President

Dated at Sydney this Fifteenth Day of October 2008

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE AIDS COUNCIL OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC.



Pricewaterhouse Coopers
ABN 52 780 433 757
Darling Park Tower 2
201 Sussex Street
GPO Box 2650
SYDNEY NSW 1171

DX 77 Sydney
Australia
Telephone +61 2 8266 0000
Facsimile +61 2 8266 9999
www.pwc.com/au

Report on the financial report

We have audited the accompanying financial report of the AIDS Council of New South Wales Inc (the association), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2008, and the income statement, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the declaration by the members of the board.

Responsibility of the members of the board for the financial report

The members of the board are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations). This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances. In Note 1a, the members of the board also state, in accordance with Accounting Standard AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements*, that compliance with the Australian equivalents to international Financial Reporting Standards ensures that the financial report, comprising the financial statements and notes, complies with International Financial Reporting Standards.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the association's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the

members of the board, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

Our procedures include reading the other information in the Annual Report to determine whether it contains any material inconsistencies with the financial report.

For further explanation of an audit, visit our website <http://www.pwc.com/au/financialstatementaudit>

Our audit did not involve an analysis of the prudence of business decisions made by members of the board or management.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of the AIDS Council of New South Wales Inc is in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Act 1984 (NSW)*, the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW)* and *Charitable Fundraising Regulation 1993 (NSW)*, including:

- giving a true and fair view of the association's financial position as at 30 June 2008 and of its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards;
- presenting a true and fair view as required by the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW)* of the financial result of fundraising appeals for the financial year ended 30 June 2008;
- that the accounts and associated records have been properly kept in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Act 1984 (NSW)*, the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW)* and *Charitable Fundraising Regulation 1993 (NSW)* for the financial year ended 30 June 2008;
- that money received as a result of fundraising appeals conducted by the AIDS Council of New South Wales Inc during the year ended 30 June 2008 had been properly accounted for and applied in accordance with the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW)* and *Charitable Fundraising Regulation 1993 (NSW)*.

PricewaterhouseCoopers

Gareth Winter
Partner

Sydney
15 October 2008

STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR



Scott Abbot
Surya Abhay
Danny Adams
Cathy Adams
Cath Adams
AJ Adams
Nicola Addison
Fiona Addison
Naushad Ahmed
Brett Aitkenhead
Michael Alcott
Luke Alexander
Chiho Alimovski
Mark Allder
Christopher Allen
Michael Allen
Luisa Altomare
Pamela Amores
Larry Amos
Nichole Anasson
Tim Anderson
Katie Andrews
Jennifer Anne
Luke Anthony
Julian Archer
Toby Armstrong
Nassim Arrage
Gary Aschmoneit
David Ashton
Michael Attkin
Milan Avenue
Amanda Ayuthia
Anna Bacik
Michael Badorrek
Hussein Bahsoun
Graham Bakewell
Peter Baldwin
Raymond Balisoro
Keith Ball
David Bamford
Dominique Banados
Patrick Bao
Nicole Barakat
Daniel Barakate
Christian Barbe
Jorge Baron
Niki Barr
Luke Barrett
Tyra Barry
Sam Barsah
Mark Bartlett
Wes Bas
Madeleine Basquiat
Jeanette Batchelor
Nicky Bath
Ben Bavinton
Shane Baxter
Megan Baxter
Jamie Bayly
Angus Beadie
Marcus Bear
Ruth Bearpark
Barbara Becker
Kerri Bell
Laverne Bell
Jeanne Bernhardt

Scott Berriman
Scott Berry
Pranila Bidesi
Wayne Bidey
Phillip Bishop
Tim Bishop
Patrick Bishop
Pavel Bitter
Shannon Black
Jacqueline Blacket
Jordana Blank
Marcus Blease
Paul Bodisco
Greg Boladian
Jo Booth
John Borello
Gregory Bork
Greg Bork
Deborah Bornzin
Vera Bourne
Douglas Bowden
Ejalyn Bower
Peter Bowerman
Harry Boyajian
Mal Bozic
Justin Brash
Ruth Braunstein
Alan Brennan
Chris Brew
Christina Briegleb
Olivia Bright
Rosemary Bristow
Baylee Brits
Barrie Brockwell
Steve Brooker
Tony Brooks
Amy Brooks
Alan Brotherton
Rob Brough
Deb Broughton
Daniel Brown
Malcolm Brown
Stuart Brown
Graeme Browning
Samantha Bruce
Dr Peter Bryant
Mark Bucayan
Lauren Budden
Chantal Burchett
Shane Burgess
John Burnett
Keith Buss
Judith Butler
Sarah Buxton
John Byrne
Jessie Cadden
Erin Cahill
Kerry Cain
Antonia Caines
Maria Calandra
Daniel Callaghan
Alanna Calluad
Lynette Cameron
Annette Cameron
Mark Campagnolo
Donna Campbell

Adriano Cappelletta
Davina Captain
Charles Caravouanos
David Cardenas
Brokered Care
Laura Carniato
Theresa Caruana
Anne Casey
Lara Cassar
Somali Cerise
Heather Chaffey
Baden Chalmers
Julie Chalmers
Herbert Chan
Maria Chan
Anouska Charles
Rosie Charter
Jason Chatwin
Margaret Chauw
Chayarnon Chayawiriyarkhun
Anna Checkley
Justin Cheffirs
Elisa Chen
Guang Chen
Jason Chen
Rebecca Chen
Yifan Chen
Kuang-ting Cheng
Amanda Cheong
Alex Cheslett
Jum Chimkit
Elaine Chiu
Sam Choy
Dau Chuan Chung
Paul Ciseau
Cameron Clark
Paul Clark
Nicola Clarke
Barry Clarke
Stevie Clayton
Chris Clementson
Teresa Clonan
Nathan Clunas
Craig CMcKiernan
Charles Coakley
Stephen Codd
Rodney Cole
Nathen Colley
Christine Collins
Chris Collins
Sam Collova
Jae Condon
Kate Connors
Annaliiese Constable
Hayley Conway
Michelle Cook
Caitlin Cooper
Ben Cooper
David Copeman
Nick Corrigan
Alex Coughlin
Vicky Coumbe
Andrew Coupe
Feona Cowlin
Kate Crawford
Duncan Cresswell

