

Summer 2018

# Newsletter



**Aboriginal  
Sobriety  
Group**  
INDIGENOUS CORPORATION

## The Board management & Staff would like to wish you all a



The Aboriginal Sobriety Group Indigenous Corporation (ASG) is a not-for profit organisation providing care and support to individual's families and the communities who wish to have better quality of life away from drug and alcohol substance misuse through our harm minimisation strategies. We provide culturally appropriate pathways away from grief loss trauma and abusive lives. ASG values engagement with our clients and community members.

Our Values of Respect – Cultural Diversity – Dedication – Transparency & Integrity highlight the level of importance engagement has to us.

Engagement can take many forms and occur at many levels across ASG. It includes informing our clients about what is happening in ASG, consulting with them about service provision, including them in key planning activities, collaborating with them about service design and empowering them to make decisions. Engagement activities at ASG happens with individual clients, community groups, at a service or Individual team level, at the executive team and the board level of our organisation. Engagement helps us to fulfil our vision of sobriety and healing for Aboriginal people and provides the foundation for us to deliver person centred care.

The principle of engagement is at the heart of ASG and is embedded through the Values: Respect – Cultural Diversity – Dedication – Transparency & Integrity is very important to us as it increases transparency and accountability as well as supporting clients and our community to have a greater say in what their healthcare looks like.

Clients are individuals who use or might use the service as a client, family member or carer.

Communities are the groups that use, link, connect and contribute to the healthcare process.

ASG'S clients and communities are diverse in nature. Not only do we provide service to a variety of locations including metropolitan regional, rural and remote, we also have people from a wide range of backgrounds, age groups, educational levels and economic situations.

Aboriginal Sobriety Group Indigenous Corporation (ASG) and the Exception Needs Unit (ENU) have worked tirelessly over the past 12 months to sustain a suitable property in Ottoway to run our program—Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Women's Supported Accommodation which has now commenced. This program is a 12 month pilot program with the view of expanding in line with the National Disability Insurance Scheme. This Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Women's Supported Accommodation provides a safe, stable, long term, culturally appropriate facility for female clients with high and complex needs including mental health support.

This pilot program has been developed to meet the unmet needs of a select cohort of service users who are Aboriginal women with a disability. A particular need is those women with high to exceptional and complex needs and risks for whom there is currently no appropriate accommodation or adequate support services available. The women identified have high and complex needs which bring them under notice of the criminal justice system.

Collaboration with the Exceptional Needs Unit determines the referral process for this service. It is intended that the program expand to include additional women with the opportunity to link into culturally appropriate sustainable accommodation that is able to provide the high level of support needs required for long term successful outcomes.

ASG has strong working partnerships with the Exceptional Needs Unit and other stakeholders involved in the high level care and support of the identified client cohort e.g. Public Advocate, Public Trustee, Forensic Mental Health (James Nash House), RDNS, Burdekin Clinic and SAPOL.

The beneficial outcomes as a result of developing a unique model of care accommodation and support has identified that the model is successful and will have benefits for other clients who are accommodated and supported through this model.

We wish to acknowledge the Exceptional Needs Unit of DCSI for their support in the development of this much needed service and their ongoing support in the management of this pilot program.



## Arkaringa House

Newsletter enquiries to [dons@asq.org.au](mailto:dons@asq.org.au)

## House Of Hope



The vision of the House of Hope is that we walk together with the client on their journey of discovery in reclaiming their lives to overcome the issues they have with AOD addictions/control.

Walking this journey side by side with the woman and also recognising that this is a very much individual one. Their time spent at House of Hope offers a time of real healing for the women as well as dealing with the problems they are facing in the area of addictions and leading to a better quality of life through sobriety.

House of Hope will mirror LTW program with flexibility that is needed due to any cultural differences that is needed regarding working with women. Together with the team each client will have a strong case plan developed in assisting them with moving forward with their lives. It is also recognised that over time this can be changed with regular reviews.

Our 12 – 24 week residential program for each individual client includes a comprehensive case plan, with regular case reviews with the added assistance from agencies located in and around Adelaide metro and the local vicinity. Clients will also be linked in and be provided with support/outreach once they exit the House of Hope program. We will provide this support to clients it will enable them to continue with the positive changes that have begun and sustainability can occur. This will include service such as housing; financial counselling; mental health / well-being counselling and whatever the individual client would benefit from.

