



Australian Government
Australian Institute of Criminology

AUSTRALIAN CRIME AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION AWARDS



Winning projects 2011

To be announced by Senator Kate Lundy, Parliamentary Secretary to
the Prime Minister and Parliamentary Secretary for Immigration and
Multicultural affairs on Tuesday 25 October 2011

ACVPA board

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Australian Government

Queensland

Australian Capital Territory

Western Australia

New South Wales

South Australia

Victoria

Tasmania

Northern Territory

ACVPA national winners

Seven projects received national awards.

The Salvation Army Tasmania (Tasmania)

Award: \$15,000 and National Certificate of Merit

‘Safe from the Start’ is an innovative project initiated and designed by The Salvation Army—Tasmania and consists of a Train the Trainer program and a therapeutic resource kit. The project aims to reduce the effects of witnessing domestic violence in children aged 0–6 years via early intervention and a therapeutic approach. The project educates and trains workers in children’s and family services to consider how children experience violence and listen to the voices of children in a positive way. A child who lives with violence is forever changed, but not forever ‘damaged’ and there is a lot that we can do to improve their future prospects.

Funded by the Commonwealth Office for Women and Tasmanian Early Years Foundation, the action research project was developed in partnership with two universities (UTAS & Swinburne). The Train the Trainer program has been conducted in all states and resource kits have been distributed nationally and overseas. The project has been presented at national conferences and an Aboriginal and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) project is being developed.

Contact: Ms Nell Kuilenburg, Development & Research Manager

Phone: 03 6228 8405

Email: nell.kuilenburg@aus.salvationarmy.org

Burbangana Zoo Awareness Program (New South Wales)

Award: \$10,000 and National Certificate of Merit

The Burbangana Zoo Awareness Program is a joint initiative run by the Taronga Conservation Society Australia and the Department of Human Services—Community Services NSW that gives Indigenous young people in the Minister’s care the opportunity to engage in activities in and around Taronga Zoo. Young people participate in animal handling and husbandry, food preparation, enrichment and landcare, as well as assisting Taronga’s education staff in education programs including lessons, interpretation, Zoomobiles and special projects.

Burbangana aims to ‘Reawaken the Spirit of Belonging’ in its young people, reconnecting and strengthening them in knowledge, spirit, relationships, country and culture. These experiences and activities instil self-confidence and belief in these highly disadvantaged children and assist in reducing the likelihood of the children resorting to criminal activities. The program also assists and encourages the children in their formal education pathways.

Contact: Ms Nardi Simpson

Phone: 02 9932 4336

Email: nsimpson@zoo.nsw.gov.au

Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation (Northern Territory)

Award: \$10,000 and National Certificate of Merit

The Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation is the peak body representing the Larrakia People of the Darwin Region.

Larrakia Nation delivers programs that help overcome exclusion, homelessness, poverty and the trauma experienced by disadvantaged and displaced Aboriginal people throughout the Northern Territory. In 12 months, our 90 percent Aboriginal workforce provided more than 26,500 services to Aboriginal people. We work closely with government and the community sector across the service spectrum including health, justice, housing, child welfare and family support, community transport, accommodation and alcohol and other drugs related programs. Our programs are strong, innovative and responsive and we are now including a new focus on enterprise development, so as to create wealth and prosperity for our Aboriginal constituency.

Contact: Ms Ilana Eldridge

Phone: 08 8948 3733

Email: ceo@larrakia.com

Multi-systemic Therapy Program, Department of Health WA (Western Australia)

Award: National Certificate of Merit

WA Health's MST Program targets children and adolescents (11–16 years) with significant histories of severe behavioural problems. Research indicates these problems predict home and school expulsion, chronic unemployment, drug and alcohol abuse, mental health problems, violence, crime and incarceration. Clinicians work in schools and neighbourhoods, but mostly the family home, to teach parents improved communication, monitoring, boundary setting, rewarding positive behaviours and problem solving.

Research staff assessed families for up to one year following the three to five month intervention and discovered improvements in family functioning and mental health endure, with young people exhibiting significantly reduced antisocial activities and violence.

Contact: Mr Mark Porter, MST Program Manager

Phone: 08 9431 3781

Email: mark.porter@health.wa.gov.au

Domestic Violence Intervention Program- Corrective Services NSW (New South Wales)

Award: National Certificate of Merit

The NSW Domestic Abuse Program (DAP) is a 20 session rehabilitative group intervention program for offenders serving community-based order(s) or custodial sentences for domestic and family violence (DV) related offences.

Statewide rollout and evaluation of DAP commenced in August 2007. At the end of June 2011, 2,555 offenders had commenced a DAP from 32 community probation and parole offices and 14 custodial institutions in New South Wales. The program has a relatively low attrition rate, with close to 80 percent of participants completing treatment.

Development of the program, facilitator training and program delivery is funded by Corrective Services NSW; NSW Department of Attorney General and Justice funds a statewide Domestic and Family Violence Coordinator position and University of New South Wales, School of Forensic Psychology and the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research provide research support and data.

Studies evaluating the effectiveness of the program have showed significant reductions in reoffending rates in the DAP treatment group and a longer time to reoffend, compared with a matched control group (n=1,908). It is also effective for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men.

Evaluations of other programs for domestic and family abuse perpetrators have generally lacked rigour and failed to detect an appreciable effect on reoffending.

Contact: A/Commissioner Luke Grant

Phone: 02 8346 1344

Email: luke.grant@dcs.nsw.gov.au

Queensland Police Service 'Weed It Out' (WiO) and James Cook University 'Cape York Cannabis Project'(CYCP) (Queensland)

Award: National Meritorious Police Award

The Weed it Out Project is funded by the Department of Health and Ageing and aims to reduce the harms associated with cannabis use in Indigenous communities in Cape York and Torres Straits. The fundamental objectives of the project are to change community attitudes to cannabis use and implement crime prevention and supply reduction strategies.