Crystal Critchelle
Lillian Crombie
Peter Crooks
Marlene Cummings
Alex D'antonio
Michael Daley
Carla Daly
John Daly
Holly Daly
Alex D'antonio
Wasuntaree Daradikul
Jessica Darienzo
Alex Davidson
Catherine Davies
Suzanne Davis
Nancy De Castro
Caroline De Castro
Marguerite Dean
Jimmy Dee
Aaron Deighton
Isaac Dekker
Martin Delaney
Kate DeMaere
Colin Dent
Nilesh Deshmukh
Jay Deva
Claire Devonport
Lily Dewisusana
Anoir Dmian
Lee Doherty
Javier Dopico
Irene Doutney
Ian Down
Jon Downie
James Drew
Simon Drew
Gary Driscoll
Breda Drumgoole
Cindy Drummond
Corinne Drysdale
Ella Dul
Simon Dunn
Jane Dunn
Mary Dunne
Ximena Duque
Alberto Duran
Grace Dwina Tanuputri
Stephen Dwyer
Christiane Dyer
Tim Edison
Shaun Edwards
Meagan Edwards
Marie-Clare Elder
Michelle Emerald
Sue England
Veronica Eulate
Jackie Fang
Gerard Farmer
Richard Farr
Janine Farrell
Maurice Farrell
Monique Farrow
Ross Feenan
Lance Feeny
Nicole Fegent
Carlos Felix

David Ferguson
Glenn Ferrero
Ian Ferrie
Jason Fewquandie
James Fiander
Benjamin Fidden
Kate Fisher
Danae Fitzpatrick
Alan Florence
Brett Fogarty
Peter Foggitt
James Forbes
Scott Forsdike
Lou Fortus
Lachy Foulsham
Linda Foulsham
Jacqueline Frajer
Tegan Francis
Harry Fransen
Michele Freeman
Stephen Frendo
Matt Fry
Matthew Fry
Takashi Fujita
Careen Furner
Arlene Gaffney
Stephen Gallagher
Irene Gao
Chao Gao
Jason Gao
Roncero Garcia
Liz Gardiner
Louis Garrick
Kevin Garwood
Katie Gauld
Craig Gee
Mina Geng
Lara Gerrand
Somali Ghosh
Biff Giau
Lawrence Gibbs
Phill Gibbs
Dean Gilbert
Sveta Gilerman
Murray Gilette
Gareth Gillham
Susan Gilroy
Rian Gledson
Russ Gluyas
Emilie Gomez
Jamie Goninan
Hannah Goodwin
Alan Gordon
Lara Goulding
Romana Gracin
Simon Graham
Emily Gray
James Gray
Brett Gray
Meg Gray
Brad Gray
Ilana Green
Andrew Green
Jackie Green
Sue Green
Johnny Greenhalgh



Brett Greenwood
John Greenwood
Sophie Gregory
James Grey
Lauren Griffin
Peter Griffiths
Hossai Gul
Gilbert Gunderson
John Hackett
Susanne Hahn
Lorraine Hall
Dallas Halpin
Peter Hamilton
Sekneh Hammoud
Ben Hanckel
Christopher Hara
Matthew Hardy
Carl Harris
Malcolm Harris
David Harris
Donald Harris
Sioux Harrison
Iain Harrison
Martin Hartridge
Jonathan Harvey
Linda Hayes
Robert Hayes
Roslyn Haylock
Tony Head
Kim Heap
Alex Heathwood
Simone Heiler
Rick Held
Amy Helim
Stephane Hemmerter
Carlos Heng
Adrian Heng
Wayne Herbert
Fijon Hessermer
Gail Hewison
Shane Hewitt
Hu Hezhou
Andrew Hickey
Lauren Higgins
Kim Hill
Jeannie Hill
Anthony Hillis
Taron Hiscox
Margaret Hobbs
Rose Hogan
Jo Holden
Raymond Holmes
Patricia Holton
Phil Horne
Sarah Hosie
Florence Howard
James Howley
Michael Hu
Cherry Huang
Dwayne Huckle
Warren Huckle
Stacy Hughes
Mitchell Hughes
Jiang Huiwen
Michelle Hull
Peter Humble

Terence Humphries
Lisa Humphries
Charles Hunter
Shane Hurley
Travis Hyde
Hina Inamdar
Marc Innemee
Sex Intents
Mark Inwood
Peter Irons
David Irving
Alex Jackson
Ross Jacobs
Laura Jarvis
Jessica Jellins
Shane Jenek
Rani Jha
Felicity Johns
Alison Johnson
Jamie Johnson
Matthew Johnson
Troy Johnson
Jeff Johnston
Jeff Jones
Allan Jones
Andrew Jones
Barbara Jones
Brendan Jones
Jeff Jones
Steven Jones
Thomas Jones
Stephen Jones
Kandas Jordain
Maria Judge
Malcolm Jull
Natali Kakovska
Ganesh Kamalaharan
Sasha Kaplan
Ben Karim
Ghassan Kassisieh
Laurie Keane
Chris Kearney
Russell Kearns
Edwina Keelan
Kevin Keith
Robert Kellet
Paul Kelly
Jacquie Kennedy
Bedros Kerakostan
Ruslan Khisameev
Johan Khoury
Josephine Ki
Fiona Kidd
Arthur King
Katrina King
Sarah Kirkwood
Ulo Klemmer
Robert Knapman
Will Knight
Adam Knobel
Emma Knowl
Emma Knowland
Eleni Kokkinos
Jim Konstantopoulos
Kenny Kor
Patrick Korghian

