

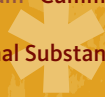


# MAKING A DIFFERENCE

CELEBRATING EIGHT YEARS OF COMMUNITY DRUG ACTION TEAMS IN NSW

CELEBRATING EIGHT YEARS OF  
COMMUNITY DRUG ACTION TEAMS  
ACROSS NSW

Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Committee (ADAAC) Airds Bradbury CDAT Albury Wodonga  
Community Drug and Alcohol Action Team (AWCDAAT) Armidale CDAT Armidale BIG hART  
Advisory Committee Auburn CDAT Ballina CDAT Bankstown CDAT Bathurst CDAT  
Bega Valley CDAT Blacktown CDAT Blue Mountains CDAT Border Towns Crime Prevention  
Committee Bourke CDAT Brewarrina CDAT Broken Hill CDAT Byron Shire CDAT Canterbury  
CDAT Casino CDAT Central Coast Aboriginal CDAT Cessnock CDAT Clarence Valley CDAT  
Claymore CDAT Cobar BIG hART Advisory Group Coffs Harbour CDAT Cooma Bombala Snowy  
River CDAT (Monaro) Coonabarabran Youth Committee Coonamble CDAT Corowa CDAT  
Cowra CDAT Culcairn Holbrook Youth Action Team Cumeragunja Community Drug and Alcohol  
Action Team Dubbo CDAT Eurobodalla Aboriginal Substance Abuse Action Team Fairfield CDAT  
Far West CDAT Forbes CDAT Forbes Parkes CDAT Foster Tuncurry CDAT Glebe CDAT Glen Innes  
Drug Awareness Committee Gloucester CDAT Goulburn CDAT Grafton CDAT Griffith CDAT  
Gunnedah Youth Action Team Gwydir CDAT Hamilton South Community Action Team Hastings  
CDAT Hawkesbury District CDAT Hay CDAT Hornsby CDAT Hunter Central Coast Regional  
CDAT Illawarra Aboriginal Alcohol & Other Drug Taskforce Illawarra Regional CDAT Inverell CDAT  
Joynt Youth Action Kamilaroi Regional Aboriginal CDAT Kempsey CDAT Kiama CDAT Killarney  
Vale Bateau Bay Tumby Umbi Community Building Network (KBT) Kings Cross CDAT Kyogle CDAT  
Lachlan Shire Community Crime Prevention Committee Lake Macquarie CDAT Leeton CDAT  
Lismore CDAT Lithgow CDAT Liverpool CDAT Maitland CDAT McIntyre Drug Awareness Team  
Moree CDAT Mudgee CDAT Mums Against Drugs CDAT Muswellbrook CDAT Narrabri CDAT  
Narrandera CDAT New England North West Aboriginal Regional CDAT Newcastle CDAT  
Nimbin CDAT Northern Wyong CDAT Orange CDAT Parramatta Holroyd CDAT Peninsula  
CDAT Penrith CDAT Pittwater CDAT Randwick CDAT Raymond Terrace and Karuah Action Team  
Redfern Waterloo CDAT Ryde CDAT Saratoga Yattalunga Davistown Community Action Team  
(SYDAT) Shellharbour CDAT Shoalhaven CDAT Singleton CDAT South East CDAT Southern  
Highlands CDAT Southern Slopes CDAT Springfield CDAT Surry Hills CDAT Sutherland CDAT  
Tamworth CDAT Taree CDAT Tenterfield Shire Community Safety and Crime Prevention Committee  
Tharawal CDAT Tweed Heads CDAT Upper Hunter CDAT Urban Community Action Network  
(U.C.A.N.) Wagga Wagga Community Drug and Alcohol Action Team Walgett CDAT  
Warialda CDAT Wilcannia CDAT Wingecarribee CDAT Wollondilly CDAT Wollongong CDAT  
Wyoming CDAT Wyong Watanobbi Action Team (WYWAT) Yass CDAT Young CDAT Youth Action  
Krew (YAK) Youth of Hay Yura Yulang CDAT



# A CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY DRUG ACTION TEAMS

**Reba Meagher MP**  
**NSW Minister for Health**



With so many marvellous projects undertaken by Community Drug Action Teams since the Drug Summit in 1999 it is a privilege to preface this overview of their achievements.

Every community is unique. Not surprisingly, every Community Drug Action Team (CDAT) is different. What they share is a commitment to improving choices and minimising harm for people at risk in their community.

In this booklet we celebrate the work of over 1,000 people across 80 communities who have taken positive steps to address the social and health issues caused by drugs and alcohol.

These projects are practical and creative, reflecting the different needs and culture of the communities for which they were developed. No one knows better than the locals what the real issues in a community are. They know where the gaps in information or services exist, where and why risk-taking behaviour emerges and they often know how

to go about interrupting unhelpful patterns for individuals at risk of harm.

