

Drug ARM WA on the Rails



In the month of April, **Drug ARM WA Inc** will be launching an exciting, new innovative project called the Railway Outreach Project.

We are planning to hold the Launch at Armadale Train Station. The Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, The Hon Alannah McTiernan will be launching the project, followed by a brief address by The Hon John Kolbelke (Minister for Crime Prevention). Guests will be invited to a light lunch in the Drug ARM Board room, after the launch.

The project will be similar to the current street van service which

Reaches out to street present youth in popular locations around the state.

The Rail Outreach Project is a 5 month pilot project funded by the Office of Crime Prevention and supported by the Perth Transit Authority. The outreach teams will consist of two staff members and a team of volunteers. They will travel between Armadale and Cannington stations providing information, support and referrals for youth at risk on the trains. They can also transport intoxicated youth to our sobering up facility, the Time Out Centre.

Youth Options: On the Path to Success

On the City Street Van we often run into people who recognise Drug ARM WA because they have come in to contact with us in some way in the past.

Recently in the City a well presented young man visited the van saying that he had been through our Youth Options Program.

He said he came to the program because he had regularly been truanting from school.

He mentioned some of the names of staff members who had been with us many years ago and reminisced on the time he had with us and the lessons he had learnt since then.

He reported that he now had his life on track and has found himself a well paying job in the mining industry.

NCYC Visits Youth Options and Moorditj House



Attendees of the National Christian Youth Convention hosted by the Uniting Church, visited Drug ARM WA's Youth Options Program and Supervised Bail Program (Moorditj House) in early January. They were given a tour of the workshop and the house and spent time talking with clients. Attendees then helped assemble a boxing bag for the clients to use. The theme of the convention this year was "Agent's of Change." Drug ARM WA was one of a range of organisations asked to be involved. We also had a booth located at the convention providing information on our services.

Simon O'Brien visits Drug ARM WA

Simon O'Brien MLA visited our office in January, accompanied by Donna Faraghan (Drug and Alcohol Portfolio) to learn about our organisation. They were shown a 10 minute DVD about Drug ARM WA and joined Board members and staff for morning tea. The visit ended with a Drumbeat performance from our YOP clients.



Above right: Susy Thomas with Donna Faraghan and Simon O'Brien

Youth Options and Perth Wildcats Team-up

During the Governor's visit, Andrew Vlahov (Drug ARM WA's ambassador) accompanied Susy and the Governor to the Youth Options Workshop where he proposed a project for our clients to work on. Andrew asked the clients to create plaques with the names of each of the Wildcats players. Our clients would then have the opportunity to visit an official Wildcats training session to present the plaques as a gift to the players.

The Youth Options Workshop was transformed into a production line as the boys worked hard to complete their project. Finally, the finished product; pictured below-right.

Also this month with funding from SGIO, we had the pleasure of sending our YOP clients to a Basketball Camp held by the Perth Wildcats in January. The boys participated in a number of

workshops run by prominent Wildcats players and even had the opportunity of attending a training session with Wildcats coach, Scott Fisher. All reports were that our boys behaved extremely well and were grateful for the opportunity to hang out with the Wildcats and other kids around their age.

Below: Wildcats players received plaques from the Youth Options boys



Lauren Presents Drug ARM WA with something to Remember her...



Lauren Holyoake with her painting, "The Dream"

In January, we said goodbye to Lauren Holyoake who has been a youth worker on Friday nights in the city since early 2006. Lauren applied for the position after volunteering with us on the street van since 2004. Lauren presented us with a painting entitled "The Dream," pictured left, which she

Painted herself. She told us the birds represent hope and the flowers represent joy, growth and future prosperity. These are all things that Drug ARM WA has meant for her. Lauren presented the painting as a token of her appreciation for all Drug ARM WA has done for her. We have hung it up in the board room of our office.

This year we also farewell Luke from street van who has been a long serving member of the Drug ARM team. Luke began as a volunteer in 2002 and has in the past worked for us as Assistant Street Van Coordinator. He began as one of our youth workers at the same time as Lauren in 2006.

Rosella House

Joan Fewster has been the coordinator of Rosella House for 4 months and things have been going well with a high completion rate for our clients. Unfortunately we now have a short waiting list for clients to enter the program. Below is a snippet from a letter we received from a client who recently graduated from our program...

YOU ARE ALL SUCH AMAZING PEOPLE AND DO A BRAVANT JOB IN CLEANING US UP AND GETTING US BACK ON TRACK, AND ON THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW! IF IT WASNT 4 YOUR HELP I'D HATE 2 THINK WHERE I'D BE, OR WHAT I'D BE DOING I'M ACTUALLY GUESSING I'D BE DEAD, OR CLOSE 2 TO THE GUTTER! WHAT A TOWN AROUND HA!



Title	
First Name	
Surname	
Address	
State	
Postcode	
Tel (w):	Tel (h):
E-mail:	

Help those who have lost their way

I enclose my **TAX DEDUCTIBLE** donation. I wish to make a

Monthly / Quarterly / Annual / Individual pledge of _____

Please accept my Cheque/Money Order

Or debit my credit card.

□□□□ □□ □□ □□□□ □□□□

Signature: _____ Exp. Date: ____/____

To donate by telephone, please contact
(08) 9497 9498

Drug ARM WA values your privacy and is bound by the national privacy principles in our handling of your personal information. Please tick the box, if you do not wish to be kept up to date of Drug ARM WA Activities.