



## “A Word from the CEO”

Leigh Garrett

The last six months has been frantic with activity!

- Over the last few months, a team from OARS CT has been engaged in a Social Enterprise Planning exercise called ‘Impact Accelerator’. The team has been through a very rigorous process and has produced some new strategic thinking for us. In May, the team attended the graduation ceremony and were presented with Certificates by the Minister for Disabilities, the Hon Leesa Vlahos, MP. The team has created 4 Business Plans for potential new services using the skills they have learned.
- A Board Strategic Development day was held in April. It was very positive and framed the way in which we will plan in the future, as well bringing the Board up to speed with our operational developments.
- A number of innovative projects have been submitted for funding – we are hopeful we will be successful in providing increased services in the future that will assist our clients to reduce offending, reduce domestic violence, provide employment opportunities, and make SA a safer place.
- Following the resignation of Tim Tonkin, Manager Resources, in March, I decided to separate the Finance and Human Resource roles, resulting in the recruitment of a Senior Financial Accountant (Shonnie Pascoe) and Human Resources Consultant (Vicky Whiteway). Both commenced in May 2017. This will lead to an enhanced professional capability at OARS CT. Louise Kelly has taken over the responsibility of the Quality Management Accreditation Review.
- Work continues apace with the National developments and a visit to WA to meet with the Board of Outcare was a very positive experience, with an excellent outcome. I also had the opportunity to visit the Acacia Prison and Wandoo Youth facility which are services operated by Serco. This was an excellent experience.
- I attended the Australian Institute of Company Directors ‘Australian Governance Summit’ in Melbourne on 2-3 March, and whilst in Melbourne, took the opportunity to meet with the team at VACRO.
- Our website has recently been totally re-vamped, so please take a look! [www.oars.org.au](http://www.oars.org.au)

Leigh

## Our Vision!

### OUR MISSION:

Reduce social harm by strengthening communities and social inclusion through the provision of restorative justice services, high quality treatment and rehabilitation services, support and advocacy, at critical transition points.

### OUR VISION:

Strong communities with positive social connections underpinned by restorative practices.

### OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Social Justice  
Restorative Justice  
Community Participation  
Continuous Improvement  
Prison as a Last Resort.

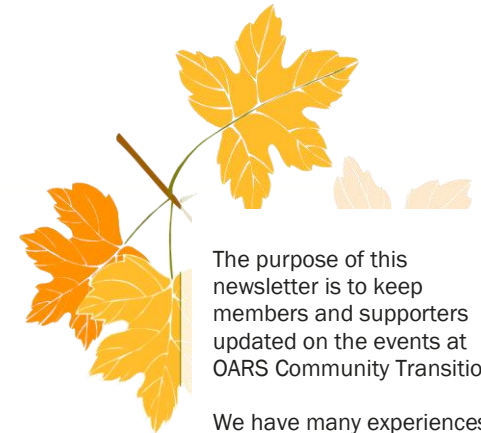
## Our Services

Interim Home Detention Integrated Support Program  
Women’s Intensive Support Program  
Reintegration Accommodation Services  
Drug & Alcohol Counselling  
Gambling Support Service  
Gambling Intervention Program  
Therapeutic Diversion Courts Services  
Counselling, Health and Substance Management (CHaSM)  
Support for individuals and families, Including:  
Advocacy & Referral  
Emergency Financial Assistance  
Centre for Restorative Justice  
Cadell Bus Service  
Yatala Family Centre

Contact us at:  
320 Port Road, Hindmarsh SA 5007  
Ph: 08 8218 0700  
or on the web at  
[www.oars.org.au](http://www.oars.org.au)



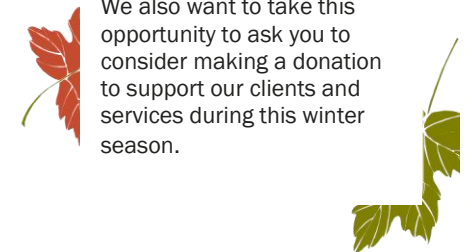
## Newsletter June 2017



The purpose of this newsletter is to keep members and supporters updated on the events at OARS Community Transitions.

We have many experiences to tell you about and have selected a few to share with you.

We also want to take this opportunity to ask you to consider making a donation to support our clients and services during this winter season.



The OARS SA Board comprises:

Annabel Shinkfield (Chair)  
Robin English (Deputy Chair)  
Michael Faraonio  
Chris O'Grady  
Greg Pattinson  
Peter May  
Leigh Garrett (CEO)



Annabel Shinkfield, Chair

Dear Members and Supporters

The role of a Board is complex and varied but critical to the success of any organisation. One of the most important functions of the Board is to formulate with the CEO and Senior Staff the Strategic Directions of the organisation. It is then the role of the CEO to implement this strategy and for Board to monitor progress.

The OARS SA Board has recently undertaken a Strategic Development Planning Day which was highly successful and has set the tone of our future direction for coming years. A couple of important Strategic Directions emerged during the day and over coming months these will be discussed further by the CEO and his team. The results of this internal thinking will then form the basis of a longer term Strategic Plan that will be formulated and approved by the Board later in 2017. The Board expects that it will meet again in October or November to finalise this plan.

Central to the discussions on the Strategic Development Planning Day was the 10By20 Plan articulated by the Minister for Correctional Services recently. The 10By20 Plan has provided the foundation for the development of strategies that are considerably different to those we have previously pursued.