The Cape York Cannabis Project is funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council and its main objective is to encourage a reduction in the demands of cannabis using awareness-raising, community surveys and feedback of information in selected Cape York communities.

Contact: Detective Senior Sergeant Kevin Goan

Phone: 07 4030 7109, 0419 028 992

Email: goan.kevinj@police.qld.gov.au

Strike Force Piccadilly Two (New South Wales)

Award: National Meritorious Police Award

In August 2005 Strike Force Piccadilly was established by the Property Crime Squad as a public-private crime prevention program to investigate identified organised groups of offenders who were or had been committing ATM attack offences, particularly ram raids. Strike Force Piccadilly received an ACVPA Award in 2009 and ended operations in mid-2008.

In July 2008, Strike Force Piccadilly was restructured as Strike Force Piccadilly Two, as the types of investigations undertaken were significantly altered as a result of the commencement of 'gas attacks', which involve breaching the ATM using an explosive gas and accessing the cash contents. This method had been seen in a number of countries since the beginning of this century, particularly in Europe, but had not previously occurred in Australia. Over a period of 18 months, 63 gas attack offences were then committed in the Greater Sydney Metropolitan Area. On one particular night, a total of four ATM gas attack offences were committed. These offences bought intense community, media and government interest.

Strike Force Piccadilly Two had two aims: to detect and incapacitate offenders, particularly those criminal gangs involved in gas attacks on ATMs; and the use of protective countermeasures (eg gas detection equipment, bollards etc) and the provision of forensic assistance by project partners. At its height, SF Piccadilly Two comprised some 50 police who were assigned to the investigation including detectives, analysts and forensic police. In addition to gas attacks on ATMs it conducted investigations into armed robbery, ATM ram raid and 'on-site cut' offences, as well as numerous other associated offences; and provided a 24/7 on-call response to Police Local Area Commands to assist with the initial investigation of offences.

As a result of investigations undertaken by SF Piccadilly Two, 23 offenders were charged with a total of 212 offences relating to the commission of ATM gas attacks, armed robbery and related offences.

The significant impact SF Piccadilly Two had in stopping the commission of this type of offence was highlighted by the rapid decline in the number of ATM gas attacks in New South Wales, with the last known attempted ATM gas attack being in September 2009. This offence was unsuccessful and the lack of further offences is attributed predominantly to the actions and arrests made by SF Piccadilly Two.

Another significant initiative resulting from SF Piccadilly Two investigations was the formation of the ATM & Cash in Transit (CIT) Working Party. Through the efforts of the ATM-CIT Working Group, police and industry stakeholders have worked, and are continuing to work, cooperatively to implement preventative strategies that take into account the changing nature of ATM attack offences and armed robberies.

Contact: Detective Superintendent Greig Newbery

Phone: 02 8835 9658, 0408 485 317

Email: new1gre@police.nsw.gov.au

ACVPA state and territory winners

Two projects received \$5,000 and Certificates of Merit.

Calperum on the Land Juvenile Diversion Program (South Australia)

Award: \$5,000 and Certificate of Merit

The Calperum on the Land Project uses a multifaceted approach to divert young people from criminal and antisocial behaviour through:

- reducing the incidence of juvenile offending in the Riverland;
- providing pathways and skills for young people to enable them to successfully engage in education, training or employment;
- enabling participants to experience success in a number of areas; and
- providing access to assessment and treatment services for substance abusers who do not currently access services.

The program works with juveniles 10–17 years of age currently involved in the criminal justice system, excluded from school or at risk. School and community re-engagement is the program's key to reducing offending and antisocial behaviour.

The program is funded through in-kind support from SA Police, Australian Landscape Trust and Department of Education and Children's Services. Financial support is provided by Commonwealth Proceeds of Crime Fund, Whitelion, grants from Riverland ICAN and through fundraising.

Contact: Ms Gill Collins

Phone: 0427 277 394

Email: calperumontheland@gmail.com

Our Actions to prevent abuse of older South Australians 2007 (South Australia)

Award: \$5,000 and Certificate of Merit

Our Actions, funded by Office for the Ageing and Department for Families and Communities, oversaw the implementation of an initiative by the Aged Rights Advocacy Service (ARAS) to raise awareness across South Australia for preventing abuse of older people by someone they should be able to trust. Our Actions set the direction and focused primarily on the community sector, working on five key priority areas including:

- providing safety and security by strengthening reporting mechanisms and accountability;

- implementing strategies for prevention, raising awareness of older people, the community and professionals; and
- services working together to build strong relationships and supporting research and innovation to develop effective prevention models.

Outcomes included:

- raising awareness in the community using all forms of media including forums;
- training provided to all service providers including collaborative regional training and health professionals;
- and ARAS' WEAAD conferences; and
- development of printed material for consumers and service providers.

ARAS will continue with the work of Our Actions and the Australian Government to protect those who are ageing and at risk of abuse.

Contact: Ms Marilyn Crabtree, Chief Executive Officer

Phone: 08 8232 5377

Email: marilync@agedrights.asn.au

Four projects received \$3,000 and Certificates of Merit.

New Pathways Residential Treatment Program (New South Wales)

Award: \$3,000 and Certificate of Merit

New Pathways operates from three rural residences in Southern Highlands, New South Wales, offering residential treatment for male adolescents, aged 12–17 years, who have serious sexual behaviour problems. The treatment program involves an intensive residential phase over a tailored timeframe; followed by a community reintegration process involving a collaborative effort between staff, the young person, his parents/ carers and caseworkers. There is less intensive support post-exit.

The NSW Department of Family and Community Services currently funds six places for young people with high/complex needs.

Long-term goals include the minimisation of risks that referred young people pose to others and to provide stable, safe, activity-rich and nurturing living environments for youth whose sexual behaviours pose a risk to others.