The Centre Supervisor has also taken the opportunity to source information from other services that were gathered at the Murry Bridge mental health expo including local networks. House of Hope will continue to network with organisations thought out the region and Metro to provide clients the services that will assist their journey towards sobriety and positively moving forward with their lives.

We would like to acknowledge the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet for their support in the development of this project and their funding commitment to address an unmet need for our women in community. We would also like to thank Big Sunday for their support and collaboration in the renovation and restoration of the House of Hope.

[www.asq.org.au](http://www.asq.org.au)

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Francis Scott successfully completed the 12 week Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation program at LTW on 12/07/2017. Francis entered Cyril Lindsay House (CLH) hostel on 27/07/2017 and has been with our service since. Francis has successfully abstained from Alcohol and drugs and has actively engaged with all services involved such as ongoing psychologist, counselling and mental health services. Francis has been a positive role model for other clients within our service and has developed positive friendships/relationships. Due to the hard work of Francis, Tammy and Jason Warrior we are excited to announce that Francis has been approved a medium term property which is supported by our own Jason Warrior. Francis is surrounded with supports and is now concentrating on moving forward in his life.

## Dedicated Volunteer:

Derek Highfold is Cyril Lindsay and Annie Koolmatrie House volunteer Gardner. Derek has been volunteering for ASG for the past 12 months. He assists with not just the yards but also minor things around the houses. Derek has also recently arranged with the clients a weekly game of tennis which has been working positively with more clients attending each week. Derek is proactive with all clients helping them with minor things such as footy boots but more importantly Derek helps clients by listening to them when they are feeling troubled.

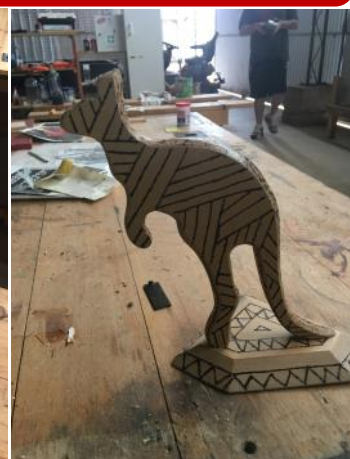
Pictured Right: Derek is with Ian, Homelessness Program Manager.