In particular, Social Enterprise and Social Investment have come to the forefront of our minds and OARS CT has made a significant investment in training and professional development of senior staff to ensure that the possibilities presented in this domain can become part of the future of OARS CT. Leigh mentions one particularly successful outcome called the 'Impact Accelerator Program' facilitated by Business Models Inc. in his section and which had a major impact on staff at many levels at OARS CT.

Leigh has joined the Board of the Social Investment Information Network of SA which has played a crucial role in educating and raising awareness about Social Investment in SA and at the same time has gained a great deal of knowledge and experience about this emerging area.

Of course at this time of the year we are asking you to consider assisting us in this work and so I hope that you are able to contribute to our work, particularly in the areas of families and children of offenders.

Warm regards,  
**Annabel Shinkfield**  
Chair

## UPDATE ON OUR PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

OARS COMMUNITY TRANSITIONS endeavours to provide an array of creative, compassionate and relevant services for its clients. A brief list is included on the back of this brochure. We have pleasure in providing this half-yearly update for your information.

- In January 2017, some services began operating from a new office location at **53 Dale Street, Port Adelaide**. This was prompted by an expansion of services which has resulted in recruitment of additional staff. We are pleased to welcome a number of **new staff and volunteers** to our team.
- Our new **Alcohol & Other Drug Service (AOD)**, funded by the Adelaide Primary Health Network, known as **ChASM** (Counselling, Health and Substance Management) commenced operation from our Port Adelaide site, as well as existing locations at Morphett Street Adelaide, and Dyson Road, Christies Beach. It offers a mix of 1:1 Counselling, Treatment Readiness, Relapse Prevention, SMART Recovery, Education & Information, development of an Intervention Plan, and appropriate referrals as required. In addition, a **new AOD Pre-Release Program**, funded by the Dept for Correctional Services, commenced in April 2017 and is now operating in Yatala, Mobilong, Adelaide Women's Prison, Adelaide Pre-Release Centre, Adelaide Remand Centre and Cadell. We continue to provide **Drug & Alcohol services funded by the Department of Health**.
- Many participants have benefited from the **interim Home Detention Integrated Support Service Program (IHISSP)** that commenced in June 2016. The Service is provided throughout the metropolitan and regional centres and continues to assist home detainees to improve individual outcomes, post release. It's aim to reduce recidivism is proving successful and now the service has been extended to women in a new Program called **WISP (Women's Intensive Support Program)**.
- The **Family Centre at Yatala Prison** was the venue for a **Responsible Gambling Awareness Week** event held in May, 2017. More than 40 attendees engaged in conversations and were provided with information. A Shopping Mall stand, in partnership with PsychMed, was also successful.
- **Red Cross** have partnered with us to assist in the recruitment and training of volunteers for the **Circles of Support & Accountability (COSA)** Program and to assist at the **Yatala Family Centre**. This is a very exciting initiative and both agencies are enjoying working together. A formal **evaluation of the COSA Program** will be undertaken by Dr Kelly Richards and a team from Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety (ANROWS).
- The **Reintegration Accommodation Services** continues to impact on client lives - A male client being supported under the Perpetrator Housing Program was successful in gaining employment and has now been promoted within the role, giving the client additional self-confidence and self-belief. With the support provided to the client he has secured long term community housing and is now identifying additional long term goals.
- The **Specialised Intervention Service (SIS)** Program continues to grow as we assist clients with complex needs. A Clinical Services Team Leader has been seconded to the program to provide support to case workers and to introduce a therapeutic model to the program.
- Aligning with the objectives of the **Substance Misuse Service Delivery Grants Fund Workplan**, revisions were made to the Comorbidity Best Practice Manual to reflect the updated National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre research guidelines released in December 2016.
- The Clinical Team continue to facilitate **Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT)** and **Staying Quit (SQ) groups** for participants on the Treatment Intervention Court. A **SMART Recovery group** for participants who have completed MRT and SQ commenced on the 4th April 2017. The Mount Gambier Treatment Readiness Group is currently suspended pending referrals. Laura Capozzi, Manager Clinical Services, presented at a three day **International Non Adversarial Justice Conference** held in Sydney in April. The presentation focused on the impact our Treatment Readiness Group has had on participant retention.
- Exciting news – one our Executive Team, Louise Kelly, has been awarded a **Churchill Fellowship** from The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust. In the second half of 2017, Louise will travel to Singapore, UK, Canada and USA to research initiatives for reducing recidivism of (ex)offenders through supported reintegration and rehabilitation.
- We have received increased enquiries for our work in the **Restorative Justice** arena, which has also included some work in the Northern Territory, as well as continued training in various SA schools.



Members of the OARS Impact Accelerator Team (Dot Stagg, Louise Kelly, Danny Pettas & Tony Gray), referred to CEO's segment of this newsletter.

### Opportunities to Assist Us:

- We are experiencing high demand for our services and your **donation to our Winter Appeal** would be appreciated.
- Our **Family Centre at Yatala Labour Prison** needs more volunteers for Saturday mornings. If you are able to assist, please call Dot Stagg on 8218 0700.
- If you are an **Employer** and would be open to exploring the **potential of employing ex-offenders**, we would be delighted to hear from you.
- We have a number of **support services available on a Fees-for-Service basis**. We can provide support for clients with multiple complex issues. Please contact Dot Stagg on 8218 0700.

### Quality Accreditation Update

Our Quality Management Team are working to ensure we are on track for our Review in the week commencing 17th July 2017. We will be undertaking the Health & Community Standards, and have added the Mental Health Services to our list of Accreditation Standards with the Quality Improvement Council.

We have also commenced the **White Ribbon Workplace Accreditation** process and will be addressing criteria to meet this important workplace standard.