Youth who have engaged in the program have shown significant improvements across all outcome areas, including the reduction of risks young people pose to others and their successful transition into their community.

Contact: Ms Cass Herring

Phone: 02 4884 1256, 0437 471 939

Email: cash@youthoffthestreets.com.au

Post Release Options Project (Tasmania)

Award: \$3,000 and Certificate of Merit

Currently the program is funded by the Tasmania Department of Justice.

The program aims to reduce recidivism by high-risk/high-needs adult offenders, following their release from prison. Program participation begins three months prior to release and continues for 12 months following release. Eligible clients are those who are due for release and have a significant likelihood of returning to prison.

The Post Release Options Project reduces criminality by changing social environments and motivational conditions of ex-prisoners through targeted intensive transitional support, with those identified as being at high-risk of reoffending. Reintegration is achieved in collaboration with the Justice Department, Tasmanian Prison Service, Community Corrections, Parole Board, community agencies and families.

For the 18 graduates, there has been a reduction in antisocial behaviour, an increase in family engagement and employment and vocational opportunities have increased. Participants have been able to access stable accommodation.

Contact: Mr Gene E. Wheeler, Coordinator, Dr Kat Faludi-Ball, Chief Executive Officer

Phone: 03 6234 9631, 03 6234 4594

Email: gene@bethlehemhouse.org.au

Bourke Alcohol Working Group (New South Wales)

Award: \$3,000 and Certificate of Merit

The Bourke Alcohol Working Group (BAWG) addresses impacts of generational alcohol-related issues in the local population. Rather than agencies working in isolation, it has a holistic approach targeting crime, alcoholism, health, education, support services and other areas. Prior to this, the last two decades have seen only limited and often not sustainable outcomes from individual groups/agencies. BAWG interlinks the major issues affecting the community. In July 2008, BAWG hosted a two day forum attracting 80 people locally, as well as experts from around Australia. The establishment of a five year plan followed, with six overarching priorities:

- creating positive environments;
- alcohol education and awareness;
- clinical and support services;
- partnerships;
- restrictions on the sale of alcohol;
- evaluation.

Any person or agency is able to be involved in BAWG and it leverages off the expertise of the membership agencies to achieve results.

The Department of Families, Housing Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) provided funding for two years in January 2009 for a project officer. FaHCSIA

recently provided a \$50,000 grant for resources and further funding is being considered by FaHCSIA. All other resourcing is provided by member agencies.

Introduction of alcohol restrictions (February 2009) immediately saw a dramatic reduction the rate of serious assaults (assault occasioning actual bodily harm) being sustained for several months. Non-domestic alcohol related offences reduced by 9.6 percent during 2009. There was also a significant reduction in malicious damage, the majority of which occurs on private premises. The longer term impacts of the introduction of the alcohol restriction are yet to be evaluated, with the next updated report due shortly.

Contact: Mr Alastair Ferguson, Chair

Phone: 02 6872 1506

Email: alastair.ferguson@dhs.nsw.gov.au

Shorewell Park Kommunity Kids (Tasmania)

Award: \$3,000 and Certificate of Merit

Shorewell Park Kommunity Kids is a local project driven by volunteers, police, service providers and local residents. The objective each week is to create a safe place to play and foster healthy interaction with children, youth and families in their community; with a focus on providing healthy outcomes through participation, education and empowerment.

Kommunity Kids is self-funded relying on donations, grants and in-kind support for service providers and local organisations and business.

Long-term goals are to:

- build self-esteem, social skills, respect and self-confidence;
- break the cycle of generational disadvantage and crime;
- increase engagement, participation, safety and security; and
- support the community to rediscover their capabilities and build resilience.

Demonstrated positive outcomes are:

- reduction in crime within the community;
- road safety bike track (first stage completed);
- positive behaviour program for local children; and
- community voice—local residents engaging to create a safer community.

Contact: Ms Tracey Edington-Mackay, Coordinator Burnie Community House

Phone: 03 6433 3219

Email: info@burniecommunityhouse.com.au

Eight projects received \$2,000 and Certificates of Merit.

Young Offenders Project (Victoria)

Award: \$2,000 and Certificate of Merit

We build portable accommodation units for low income families in the Geelong region. We have been working as volunteer supervisors with Corrections Victoria (Geelong Region) with juvenile offenders who have been sentenced by the courts to do community service. Community work at present mainly consists of picking up papers, weeding etc. Most offenders feel that they are not contributing to the community and feel degraded with the existing work allocated to them. We believe our proposal can lead Young Offenders into the work force along with supplying portable accommodation units to low income families. Our proposal will give the young offenders more meaningful work that is satisfying and will help build their confidence and self-esteem. The long-term benefit of this project is that the young offenders will learn some basic skills and return back into the community and not reoffend. It has been found that most young offenders have little education and no skills. The basic skills we intend to provide include framing, plastering, welding, painting, roofing, bricklaying. The project operates in partnership with experienced volunteers from the building industry and Corrections Victoria (Geelong region), Corrections Victoria supply Young Offenders to do their community work with this project.

Funding is provided from fundraising activities run by the Children's Charity Network. The long-term goal is to give young offenders some experience in the building industry to facilitate finding permanent positions, which may assist them to avoid reoffending.

The tangible outcomes have been that we have now built six portable bungalows for low income families and given the young offenders some self-esteem and confidence in themselves.

Contact: Mr Rob Leonard

Phone: 0450 093 990

Email: rob@childrenscharity.com.au

Sammy D Foundation Impact (South Australia)

Award: \$2,000 and Certificate of Merit

Sam Davis was 17 years old when he became the victim of an assault at a party.

Sam Davis' parents and friends present the story of Sam's loss including the impact that is often unseen in terms of grief, loss, anger and changes to the lives of the people left behind after the loss of a loved one. The audience is made aware of the consequences of violence, effects of alcohol and drugs on decision making and the importance of making safe choices when in private and public spaces.