Henrike Korner
Pisit Kunavarote
Arie Kusmono
Vanessa Kutscher
Benjamin Kwan
Adrian Ladmore
Simon Lain
Tanya Lanagan
Christopher Lane
Deidre Lane
Michael Le Vesconte
Maria LeBreton
Christina Lee
Olivia Lee
Rom Lee
Casey Lee-Hall
Ely Leibovitz
Robyn Leitch
Kear Leng Lay
Marc Leong
Lisa LeProvost
Michael LeVesconte
John Lewis
Casey Li
Li Li
Philip Lidbury
Jayne Liddy
Tania Lienert
Audrey Lim
Lichiu Lin
Danielle Lindsay
Lex Lindsay
Jolin Liou
Michelle Lo
Sharita Lobo
Chuan-Wey Loh
Puppet Loncar
Mei Loong
Larry Lordi
David Lorenz
Donovan Louie
Adrian Lovney
Donald Low
Grace Lu
Einstein Lubrin
Stephanie Luc
Kim LuHao
Recky Lumanauw
Graeme Lunan
Anna Lunoe
Xiong Luong
Helena Lynn
Glenn M
Maggie Ma
Xiuyun Ma
Allison Macbeth
Ian Macdonald
Byron Macdonald
Phil Mace
Leslie Macedo
Mitzi Macintosh
Dorothy MacMahon
Simon Maghngi
John Mahoney
Kelvin Mak
Louise Malcolm

Johannes Mallow
Colin Malzard
Chris Mansergh
Erin Marden
Danielle Marks
Kylie Marks
Timothy Martin
Tim Martin
Michael Martire
Curt Mason
Ashley Mason
Randall Masso
Shaun Masters
Terry Mateer
Ange Matheson
Angela Matheson
Nev Matthews
Siri May
John Maybury
Rima Mazloum
Amber McBride
Pol McCann
Kristen McDonald
Jake McDonald
Brian McDonnell
Graham McFadden
Anna McGowan
Victoria McGrath
John McGrath
Alison McIntosh
Patricia McIntosh
Michael McIntyre
Neil McKellar-Stewart
Maria McMahan
Stephanie McMillan
Jackie McMillan
Michael McNaughton
Tony McNaughton
Dennis Meijer
Nina Melksham
Jeffrey Meredith
Matt Merlino
Cliff Micallef
Ian Middleton
Rebecca Miers
Murray Mills
Kunal Mirchandani
Anton Mischewski
Dean Misdale
Ian Mitchell
Lindy Moffatt
Adnan Mohieddine
Dave Mollison
Rob Monaghan
Tristan Montana
Charles Moore
Glen Moran
Tania Morsman
Anthony Moujalli
Sherryen Moussa
Maggie Moylan
Justine Moyle
Greg Mulroney
Mary Munro
Monica Munz
Jade Muratore

Arthur Murgatroyd
Elizabeth Murphy
Alison Murray
Alan Murray
Brendan Myhill
Keith N
Nimmert Narulla
Sadia Nazmun
Karla Neeson
Kate Neeson
Anders Neilson
Michael Nelson
Lee Newbold
Barry Newham
Elsie Ng
Nelson Nghe
Khoi Nguyen Pham
Joel Nicholson
Elke Nicholson
Wayne Nielsen
Julie Nikolich
Tasha Noble
Georgina Nolan
Sarah Norcott
Bjarne Nordin
Olivia Noto
Mark O'Brien
Paul O'Hare
Daniel O'Neill
Sean O'Rourke
Tony O'Sullivan
Fred Oberg
Sr Marguerite O'Brien
Mary O'Brien
Bill O'Conner
Bill O'Connor
Sophi Odling
Sean Oliver
Alona Olsen
David Olsson
Carla Omiciuolo
Carla Omiciuolo
Khedur Omran
Vonnice Ong
Kean OnnSee
Till Opitz
Damien Oprel
Sean O'Rourke
SK Orpheus
Steve Ostrow
Chiho Otani
Eling Ou
Eren Ozdemir
Johanne Palme
Naomi Palmer
Martina Palombi
Basilius Papaioannou
Diana Parada
Gary Paramanathan
Nic Parkhill
Garth Parkhill
Wendy Parsons
Marc Pastorelli
Alanna Patterson
Boyd Pattison
Kelly Paul



STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR (cont')



Vijay Paul
Dewayne Paul
Matthew Peake
Kane Peakman
Erin Peel
Tony Petrovski
Jerry Pham
Adrian Phoon
Stephen Pickells
Duncan Pickup
Joanne Piggott
Hayley Pigram
Carl Piraino
Birgit Plewe
Den Policarpio
Alex Pollard
Elis Poullos
Katelund Povey
Ray Prasad
Gavin Prendergast
Tevin Price
Jeremy Proctor
James Pullen
Phillip Purs
Cameron Purvis
Nicole Quince
Nafizur Rahim
Haimonti Rakkhit
Deborah Ramage
Chandni Rav
Khairil Razali
Michael Reece
Jenness Regent
Sam Rey
Kirsten Rhodes
David Riddell
Aileen Rigor
Tjana Ring
Debbie Ritchie
Chris Robb
Margaret Roberts
Matthew Robertson
Tom Robertson
Kenn Robinson
Maureen Rogers
Pablo Roman
Berni Romer
Angela Rondo
Lisa Ronneberg
Teddy Rose
Karl Ross
Christine Rowan
Cristy Rowe
Khoby Rowe
Katy Roy
Jen Rudland
Zoran Runcevski
Ann-Maree Rundle
Felicity Ryan
Dermot Ryan
Reez Saidin
Danny Sakulan
Kerry Saloner
Adnan Samih
Rachel Sandford
Marcus Sandmann