Outlined in this publication are many types of projects, from providing up to date information on drug and alcohol services, to developing creative educational material for people at risk. Several CDAT projects have started on a small scale, growing over the years to become substantial ongoing programs that have transformed their communities. Some have been expanded and continued by other organisations that have recognised their value.

Essential to the success of Community Drug Action Teams over the years is the support provided by its many partners — community and charitable groups, government agencies, businesses big and small, and the many hundreds of people whose generosity and goodwill have fostered projects to make healthier futures for their communities.

While the NSW Government has provided over \$2 million in direct funding for CDAT

projects, this has been augmented by more than \$4 million in direct contributions and additional funds from our many partners. The very existence of CDATs allows many worthwhile initiatives to flourish, with government-funded projects forming only part of their diverse output.

People working together can achieve amazing things. The evidence is manifest in the sample profiled here, and there are many other worthwhile CDAT projects we lacked the space to include. Congratulations to everyone who has been involved in Community Drug Action Teams over the past eight years, and further thanks to the many hundreds of partners and supporters that have made these projects possible. Our communities would be much the poorer without you.

  
**Reba Meagher MP**  
**NSW Minister for Health**

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[www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au/drugs\\_action](http://www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au/drugs_action)

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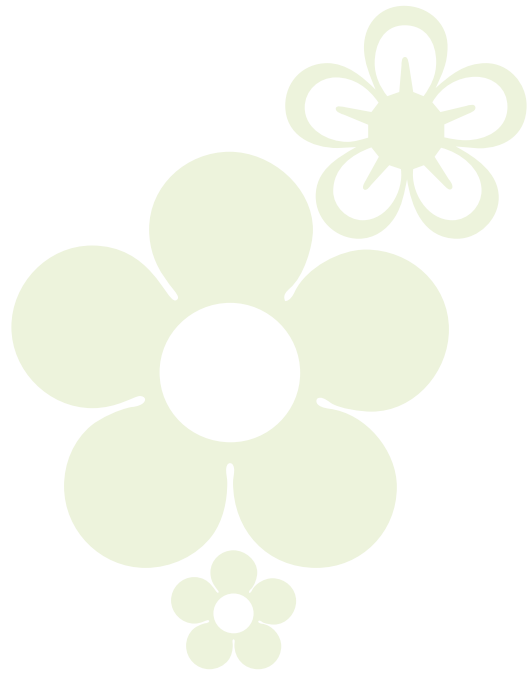
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WARNING: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers are warned that this publication may contain images of deceased persons.

**NSW HEALTH**

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Taking a stand against drugs

# GROWING WITH THE TIMES



**Community Drug Action Teams (CDATs) were first introduced in 2000 as a result of the NSW Drug Summit in 1999. It was agreed at the Summit that drug problems needed a range of responses and a shared effort to tackle them by government, community, families and individuals.**

CDATs are community groups supported by the government to increase and improve general community awareness about drugs and to help communities develop their own responses to local drug problems.

When the NSW Alcohol Summit was held in 2003 several CDATs made submissions to the Summit on alcohol related topics, which were also affecting their communities. These included preventing harms and abuse, beach partying, police enforcement of liquor laws and parent education on alcohol related dangers.

One of the recommendations of the Summit was that Community Drug Action Teams expand their focus to deal with alcohol problems in their communities.

Over the years several CDATs have changed their names to reflect their work and the needs of their communities.

Some CDATs run by young people have adopted more youth friendly names, as often their activities may address broader issues

such as lack of entertainment or facilities for young people, which may be precursors to drug and alcohol abuse. Such groups include Youth of Hay (YOH), Culcairn Holbrook Youth Action Team (CHYAT) and Youth Action Krew (YAK) in Maryland.

Mums Against Drugs (MAD Mums) were just MAD about needle-stick injuries and their name reflected their purpose. Killarney Bateau Bay Tumby Umbi Community Building Network decided against retaining “drug” in their name to encourage more community membership, and to allow focus on wider outcomes beyond drug education.

Albury Wodonga Community Drug and Alcohol Action Team (AWCDAAT) extended its name after the Alcohol Summit, and the Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Committee (ADAAC) in Bodalla also reflected this wider remit.

Yura Yulang was a CDAT for the Aboriginal community in and around Campbelltown, which means People’s Ceremony in the

language of the local Dharawal people. It relates to meeting together for important discussions within a community.

Summer Bay CDAT was formed after a community drug forum in an episode of Home and Away in 2001. Wallabies’ captain George Gregan and team mates “travelled” to Summer Bay to appear as special guests at the fictional drug forum organised by students.

**For more information about support for Community Drug Action Teams, see pages 46 and 47.**