The themes of the presentation are then unpacked in smaller workshop groups and include interactive discussion and activities which assist decision-making processes, understanding of what affects decision making and peer respect. Young people are

armed with the skills to stay safe, take care of each other, establish a foundation for a positive future and build a sense of community belonging.

The project is delivered in two ways—as fee for service or free of charge. Funding for a free of charge project delivery is supplied by the Sammy D Foundation.

Presentations aim to increase awareness of youth violence, its community impact and impact to the offender and their family to assist in reducing its incidence. The long-term goal of the project is to reduce the incidence of violent youth crime by 20 percent by the year 2020.

Ninety-five percent of participants identified that following an Impact Presentation they would consider the impacts of physical violence, including the risk of causing death and impacts on family, friends and themselves. An unanticipated outcome is that 92 percent of participants identified that they would now attempt to stop their friends from using physical violence.

Contact: Ms Nat Cook

Phone: 0412 400 620

Email: nat@sammydfoundation.org.au

Don't Get Smashed...Get Home Safely (Queensland)

Award: \$2,000 and Certificate of Merit

This council-funded project was launched in Surfers Paradise in October 2008 and in Coolangatta in November 2009.

Its immediate and long-term goals are to:

- increase personal safety and raise awareness of drink-walking risks;
- reduce the number of intoxicated pedestrians involved in traffic accidents/assaults/vandalism—messages targeted during peak periods;
- improve neighbourhood amenity;
- encourage use of late-night transport.

Key project messages/information were disseminated via:

- wallet cards in visitor accommodation, taxis, buslines, bottle shops, licensed venues, Tourist Information Centres, local universities, Chill Out Zones and at events including Indy motor racing carnival and Schoolies registration packs;
- posters in licensed premises, bottle shops;
- venue screens displaying project messages;
- reflective wristbands;
- promotional staff in the precincts.

Outcomes:

- improved awareness and safety for people visiting entertainment precincts;

- decrease in crashes involving intoxicated pedestrians;
- decrease in assaults;
- increased use of public transport.

Contact: Ms Chantal Watt, Project Officer

Phone: 07 5581 6603

Email: cwatt@goldcoast.qld.gov.au

Graffiti Management Program (South Australia)

Award: \$2,000 and Certificate of Merit

We believe that to significantly reduce graffiti vandalism and the negative impacts that graffiti can cause, a number of approaches need to be employed concurrently. As a result, we undertake a multifaceted approach to graffiti management and our Graffiti Management Program consists of a number of preventative initiatives. These initiatives include:

- Covering the Canvas projects—making physical changes to sites to reduce the opportunity for graffiti vandalism to occur; for example, planting screening trees/shrubs along fence lines regularly subjected to graffiti, application of murals to at-risk surfaces and lifting traffic signage to a height that makes it difficult for offenders to access.
- Graffiti Removal Program—encourage and support the community to take ownership of their local area and participate in reducing the negative impacts of graffiti within their community.
- Graffiti Removal Partnering Contract—a partnering arrangement with key utilities, the Department for Transport, Energy & Infrastructure, the Rail Commissioner and ETSA Utilities resulting in the efficient and effective removal of graffiti from all partnering stakeholder assets.
- Surveillance operations—joint surveillance operations in collaboration with SAPOL, with the objective of the ongoing operations targeting graffiti hotspot locations with surveillance and patrols for a select period of time to identify and apprehend graffiti offenders.
- Engagement programs—work with at-risk youth and young adults involved in, or at risk of being involved in, graffiti vandalism to encourage them to explore legal opportunities for their aerosol art, rather than partaking in illegal and destructive graffiti behaviour.

Although these initiatives mentioned are targeted at reducing graffiti vandalism, we have found that they have been effective in reducing other crimes and have assisted in making those who use council facilities feel safer.

Contact: Mr Roderik Vincent

Phone: 08 8384 0586

Email: rodvin@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au

'Love Bites' Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault program (New South Wales)

Award: \$2,000 and Certificate of Merit

'Love Bites' (LB) program is presented to Year 9–10 high school students throughout the New England North West region. LB offers students an opportunity to learn and develop strategies to deal with domestic and family violence, and sexual assault. LB successfully strengthens protective behaviours and builds resilience and life skills in young people. LB assists at-risk parents through providing face-to-face programs and access to an extensive network of professional practitioners. LB works with local communities to build social capital and connectedness while raising public awareness of child abuse and neglect and promoting strategies for positive change. Students who have disclosed incidents of violence have been referred to appropriate services. Criminal incidents have been reported and investigated. Currently, LB has non-recurrent funding through the NSW Government from 1 February 2011 to 29 February 2012. Prior to this, Centacare NENW self-funded LB and envisages providing the program to schools on an ongoing basis.

Contact: Mr Fergus Fitzsimons, General Manager, Centacare NENW

Phone: 0427 764 700

Email: f.fitzsimons@centacarenewengland.com

The Safer Hobart Community Partnership (Tasmania)

Award: \$2,000 and Certificate of Merit

The Safer Hobart Community Partnership (SHCP) was formed in 2009 to improve safety and the perception of safety in the City of Hobart, immediately and into the future. This strategic partnership brings together key stakeholders at a senior level responsible for the delivery of community safety and associated issues, including crime prevention initiatives, to achieve effective, efficient and coordinated outcomes. Simply put, it is a coordinated action group. The key areas of partnership activity of the SHCP are:

- safety at night (specifically alcohol related crime);
- business support;
- non-attendance/disengagement from school;
- support for young people;
- multicultural support (including the safety of international students);
- common coordinated media activities;
- road safety;
- community involvement.

The SHCP has had many achievements in addressing community safety issues, including a reduction in alcohol-related and other crime, and building strong links with local business and the community.