Chadi Sankary
Galuh Saphari
Gilbert Saquitan
Ray Sarsin
Sam Sattler
Dina Saulo
Mary Anne Saunders
Tobin Saunders
Mary Saunders
Deborah Saxelby
Sai Saylan
David Scamell
Lance Schema
Anthony Schembri
Renee Schembri
Ann Schirk
Danielle Schmid
Kirsten Schneller
Abigail Schofield
Nicole Schubert
Romina Scodellaro
Penny Scott
Stephen Scott
Duane Seef
Kathryn Sell
Annie Selman
Susie Seo
Kunal Sharma
Lawrence Shearer
Maddy Shearer
Jo-Anne Sheedy
Jodi Sheedy
Carmel Shevlin
Maxi Shield
Martin Silveira
Libby Silver
Graham Simms
Terrilee Simpson
Samantha Siow
Saysana Sirimanotham
Trevor Slattery
Megan Slinning
Yasmin Smith
Christine Smith
Skye Smith
Debbie Smith
Jason Snaddon
Aaron So
Alanna Somers
Kevin Song
Uma Sooriyakumar
Michelle Sparks
Wayne Stamp
Justin Stanely
Michael Stapleton
Laurence Stark
Roy Starkey
Kate Starr
Greg Steele
Blake Stephens
Yonghee Stephens
Bruce Strath
Jonathon Street
Marcus Stulberg
Phillip Suitor
Glita Supernova

Anisha Surtani
Rob Sutherland
Rachel Sutherland
Catherine Synnott
Jane Talty
David-Joel Taltz
John Tam
Trent Tame
Kee Tan
Cindy Tang
Natalie Taranec
Ben Tart
Roger Tate
Bronwyn Taverner
Gareth Taylor
Alyce Taylor
Richard Taylor
Louise Temple
Phillip Terry
Themistos Themistou
Mark Thomas
Nicole Thompson
Ken Thompson
Tarnia Thompson
Cole Thompson-Brown
Sam Thoms
Melissa Thorp
Chen Tian
James Tiel
Brad Timms
Hsu Tin
Shelley Tinworth
Gerry Tobin
Sani Townsend
Austin Tran
Mai Tran
Nicole Tran
Vivienne Tran
David Travis
Todd Trenery
Ron Tripp
Julie Truong
Rewa Tupuhi
Greg Turnbull
Jodi Tyne
Zac Underwood
Suzy Upcroft
Glen Upton
Ronald Valencia
Sharon Valks
Paula Vallentine
Dennis Van
Ella Van Acker
Adam Van Rooijen
Matt Vaughan
Sam Vescio
Fillippa Vickery
Daniel Vidal
Denys Vidic
Lorraine Villaret
Marc Villegas
Cathy Vincent
Hilary Viney
Sally Virgo
Natalie Vo
Shae Vulgaris

Mary Vyssaritis
Prakata Wager
Mailis Wakeham
Sean Walcott
Ian Walker
Lyn Walsh
Paul Walsh
Kelly Walsh
Lee Walts
John Wang
Jiayin Wang
Tony Wang
Vivian Wang
Chen Wang
Danielle Warby
Michael Ward
Vourneen Ward
James Ward
Agnes Ware
Tanya Warr
Randa Wassef
Amanda Watkin
Bill Watson
Saliha Wazirzada
Chloe Wearing
Raymond Webb
Luke Webb
Peter Webster
Dallas Webster
Shirley Weng
Russell Westacott
Claire Wheeler
Matthew Whitbread
Christopher White
Richard Whitenstall
Alisa Wicks
Prasad Wijesekera
Vasuky Wijeyamohan
Stephen Wilcox
Paul Wilde
David Wilkins
Paul Wilkins
Michelle Williams
Hartley Williams
Alana Williams
Darren Williamson
Martin Willis
Terry Willis
James Wilson
Malcolm Wilson
Lucky Wirajaya
Nick Wokes
Solomon Wong
Johnny Wong
Samantha Wong
Jody Wong
John Wong
Lisa Wong
Michelle Wood
James Woodhead
Amy Wooding
Grace Woods
Frances Woods
Gerrard Woodward
Andrew Worboys
Lynsey Worrall

Rachel Wotton
Shannon Wright
Ian Wright
Jeanne Wu
Susan Wu
Tian Wu
Jocelyn Xin Jiang
Louisa Xu
John Yakalis
Savina Yang
Doris Yap
Lesley Yasso
Michael Yates
Sheena Yee
Mu Yi Yang
Shen Ying
Jonathan Young
Oscar Yu
Yiorgos Zafiriou
Abbas Zaheer
Farah Zaman
Anastasia Zaravinos
Andre Zeballos
Michael Zettinig
Rui Zhang
Ellie Zhang
Joanna Zhou
Cynthia Zhou
Ming Zhu
Tess Ziems
Dantanarayana