# CLH/ AKH Homelessness Services



# TAFE SA Aboriginal Access Carpentry Course at LTW

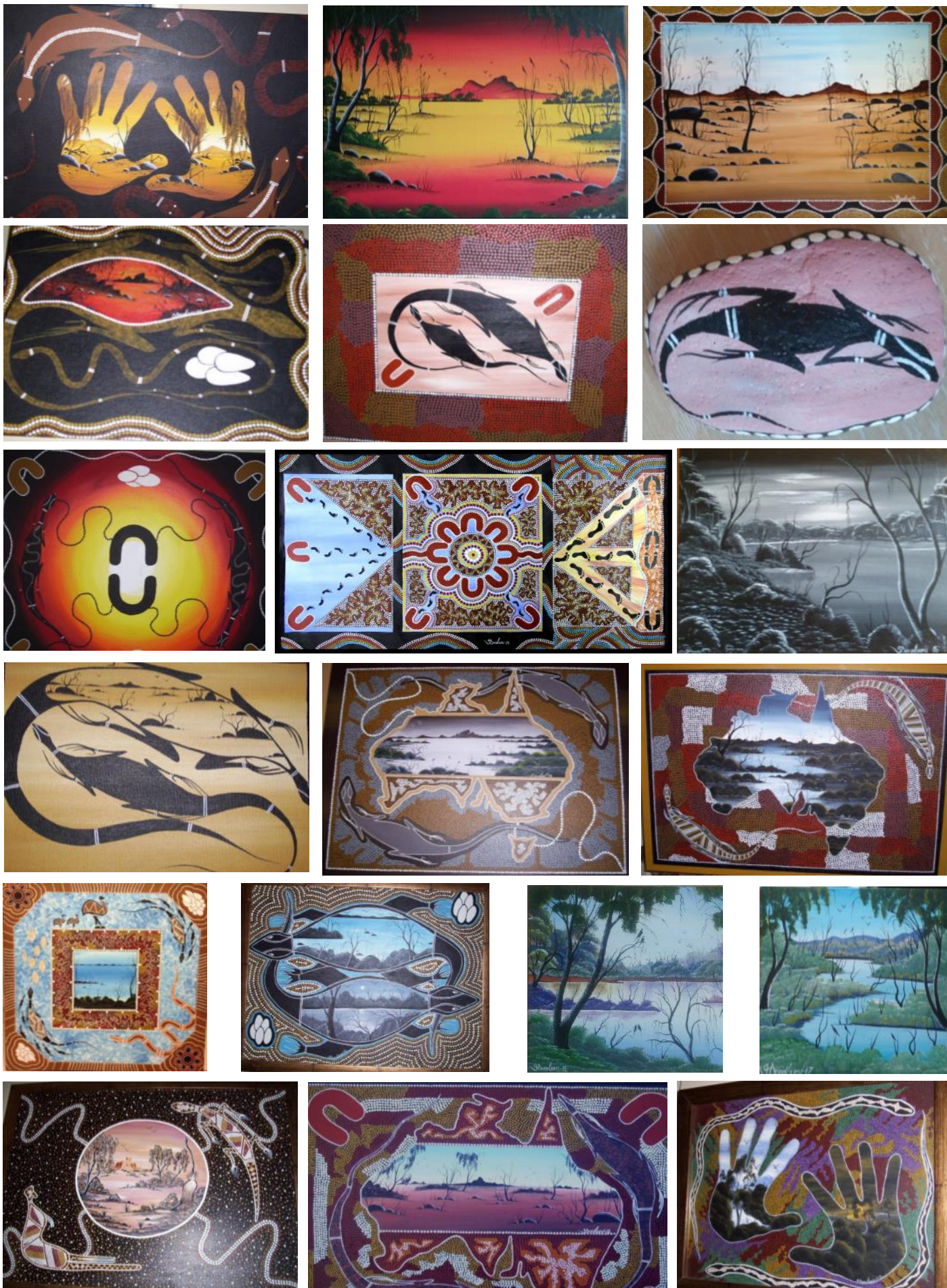


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# The talented artwork of Ian Sansbury

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# Riverland—CSAPHN & SANDAS



Riverland ASG Aboriginal Mental Health Worker Jackie Vincent and Program Manager Don Scordo spent a morning at Karoonda participating in a stepped care forum hosted by Country SA Primary Health Network (CSAPHN). Check out our article in the CSAPHN annual report at the link below:

[http://www.countrysaphn.com.au/resources/WhoWeAre/Annual%20Report/CSAPHN Annual%20Report%202016-17 Final Web.pdf](http://www.countrysaphn.com.au/resources/WhoWeAre/Annual%20Report/CSAPHN%20Annual%20Report%202016-17%20Final%20Web.pdf)

ASG is happy to announce that Riverland Manager, Don Scordo has been selected onto the SANDAS board.

The South Australian Network of Drug and Alcohol Services (SANDAS) were established in 2004, to enhance community wellbeing and reduce the harms associated with alcohol and drug use.

As the peak body, they provide independent, state-wide representation, advocacy and support for non-government organisations working in the alcohol and other drug sector, through networking and policy development. SANDAS is a not-for-profit association funded by membership contributions, the Australian Government Department of Health, Drug and Alcohol Services of South Australia, the South Australian Department of Health and a range of other organisations on a project basis.



## Office Locations

### Head Office

182-190 Wakefield Street,  
Adelaide. Phone: 8223 4204

### Substance Misuse Team

34 Hookings Terrace, Woodville  
Gardens. Phone: 8224 5988

### Homelessness Program

32 Third Avenue, Woodville  
Gardens. Phone: 8243 1698

### Lakalinjeri Tumbetin Waal

Men's Residential Rehabilitation

26 Wattle Road, Monarto  
Phone: 8534 4028

### House Of Hope

Woman's Residential Rehab

26 Wattle Road, Monarto  
Phone: 8534 4028

### Mobile Assistance Patrol

34 Hookings Terrace, Woodville  
Gardens. Phone: 8224 5988

### Inner City Youth Service

34 Hookings Terrace,  
Woodville Gardens 8224 5988

### Ottoway House

Disability Services

5 Beatrice Street, Ottoway  
Phone: 7127 0821

### Riverland

3 Wilson Street, Berri  
Phone: 8580 8700  
MAP: 0427 013 390



Riverland



Arkaringa House



LTW



### YOUR FEEDBACK IS IMPORTANT TO US

If you have any questions, ideas or suggestions regarding this newsletter, please contact Don Scordo on 8580 8700 or [dons@asg.org.au](mailto:dons@asg.org.au)