Contact: Ms Rebecca Taylor, Community Safety Officer, Hobart City Council

Phone: 03 6238 2165

Email: taylorr@hobartcity.com.au

INSPIRE-Mentoring young people ‘at risk’ (New South Wales)

Award: \$2,000 and Certificate of Merit

The program asks community volunteers to commit two hours per week to develop a trusting and safe friendship with young people in order to support them to make meaningful, law-abiding decisions about their future. The program is funded by Juvenile Justice.

Long-term goals include:

- assisting young people who are ‘at risk’ to make more informed, law-abiding decisions about their behaviour;
- increase a feeling of community connectedness;
- increase the community’s capacity to respond to young people;
- encourage young people to re-engage/continue with education/employment; and
- reduce the number of young people coming into repeat contact with the legal system.

Outcomes for the program have included recruiting, training and maintaining volunteers as well as a willingness by young people to participate in a supported program. The young people involved have made supportive relationships with their mentors, have since engaged in positive community activities and are learning to make positive choices for their future.

Contact: Ms Kellie Checkley, Executive Officer

Phone: 02 9525 7919

Email: stef@shirewideyouth.org.au

Family Matters Program (New South Wales)

Award: \$2,000 and Certificate of Merit

The Family Matters Program is offered by Karitane in partnership with the NSW Department of Juvenile Justice. An experienced child and family health nurse works at Juniperina Juvenile Justice Centre (JJC), a female-only facility in New South Wales. Offering programs on parenting skills and enhancing healthy relationships for all the young women in custody including those who are pregnant or parenting. Also included in the program is education for the Juniperina JJC staff to increase knowledge and awareness of the needs of these young women.

Evidence suggests that the parents of many young people in custody have been or are in custody themselves. Therefore, these young women have not built strong relationships with their own parents and do not have positive parenting role models.

The main aims of the Family Matters Program are:

- to facilitate better outcomes for these young women and their children; and
- reduce the risk of the intergenerational cycle of incarceration.

Contact: Ms Monica Hughes, Manager Education & Research Karitane

Phone: 02 9794 2300

Email: monica.hughes@asswaha.nsw.gov.au

Thirteen projects received \$1,000 and Certificates of Merit.

Right Step (Victoria)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

Right Step (RS) is a diversionary program that operates on the principles of rehabilitation for young offenders and reducing recidivism. RS strongly supports the principals of The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the Children, Youth and Families Act 2005.

RS provides:

- individualised case management;
- addressing of offending behaviours;
- identifying barriers;
- intervention strategies/professional services referral;
- counselling and mentoring;
- educational/vocational planning; and
- restitution through community service.

RS is funded by philanthropy (RE Ross, Helen MacPherson Smith Trusts, Lord Mayors Charitable Foundation). Youth Connect also provides some funding.

RS's goal is to reduce rates of violence and recidivism for youth in our area. The model has been designed for easy adaptation by other organisations (with local courts and police). This encourages our larger goal of providing young offenders in all communities with opportunities to participate in diversion programs.

Contact: Mr Danny Schwarz, Chief Executive Officer, Youth Connect

Phone: 0414 810 999

We are One Project—Addressing Racism in Schools (Victoria)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

The We Are One project is an initiative of the Victorian Arabic Social Services funded by the Australian Government's Department of Immigration and Citizenship through the Diversity and Social Cohesion Program.

The project aims to engage both first and second generation migrant youth in secondary schools in Hume, Moreland, Whittlesea and Hobson's Bay. Its long-term goals have been to address issues of disempowerment, alienation and racism experienced by young people. By providing them with activities and opportunities for positive growth and connection to the community and environment, the project is preventing young people from engaging in antisocial behaviour and criminal activities in the long run.

The project was good for connecting young people with emergency services such as the Victorian Police, Australian Federal Police, Lifesaving Victoria and Metropolitan Fire

Brigade and allowing young people to feel a sense of trust in approaching these services for information and support.

In addition, the project worked in schools within the Hume municipality, engaging students, teachers and parents in discussions and workshops around bullying and racism and how to best address their common concerns. The project has allowed the community to recognise and talk about the issues that concern young people and has allowed these young people to voice their concerns and solutions to the problem.

Contact: Ms Leila Alloush

Phone: 03 9359 2861

Email: mail@vass.org.au

NEAAP (North East Adolescent Assistance Program) (Victoria)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

North East Adolescent Assistance Program targets high-risk adolescents (aged between 10 and 18 years) known to police and who have personal or criminal risk issues such as antisocial behaviour, petty crime, acts of violence, inadequate supervision, family violence etc. NEAAP connects high-risk adolescents and their families via referral from police to North East Support for Action on Youth (Inc) (NESAY) and then to appropriate intensive support services to provide the opportunity for appropriate interventions and diversions to assist the young person.

Referral and assessment to a specialist agency at system entry provides high-risk adolescents and their families with an opportunity for early identification and intervention. The program has experienced excellent outcomes for positive change in the high-risk adolescent cohort with increased supports, assistance and counselling which are utilised prior to the risk behaviours becoming an established pattern. The recidivism rate of adolescents referred to NEAAP is very low. Long term, NEAAP has greatly improved working relations between youth services and police in the region.

Contact: Mr Glen James

Phone: 03 5720 2201, 0407 217 001

Email: gjames@nesay.com.au

Sporting Shooters Association of Australia Inc (South Australia)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

The aim of the initiative is to reduce firearm theft in Australia and educate Association members and the shooting fraternity on their responsibilities to secure their firearms against unauthorised access and theft. The Sporting Shooters Association of Australia Inc (SSAA Inc) achieved the following outcomes:

- recognition and support by the federal government;
- redemption of 77 vouchers (\$4,075), which assisted in the acquisition of \$30K worth of safes in Australia;

- SSAA Inc was prompted to re-run a previous campaign in 2011; and
- community safety and measures to prevent theft have been increased.