SPONSORS, PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS



2BOB FM Community Radio
2SER/Queer Noise
32 Hundred Lighting
32 Hundred Lighting
357
3rd Space
AAA Computers
Aarows
Abbott Pharmaceuticals
ABC Enterprises
ABC Radio Triple J
Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander Sexual Health
Network
Access Data Systems
ADAHPT
Adultworld Newtown
Advocate Immigration
Agender NSW
AHMRC
AIDS Action Council of the
ACT
AIDS and Infectious Diseases
Branch NSW Health
AIDS Council of SA
AIDS Treatment Project
Australia
Alan Vella
Albion Street Centre
Albion Street Centre
Alcohol and Other Drugs
Service
Aldo Spina
Allsorts Collective –
Wollongong University
Amanda Cheong
Anchor Men's Hostel
Andrew Creagh
Andrew Mercado
ANEX
Angelis Morningstar and the
Kingdom of Hearts
Ankali
Annie's Bar/Carrington Hotel
Ansell Condoms
Anthony Venn Brown
APC
ARCSHS
ARQ
ASI Solutions
Attorney General's
Department of NSW
Aurora Foundation
AusAID
Australasian Society of HIV
Medicine
Australian College of
Applied Psychology
Australian Federation of
AIDS Organisations
Australian Human Rights
Commission
Australian Lesbian Medical
Association
Australian Research Centre in
Sex, Health and Society

Australian Sailing and
Cruising Club
Australian Urethane and
Styrene
Awabakal Aboriginal Medical
Service
Balnaves Foundation
Bankstown Community
Health
Bankstown NSP
Barbara Williams
Bayswater Fitness
Bearlay Aboriginal
Intergency
Bedazzle Tanning
Beit el Hob
Bellingen and Seaboard
Youth Services
Benevolent Society
Benjamin Fidden
Benjamin Keats
Bigge Park Sexual Health
Biripi Aboriginal Medical
Service
Bitch Entertainment
Blacktown Outdoors Group
Blacktown Women's and
Girls Health Centre
Bligh Street Clinic
(Tamworth)
Blockbuster
Blue Mountains Sexual
Health Clinic
Blue Mountains Women's
Health Centre
Bobby Goldsmith
Foundation
Bodyline
Boehringer-Ingelheim
Boomalli Aboriginal Artists
Cooperative
Boyd Duncan Breakfast Star
FM
Bristol-Myers Squibb
Bronwyn Turnbull
Bruce Pollack
Byron Bay Youth Services
Cafe Abercrombie
Candy Lips
Carers NSW
Caring Funerals
Caroline de Castro
Cassandra Goldie
Catholic Benevolent Fund
Central Coast Coastal
Connections
Centre for Community
Welfare Training
Centrecare
Centrelink Outreach Team
Hunter
CHAIN
ChoiceBuild
Chris Brentin
Chris Puppick
Chris Tzar

Christ Church Cathedral
Newcastle
Christian Taylor
Christine Wilkinson
CIO Magazine
City of Sydney Council
Clarence River Women's
Refuge
Clinic 16
Clinic 33
Clinic 619
Coastal Castaways
Coastal Lynx
Coffs Harbour City Council
COMAG (Newcastle)
Community Support Network
Community Transport
Organisations
Competitive Edge
Computerworld
Concord Hospital (HIV team)
Corellis
Corporate Express IT
Council for Civil Liberties
Craig Berger
Crowne Plaza Terrigal
CSN Carers Representative
Committee
Danielle Schmidt
Darlinghurst Community
Health Centre
Darlinghurst Medical Centre
Darrell Sibosado
David Fowler
David Jones
Dendy Theatres
Department of Ageing,
Disability and Home Care
Dexter Poindexter
Dimension Data
DIVA
DJ Beaker
DJ Beatrix
DJ Greg Boladian
DJ Lady K
DJ Renee Stanton
DJ Ruby
DJ Sveta
DNA
DoCS Domestic Violence
Line
Doctor Earth Health Foods
Newtown
Dolores Refuge
Donna Adney
Dr Steven Lieu
Dr Julie Mooney-Sommers
Dr Ruth McNair
Durex Condoms
Durri Aboriginal Medical
Service
East Sydney Doctors
Education Centre Against
Violence
EMI Music
Emily Gray

Erin Peel
Evolution Publishing
Fag Tag
Family Planning NSW
Federation of Parents and
Citizens' Associations of
NSW
Fight Like A Girl
First Draft Gallery
First Step (SESIAHS)
Flinders Hotel
Floral Decorator
Food Distribution Network
ForumDV Web Design
Foster's Group
Foxtel
FPNSW (Family Planning
NSW)
Freehills Solicitors
Gail Mason
Gary Stocks
Gateway Hotel (Newcastle)
Gay & Lesbian Counselling
Service
Gay & Lesbian Immigration
Taskforce (GLITF)
Gay & Lesbian Rights Lobby
(GLRL)
Gay and Married Men's
Association (GAMMA)
Gay Men's Domestic
Violence Counselling Service
Gay Men's Health (AIDS
Council of South Australia)
Gender Centre
George Aviet Staging
Ghassan Kassisieh
Gilead Sciences
Glamour Inc.
Glyde Health
GLYSSN
Grant Gillies
Grant La Delle
Greater Southern Area
Health Service (HARP Unit)
Greater Sydney Community
Transport Organisations
Gretchen Riordan
GROWWL Liverpool
Gurlesque
Hair Art by Matthew Snell
Hannah Bolton
Harbour Youth Service
Harley Dennett
Hastings Council
Headland Press
Headquarters
Headspace Illawarra
Healthy Cities Illawarra
Hellfire Nightclub
Hepatitis C Council
HIV Community Health Team
HIV/AIDS Legal Centre
(HALC)
HIV/AIDS Library Network
(HALN)

