Substance Misuse Limestone Coast







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Working Party

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Australian Government















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...some background

Response to Communities concerned about "ice epidemic"

https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/alcohol-and-drugs/aod-policy-research-legislation/ice-action-plan



Preaching to the Converted

Education

Workforce Schools Families Communities Responses are complex because anyone with an addiction is part of a family and community that all unwillingly take part in the addiction journey

Agencies compete for funding

Solutions for substance use requires all tiers of government and some or all of the following

Family - Counselling for ongoing support

Police - for detention, public order, road safety and to reduce the supply of illict drugs Community Agencies including Community Health, housing, welfare, legal aide, counselling

Medical - for on going treatment

Hospital - for immediate medical attention and

Legal - detention processes, rehab orders, sentencing

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- What has been achieved so far:
- Project Manager employed 0.8FTE
- ▶ Thirteen forums over an 18-month period
- Community discussion and awareness of needs for a Withdrawal Service (Detox) and a Rehabilitation Service
- Agency Mentor and Adviser with Western Region Alcohol & Drug Centre (WRAD) based in Warrnambool
- Provision of professional training for frontline workers in substance misuse
- Partnerships formed with Local, State and Federal stakeholders
- ▶ Climate Schools into 17 Secondary Schools
- Climate Schools to be available for those not at school in the Mt Gambier Library
- Established Community Partnerships
- No other group does what we do



Looking forward and continuing to progress

- Our Strategies are to continue filling the gaps.
- Establish a Board representing diverse community interests and be selected for their networks and ability to garner broad based support.
- Commonwealth Funding means we can get on with it & not chase \$\$
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