The Sporting Shooters Association of Australia Inc (SSAA Inc) and project partners funded the project. The value of the vouchers was split equally by the SSAA Inc and the manufacturer of the safe(s) purchased.

Contact: Ms Jennifer Martens

Phone: 08 8272 7100, 0408 842 182

Email: logistics@ssaa.org.au

Intervue Radio Communication Network (IRCN) (Queensland)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

The project enables security providers in the precinct to directly communicate with each other, the council's safety camera network and police via restricted-band, hand-held radios. Through this early intervention tool:

- licensed premises are alerted to potential troublemakers;
- police requested to respond to potential or actual violence;
- street-based incidents reported to council-operated camera room for monitoring and further action footage helps police identify offenders); and
- the Chill Out Zone asked to provide outreach assistance for alcohol-affected or injured people.

Venues buy radio handsets and pay for access to the network. A consortium of licensees and the Chill Out Zone purchased the council base station. The project is coordinated through the Chill Out Zone.

The long-term goal of the project is to decrease antisocial behaviour, thereby improving the safety of residents, visitors, patrons and employees.

Tangible outcomes include prevention of, and swift response, to antisocial/criminal behaviour through identification of potential/actual offenders and situations.

Contact: Ms Angela Driscoll

Phone: 0418 194 488

Email: chilloutzone@optusnet.com.au

Communicare Breathing Space (Western Australia)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

Communicare Breathing Space (CBS) is a 12-bed residential facility where men complete a three month program of individual counselling and group work to address domestic violence behaviours within a therapeutic community. CBS is funded by Western Australia's Department of Child Protection with in-kind support from Communicare. CBS also offers a nine month after care program, crisis accommodation and an out-reach service. The overarching principle of the program is to prioritise the safety of women

and children as the victims of family violence with the long-term goal of enhancing family safety. CBS includes the Partnerships for Family Safety program that supports the families of our residents in collaboration with three women's specialist services. Since CBS commenced, 24,573 nights of accommodation has been provided to men who have been violent or abusive in their intimate relationships, leading to women and children victims of Family and Domestic violence being able to remain in their homes and access support and plan for their safety.

Unanticipated outcomes would be where both the perpetrators and victims have made contact with us again (after their file has been closed) in order to gain further support as they are fearful the domestic violence is returning to their lives. This has allowed us the opportunity to continue to assist the partners and children to remain safely in the home.

Contact: Ms Karoline Jamieson

Phone: 08 9437 5707

Email: kjamieson@communicare.org.au

Whitelion Employment Program (Victoria)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

Whitelion's Employment Program provides at-risk young people with support and guidance to seek and secure meaningful and gainful employment opportunities in the community. Since its inception in 2000, the Employment Program has placed around 424 young people into employment. Whitelion works with young people both in the community and in custody, providing them with vocational assessments and training or links to further education, as appropriate. Whitelion's network of around 60 employers provides young people with a range of options in terms of industry and specific roles, including hospitality, construction and administration. Young people are supported to attend site visits and job interviews, and are then provided assistance getting to and from work in the initial stages of their placement. The project has been funded through both state and federal government programs, as well as by philanthropic supporters. The long-term goals of the program are to provide young people who have experienced or are likely to experience the justice system with meaningful and positive opportunities to engage with employment.

Contact: Mr Jeff Hamilton

Phone: 0447 888 487

Email: jeff.hamilton@whitelion.asn.au

Graffiti Removal and Prevention Program (Queensland)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

Graffiti can lower property values, make people feel unsafe, reduce business patronage and encourage other crime. The most effective way to prevent further graffiti is to clean it up quickly. The program includes:

- rapid removal from council/Energex assets, free private property removal service through a graffiti hotline, free graffiti removal kits;

- intelligence sharing with Queensland Police Service;
- 12 month trial of community service program in partnership with Queensland Corrective Services;
- visits to retailers to encourage securing of spray paint;
- beautification of heavily-targeted assets (eg Artbox project, public art murals);
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design planning and safety audits of hotspots; and
- education modules for schools.

Long-term goals are to reduce and prevent graffiti and its negative impacts.

Tangible outcomes include review of council's graffiti policy, 80 percent reduction of graffiti on traffic signal boxes, over 10,000 graffiti removal jobs completed annually.

Contact: Ms Anna Rainbow, Principal Community Safety Officer

Phone: 07 5581 6881, 0424 778 744

Email: arainbow@goldcoast.qld.gov.au

Muslim youth & Police Partnership Program (CPPP) (New South Wales)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

The project is coordinated by St George Youth Services and meets regularly with partnering organisations to discuss the operation of the project and evaluation of weekly program running and outcomes/goals. An official program with weekly activities is organised prior to commencement and taskings are divided among workers on the project.

Community Relations Commission (CRC) has provided the majority of funding (\$50,000).

The long-term goals of the program is to improve relationships, break down negative stereotypes and increase trust among Muslim community, police and service workers and ensure an overall decrease in persons entering the criminal justice system.

The outcomes have been increased rapport among community, police and service workers, and increased school attendance among youth, as well as decreased numbers of people reoffending.

Contact: Mr John Dangas

Phone: 02 9556 1769

Email: reconnect@stgeorgeyouth.org

Alliance for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (South Australia)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

The Alliance are champions for the cause of preventing abuse of older people. This is achieved through APEA's Strategic Plan with objectives that promote intervention and prevention strategies, including free seminars in metropolitan and rural locations in South Australia. We produce a number of printed materials on conditions that donors

can write into Enduring Powers of Attorney which act as safeguards of their interests. APEA's website (www.apea.org.au) was developed to promote the agencies and their role in protecting the rights of older people (the Enduring Powers of Attorney and the website were funded under 'Our Actions to prevent abuse of older South Australians' project). Another pamphlet aimed at those witnessing signatures on these documents provides information as to appropriate action if the witness suspects that an older person is signing under duress, or lacks the capacity to sign. Although not a formal function of APEA, there have been many instances of casework collaboration yielding outcomes that no one single member alone could support an older person to achieve. A goal for APEA is to provide more training in the area of financial institutions and training of Justices of the Peace.