Holden St Sexual Health
Clinic
Holdsworth House General
Practitioners
Home and Community Care
Services
Homebase Youth Service
Homebush Bay Foods
HP
Hume Phoenix
Hunter and New England
Area Health Service
Hunter Council of Social
Services
Hunter Headspace
Hunter Institute of Mental
Health
Hunter New England Area
Health Service
Hunter Women's Centre
IBM
IDC
IDG
Illawarra Legal Centre
Illawarra Sexual Health
Providers Network
Illawarra Women's Health
Centre
Imperial Hotel
Inflatable Image
Technologies
Inner City Legal Centre
Inner West Neighbourhood
Aid
Interrelate
Jackie Braw
Jackie Stricker
James Fletcher Hospital
Jan Dilli
Jane Worrallo
Janine Tennille
Janssen-Cilag
Jeannie Sotheran
Jenny's Place Inc
Jeremy Burston
JHH Infectious Diseases Unit
Jodi McKay MLA
Johan Khoury
John Burfitt
John Lavarack
John Pentecost
Johnathon Davie
Jon Bastin
Jonathan Davey
Jude Comfort
Judith Gooden
Karumah Positive Living
Centre
Kate Starr
Katrina Fox
Kenny's Lawnmowers
Kens at Kensington
Kickstart
Kim Boras
Kim Pearce
Kim Snow Furniture

SPONSORS, PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS (cont')



Kimberly Allen
Kings Cross Community Solutions Project
Kingsteam
Kirkton Road Centre
Koori Radio 93.7fm
KRAVE
Kyla Sexton
L'Occitane Le Provence
LAMA
Langton Centre
Lauren Riggs and the Dale St Women's Health Centre
Law & Justice Foundation NSW
Lee Sullik
Legal Aid Commission
Leichhardt Women's Community Health Centre
Leigh Harris
Lenya Jones
Lesbian Health Interagency Network (LHIN)
Liam Teer
Lifeline
Lily Victoria Beauty Salon
LINC Aboriginal and Lesbian Peer Support Groups
LINC Newcastle
Lismore & Region Women's Health Centre
Lismore Base Hospital and Ambulance Service
Lismore Base Hospital Social Work Department
Lismore City Council Community Services Department
Lismore Community Legal Centre
Lismore District Women's Health Centre
Lismore Neighbourhood Centre
Lismore Women's Refuge
Lismore Womens Health Centre
Lismore Workers' Club
Loft Youth Service (Newcastle)
LOTL Magazine
Louise Malcolm
Lush Cosmetics
Luxford Road Sexual Health Clinic
Lynne Martin
Lynnette Foster
Maddalena Arnfield
Maggies Thai
Mainspring
Manacle
Mandarin Creative Solutions
Mardi Gras Medical
Margaret Mines
Mark McAdam
Maronite Youth

Marrickville Council
Mature Age Gays (MAG)
Maxi Shield
MaXXX Black
MCC Central Coast
Medically Supervised Injecting Centre
Members of the 'Safe Place' program
Mental Health Association
Mental Health Coordinating Council
Merck Sharp & Dohme
Merryn Johns
Michael Bradfield
Photography
Michael Cartwright
Michael Deahm
Michael West
Mid North Coast Community Support Fund
Midnight Shift
Midnight Shift
Migrant Resource Centre Newcastle
Ministerial Advisory Committee on AIDS and STIs
Mitzi Macintosh
Mr Balloons
Mr Marys
Clover Moore MP, Lord Mayor, City of Sydney, Multicultural HIV Service
Multicultural HIV/AIDS & Hepatitis C Service
Nadia Piave
Naomi Palmer
National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS
National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research
National Centre in HIV Social Research
National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre
NCAHS Clinic 145 Tweed Heads
NCAHS Grafton Sexual Health Clinic
NCAHS Policy and Planning Unit
NCAHS Primary NSP Project
Nepean Sexual Health Clinic Network 10
Network of Alcohol and Drug Agencies
New Mardi Gras
Newcastle Bakehouse
Newcastle City Council
Newcastle Civic Theatre
Newcastle Mental Health Service
Newcastle Sexual Health
Newcastle Youth Service
Newtrain Northern Rivers

Nick Baldas
North Coast Area Health Service
Phoenix Rising
Northern Rivers Social Development Council
Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service
Northern Sydney Central Coast Health Service
Northern Territory AIDS and Hepatitis Council
Nowra Youth Centre
NSW Attorney General's Dept
NSW Council of Community Services
NSW Department of Community Services
NSW Department of Education and Training
NSW Department of Health
NSW Farmers' Association
NSW Ministry of Transport
NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
NSW Office for Women's Policy
NSW Police Force
NSW Police GLOs
NSW Premier's Department
NSW Quiltline
NSW Teacher's Federation
NSW Users and AIDS Association
NSW Workforce Development Program
NXFM Radio
Octapod
ON Q Human Resources
Northern Rivers
Open Doors Youth Service
Opera Australia
Outfielders
Oxford Square Medical Centre
Oz Showbiz Cares/Equity Fights AIDS
Pacific Clinic - Newcastle Sexual Health
Pacific Internet
Paddington/Woolollahra RSL
Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG)
Parramatta Sexual Health Clinic
Pastoral Care Western Sydney
Penrith Women's Health Centre
Pens Plus Promotional Products
People with Disabilities Aust Inc
Performance Space
Perpetual Trustees
Peter Hackney

Peter Thoms
Peter Walton
Phoenix Rising
Pine Street Creative Arts Centre
Pip Ditzell
Planet Cake
Pleasure Chest
PoHo
Police Gay and Lesbian Liaison Officers (GLLOs)
Port Kembla Sexual Health Clinic (SESAHS)
Port Panthers
Port Piazza
Port PLWHA
Positive Central
Positive Heterosexuals
Positive Life NSW
Positive Support Network (Gosford)
Powerhouse Museum
PRA on King
PriceWaterhouseCoopers
Prince of Wales Hospital (HIV team)
Priscilla: The Musical
Prof. Kerry Phelps
Queensland Association for Healthy Communities
Queensland Positive People
Queer Central
Queer Collective (Newcastle University)
Queer Screen
Quilt Project
Quiver Adult Store
Rainbow Visions
Randel Harris
Reading Cinema Auburn
REAL Illawarra
Red Shoe Events
Redfern Aboriginal Medical Service
Redfern Community Health
Reg Domingo
Regard Gallery
Regional Strategies Officer-Violence Prevention
Regional Youth Development Officers Network (RYDON)
Regional Youth Support Services (Central Coast)
Renee Cosgrove
Renee Scrembri
REPIDU
RHed (Victoria)
Richmond Community Options Ballina
Richmond Women's Cottage
Robert Lee
Roche Products
Roman Camping
Ronnie's Flower Shop
Royal North Shore Hospital (Clinic 16)

Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (HIV team)
RQ Restaurant
Ruth Filewood
Ruth McCarther
Ryan Lisson
Ryan Turner
Sacred Heart Hospice
Sally Whitwell
Samaritans
Same Same
Sass Salmond
Scarlet Alliance
Scott Abrahams
Scott Dovey
Sekneh Hammoud
Sexual Health Outreach Workers Network
Seymour Centre
SHAIDS
Shaun Lowe
Shauna Jensen
Showcase Cinemas
Sign King St Leonards
Signal
Signwave Newtown
Silke Bader
Sisterhoodlums
Slide Nightclub
Sliit Magazine
Smokenders
Solutions Focus Psychology
Somali Cerise
Somerset Meats
Soren Krumrey
South East Sydney and Illawarra Area Health Service
South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra Area Health Service
South West Inner Sydney Housing Co-op
South West Sydney Area Health Service
Southern Cross University
Southern Youth and Family Services
Sparkle
St Carthages (Aged Care)
St George Domestic Violence Counselling Service
St George Sexual Health Clinic
St Vincent's Community Health Service
St Vincents Hospital (HIV team)
Stanford House
Star City
Star FM
Stephen Pickels
Stonewall Hotel
Striptease Artists Union
Suki Hair
Sunny Burns
Surry Hills LAC
Sweet Art



Minister for Health

Mr Adrian Lovney
Former President
AIDS Council of NSW
PO Box 350
Darlinghurst NSW 1300

- 3 MAR 2008

Dear Mr Lovney

I am writing with regard to your recent retirement from the position of President of the AIDS Council of NSW.

ACON has been a strong and valued partner of the NSW Government in its efforts to contain the potentially devastating impacts of HIV and AIDS since the 1980's. The fact that rates of notification of HIV have remained stable in NSW against upward trends throughout the world is testament to the success of that partnership. ACON's proactive and pragmatic approach, and grassroots advocacy for some of our community's most marginalised groups has played a vital role in containing rates of infection and, ultimately, saving lives.

I would like to thank you for the enthusiasm and commitment you have brought to your eight years service as President of ACON. Under your leadership, ACON has grown and evolved beyond its initial mandate of HIV/AIDS related work, into the broader forum of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender health issues. I am aware how highly regarded your input and advice has been by my department, and I would like to thank you for your contribution during your time with ACON.

I would like to take this opportunity to offer you my good wishes for the future and whatever challenges lie ahead.

Yours sincerely

Reba Meagher
Minister for Health

Governor Macquarie Tower
1 Finner Place
Sydney NSW 2000
Phone: 02 9228 3555
Fax: 02 9228 3585
E-mail: reba.office@meagher.minister.nsw.gov.au

Farewell and thank you to former ACON President Adrian Lovney

SX News
Sydney Children's Hospital
Sydney City Steam
Sydney Convicts Rugby Club
Sydney East and Southern
Illawarra Area Health Service
Sydney Gestalt Institute
Sydney Morning Herald
Sydney Opera House
Sydney Psychology
Sydney Sexual Health Clinic
Sydney South West Area
Health Service
Sydney Star Observer
Sydney Theatre Company
Sydney West Area Health
Service
Sydney Women's Baseball
League
TAFE Lismore, Port
Macquarie & Newcastle
TAFE NSW
TAFE NSW Outreach
Program
TAFE Randwick
Tasmanian Council on

AIDS, Hepatitis and Related
Diseases
Taylor Square Medical Clinic
Team Sydney
Tessa Jones
The Arab Council Australia
The Aurora Group
The Bank Hotel
The Bridge
The Buttery
The Cancer Council NSW
The Catering Specialists
The Colombian
The Corner Youth Service
The Debbys
The Department of
Community Services,
Domestic Violence Line
The Feminist Bookshop
The Gay and Lesbian
Counseling Service
The Haven
The Hon Tanya Plibersek MP
The Hon Verity Firth MP
The Loft (Newcastle)
The Look, Theatrical Drape

Hire and Installation
The Newtown Hotel
The NSW Department of
Education and Training
The OI Group
The Oxford Hotel
The Sanctuary
The Sign Post
The Taxi Club
The Women's Library
Tim Ball
Tim Duggan
Tony Brooks
Tool Shed
Tops in Town Plant Services
Touching Base
Toybox
Traditional Medicinals
Apothecary Lismore
Training Program (JPET)
Tree of Hope
Tropical Fruits
Trouble in Paradise
Turtle Cove Resort
Tweed Shire Women's
Centre

Twenty10 Youth Services
Uniting Care (Caroona aged
care)
UnitingCare Ageing;
Caroona, Yamba & Tweed
Heads
Unity Wollongong
University of Newcastle
Urban Realists
Urban Theatre Company
Urge
Ushan Wickremanayake
Vanessa Viaggio
Vicki Harding
Victor Feneck, TCM
Acupuncturist
Victorian AIDS Council/Gay
Men's Health Centre
Visions in Style
VOCAL
Wandiyali
Warwick Allan
Wellbeing Magazine
Wendy Anggerani
Wesley Uniting Disability
Employment Network

Lismore
Western Area Adolescent
Team (WAAT)
Western Australia AIDS
Council
Western Sydney Aboriginal
Medical Service
Westmead Hospital (HIV
team)
Whyte & Co. Coaches
WILMA Women's Health
Centre
Wollongong City Gallery
Wollongong Youth Services
Women and Girls Emergency
Centre (WAGEC)
Women's Health NSW
Workcover NSW
Yipiyiyo Restaurant
Yoga Sanga
Youth Activities Centre Byron
Bay
Yunus Zeed
Yvonne Hall

CONTACTS



ACON (AIDS Council of NSW Inc.)