Contact: Ms Doris Gioffre, Team Leader, Abuse Prevention Program

Phone: 08 8232 5377

Email: dorisg@agedrights.asn.au

Graffiti Hotspot Reduction Project (New South Wales)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

The NSW Department of Attorney General and Justice provided Sutherland Shire Council with \$100,000 to implement CPTED interventions at four hotspots for graffiti vandalism in the Sutherland Shire.

The hotspots chosen were council-owned and managed parks and each location was determined through an analysis of council graffiti statistics, resident consultations and NSW Police force recorded crime data. CPTED interventions were undertaken by council with the aims of improving the perception of each area, preventing graffiti at each location, engaging the local community and removing graffiti from council-owned property in a timely fashion.

Since the completion of the project, there has been a significant reduction in graffiti vandalism at each location with a commensurate reduction in the overall costs associated with graffiti removal. The project has also facilitated improved working relationships between units within council as well as between council and external stakeholders.

Contact: Mr Tarek Barakat

Phone: 02 9710 0164

Email: tbarakat@ssc.nsw.gov.au

Safety First at Rosny Park Project and Safe Public Bus Stops and Travel Project (Tasmania)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

Metro in partnership with Launceston City Council, Clarence City Council and Tasmania Police, developed a multi-pronged solution to overcome the problem of antisocial behaviour on buses and in bus malls. Antisocial behaviour, which includes bullying, verbal abuse, threatening behaviour and fighting, had also resulted in assaults on Metro

drivers and passengers, posing a public safety risk to passengers and a workplace health and safety risk to drivers.

Metro's multi-pronged solution included:

- installation of closed circuit television cameras on buses in the municipalities and fixed cameras in the Rosny Bus Transit Mall and Launceston central business district;
- working with schools to develop a code of conduct with students; and
- providing training to Metro drivers on how to deal with aggressive behaviour.

The solution has led to a safer work environment for Metro drivers and a safer public transport system for the community and reduced the risk of antisocial behaviour.

Contact: Mr Tony Jago

Phone: 03 6233 4269

Email: tony.jago@metrotas.com.au

COM4unity 'Connecting Our Minds for Unity' (New South Wales)

Award: \$1,000 and Certificate of Merit

The aim of COM4unity is to develop a pathway for young people to become meaningful participants in our community. This will result in a reduction in antisocial behaviours such as theft, assaults and delinquency.

The aim will be achieved by providing a range of coordinated activities and links to local services providers and support mechanisms for young people in the Blacktown area. Through this engagement, the outcome for young people will be increased self-esteem, increased respect by the community, access to career pathways, increased interpersonal skills and aspirations.

In addition, it is hoped these young people will become the charter members of the Blacktown City Rotaract Club, a Club for 18–30 year olds, under the auspices of the Rotary Club of Blacktown City.

Contact: Mr David Bamford OAM

Phone: 02 9636 1397, 0418 418 722

Email: drb03@optusnet.com.au

Three projects received Certificates of Merit

The Connections Project (New South Wales)

Award: Certificate of Merit

The Connections Project funded through NSW Health is operated statewide in New South Wales, assisting prisoners with drug dependence histories in preparation for release from custody and reintegration into the community. This is achieved through assertive linkage with relevant health and welfare services, providing support in

accessing services and playing a strong advocacy role. The project is based on strong commitments to social justice and inclusion. It has developed important relationships with other services, government departments and stakeholders to facilitate the transition process from custody to the community.

Its long-term goals are to reduce morbidity and mortality rates, and a prime goal is reducing recidivism of participants released from adult correctional centres in New South Wales.

Contact: Dr Sandra Sunjic

Phone: 02 9811 0100

Email: sandy.ozols@justicehealth.nsw.gov.au

Cross Borders Programs (South Australia, Western Australia and Northern Territory)

Award: Certificate of Merit

The project delivers a family violence program to Aboriginal perpetrators of family violence in the Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (NPY) Lands of South Australia, Western Australia and the Northern Territory. This program works closely with Aboriginal communities, courts, police and the NPY Women's Council. The 54 hour program is delivered in the communities by program officers and local cultural brokers. The program is funded by the Australian Government, through FaHSCIA, with contributions from the governments of South Australia, Western Australia and the Northern Territory.

The project aims to reduce the incidence of physical and psychological harm in Aboriginal communities of Central Australia by developing and delivering culturally and linguistically appropriate programs to address issues of family violence, anger management and substance misuse. The project is targeted to perpetrators of family violence and will help break the cycle of violence between the generations.

Contact: Dr Sandra Sunjic

Phone: 02 9811 0100

Email: graeme.pearce@nt.gov.au

Young Adult Offenders Program (Young Adult Offenders aged 18 to 25 who have been convicted of an offence) (New South Wales)

Award: Certificate of Merit

The Young Adult Satellite Programme (YASP) was developed for offenders who are not able to access the Specialised Young Adult Programme at Oberon Correctional Centre for reasons such as type of sentence, classification etc. It is designed to be taken to where the offenders are; that is, any jail or community within New South Wales. It is funded by the local entity wherever the program is run and ultimately funded by Corrective Services NSW. It is an experiential/cognitive learning program that aims to prepare young adult offenders to participate in further dynamic risk, educational and work readiness programs and lead a law abiding life. The essential cornerstones of

the objectives are development of openness, attitude, communication, self-confidence, problem solving, goal setting, self-concept, trust, respect and dignity of others, self-efficacy and impact of peer pressure. The long-term goal is to reduce reoffending and work towards a safer and better functioning community. Statistically, the program has shown to reduce recidivism dramatically—the state average is 53.6 percent; graduates of the YASP and Young Adult programs is 31 percent.

Contact: Mr Martin Fileman, Local Area Commander, Mudgee Police Station

Phone: 02 6352 1242

Email: dennis.carey@dcns.nsw.gov.au

Five projects received Meritorious Police Certificates.

Frankston Police & Community Youth Forum 'Good Choices, Great Life' (Victoria)

Award: Meritorious Police Certificate

Since 2007, the Youth forum, 'Good choices, Great life', is an annual half day event held at Monash University Frankston and is host to 2,000 Year 9 students from 12 secondary colleges in the Frankston Local Government Area.

The forum is an early intervention, prevention strategy that responds to community concerns regarding adolescent involvement in antisocial and criminal activity often associated with substance use and risk-taking behaviour.

The strategies commitment to reducing adolescent risk-taking behaviour (victimisation and offending) is addressed by drawing on the expertise and capacities of both Frankston Police and community partners to deliver information to students utilising a harm minimisation approach, while simultaneously seeking to balance health and welfare requirements with policing protocols and guidelines.

The forum is funded by the Victorian Drug & Law Enforcement Fund for 2011 and 2012 at less than \$2,000 annually, therefore, at no cost to students or schools.

Contact: Inspector Jeff Millar, Frankston Police Service Area Manager

Phone: 03 9784 5642

Email: renee.bloomfield@police.vic.gov.au

Who's Chatting to your kids? (Queensland)

Award: Meritorious Police Certificate

Who's Chatting to Your Kids? is an interactive educational resource, in the form of a DVD, which is designed to deliver key Internet safety messages to parents, caregivers and community organisations regarding safe Internet use by children. Designed for delivery by school-based police officers, Child Protection Investigation Unit personnel and Police Community Liaison Officers, the DVD provides a realistic, confronting

portrayal of the ease and various methods by which children can be victimised via the Internet, together with simple, practical and effective strategies to empower parents and guardians to protect children from these risks. In so doing, the resource aims to promote safe Internet access by children in a context of increasingly universal reliance upon and access to the Internet and reduce opportunities for exploitation of children in this way.

The project was wholly funded by the Queensland Police Service.

Contact: Detective Inspector Jon Rouse

Phone: 07 3364 4301

Email: rouse.jonathanp@police.qld.gov.au

Operation RESET (Western Australia)

Award: Meritorious Police Certificate

The two primary operational purposes of Operation RESET are to develop and implement community engagement strategies to improve the detection, disclosure and investigation of child sexual abuse, and to develop and implement capacity building/ educational strategies to improve the ability of the targeted communities and supporting agencies to detect, respond and prevent child sexual abuse.

A designated team of investigators were deployed to Regional WA over 18 months with the intention to deliver quality services to child abuse victims. This model focused on the whole community and whole person, addressed both the causes of underreporting and low detection but also the rebuild and recovery phase, ensuring victims and communities feel safe following disclosure.

Traditionally, policing and other government resources are targeted towards crime hotspots or areas of high service demand—not areas of low reporting.

Contact: Mr Glenn Mace, Director, Department of Child Protection

Email: Glenn.Mace@dcp.wa.gov.au

Collaborative Approach to Liquor Management (CALM) Sunshine Coast (Queensland)

Award: Meritorious Police Certificate

Collaborative Approach to Liquor Management (CALM) Sunshine Coast was established in 2008 as a regional body to co-ordinate and overview the development and operations of seven place-based Liquor Accords (each utilising the name CALM). These Accords had been established in various communities throughout the Sunshine Coast since December 2007. It has total 'buy in' from licensees across the Coast and they act as Chairs of Accords.

The long-term goals of CALM Sunshine Coast is to reduce the incidence of alcohol-related crime in and around licensed venues and precincts, minimising harm to patrons by reducing the incidence of binge drinking through rigid adherence to responsible

service of alcohol principles and generally enhancing the reputation of the Sunshine Coast as a safe place to live, holiday and do business in.

Prior to CALM, various tourist areas of the Sunshine Coast had serious alcohol-related violence, crime and social disorder issues. Major reductions in alcohol-related assaults, robberies and sexual assaults have been achieved. Reductions have also been achieved in public-order arrests and complaints regarding unruly behaviour from local residents. Generally, positive marketing of the Sunshine Coast as a safe family holiday destination has delivered a region-wide impact on tourism and employment.

Sunshine Coast Regional Council provide limited funding to facilitate meetings of all CALM Liquor Accords and associated key community and business stakeholders. Localised Accords are self-funded and meet monthly or bi-monthly.

Contact: Superintendent Ben Hanbidge

Phone: 07 54752476, 0418 750 416

Email: handbidge.benjamink@police.qld.gov.au

Hobart Inter-Agency Support Team (IAST) (one of a network of 23 IASTs operating around Tasmania) (Tasmania)

Award: Meritorious Police Certificate

Inter-agency support teams (IASTs) provide a multi-agency case-coordinated approach to intervening with young people (aged 5–17 years) who are offending, or at risk of offending and who have complex social needs. State and local government agencies work collaboratively to identify risk factors associated with a young person, provide strategic and action-based outcomes and set achievable goals to benefit the youth and the community as a whole.

Tasmania's Department of Police and Emergency Management (DPEM) funds the IAST Coordinator (0.8 FTE) and Administrative Officer (1.0) and leadership with an Inspector assuming role of Chair.

Aims are to improve coordinated support for children and young people with complex needs, reduce the degree and extent of youth offending and antisocial behaviour, and facilitate better communication between participating agencies to improve longer term social outcomes.

Outcomes include strategic and action-based outcomes for children and young people with complex needs and the development of a model for effective collaborative work among government agencies. Notably, IASTs have facilitated effective sharing of information and assisted in decreasing duplication of government service responses.

Contact: Ms Belinda Braithwaite, IAST Coordinator

Phone: 03 6230 2596

Email: belinda.braithwaite@police.tas.gov.au



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