9 Commonwealth Street,
Surry Hills NSW 2010

Free 1800 063 060

T +61 2 9206 2000

F +61 2 9206 2069

TTY +61 2 9283 2088

E acon@acon.org.au

W www.acon.org.au

ABN 84 633 910 355

AUTHORITY TO FUNDRAISE CFN 15214

ACON HUNTER

129 Maitland Road,
Islington NSW 2296

T +61 2 4927 6808

F +61 2 4927 6485

E hunter@acon.org.au

ACON NORTHERN RIVERS

27 Uralba Street,
Lismore NSW 2480

T +61 2 6622 1555

F +61 2 6622 1520

E northernrivers@acon.org.au

ACON MID NORTH COAST

Shop 3/146-150 Gordon Street
Port Macquarie 2444

T +61 2 6584 0943

F +61 2 6583 3810

E mnc@acon.org.au

ACON ILLAWARRA

47 Kenny Street,
Wollongong NSW 2500

T +61 2 4226 1163

F +61 2 4226 9838

E illawarra@acon.org.au

POSITIVE

LIVING CENTRE

703 Bourke Street,
Surry Hills NSW 2010

T +61 2 9699 8756

F +61 2 9699 8956

E plc@acon.org.au

SEX WORKERS

OUTREACH PROJECT

69 Abercrombie Street,
Chippendale NSW 2008

T +61 2 9319 4866

F +61 2 9310 4262

E info@swop.org.au



Design: Danny Adams & Robin Hall

Printer: Competitive Edge

Photography: Big Day In 2008 Group Photo: Colin Dent

Sports Day Out 2008 Photos: Rod Spark Courtesy Sydney Star Observer

Afternoon Delight Photos: Ann-Marie Calilhanna Courtesy Sydney Star Observer

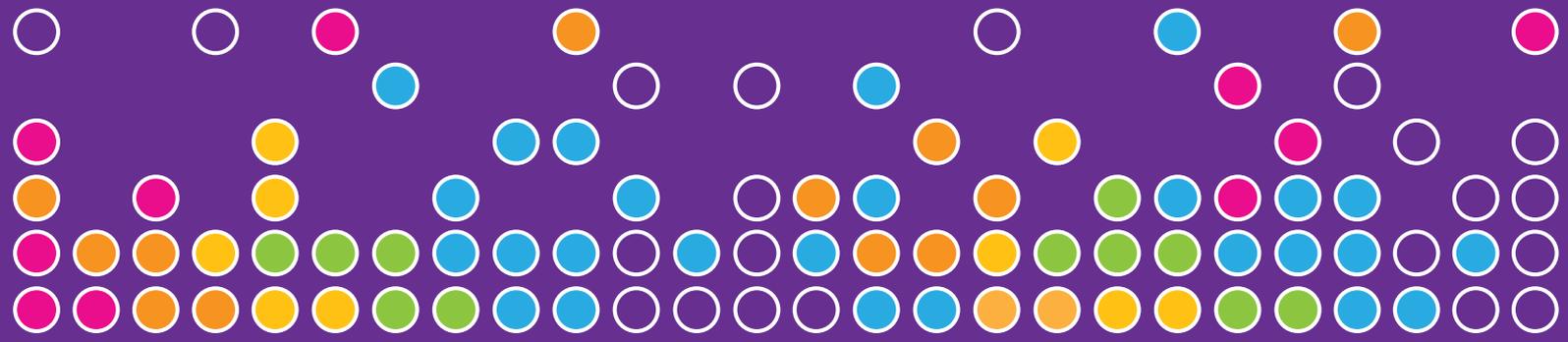
Heaven at Parramatta Photos: Ann-Marie Calilhanna Courtesy Sydney Star Observer

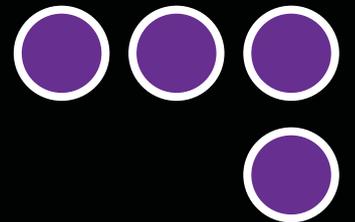
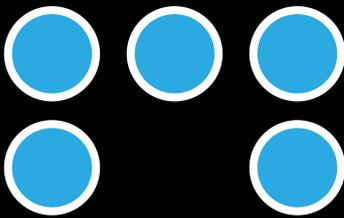
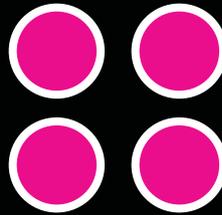
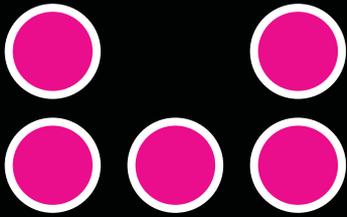
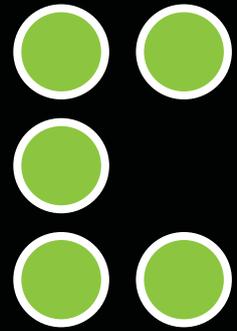
DIVA 2008 Photos: Ann-Marie Calilhanna Courtesy Sydney Star Observer

queerDOC 2008 Photos: Ann-Marie Calilhanna Courtesy Sydney Star Observer

MAG 17th birthday party Photos: Morgan Carpenter Courtesy Sydney Star Observer







www.acon.org.au

