

**HEALTHY CITIES ILLAWARRA  
HIV/AIDS PREVENTION PROGRAM**

**ANNUAL PROGRAM REPORT**

**1. Were project/service goals achieved?**

Healthy Cities Illawarra is satisfied that the goals for the program were achieved over the past financial year. The following table specifies the goals and the short term and health/development outcomes over the reporting period. This provides the detail required in response to questions 1 and 3 in the program report.

<b>Project Goals</b>	<b>Short term Impacts</b>	<b>Health and Development Outcomes</b>
<p>Coordinate campaigns to raise and maintain public awareness of HIV/AIDS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Participated in 4 meetings of the World Aids Day (WAD) committee</li> <li>▪ Convene and coordinate 5 South Coast World AIDS Day events</li> <li>▪ Coordinate distribution of WAD resources to over 70 sites- promoting awareness raising to approx 10,000 Illawarra/ Shoalhaven people</li> <li>▪ Prepare and implement library displays and place banners on highways</li> <li>▪ Compile and distribute WAD report as</li>   <li>▪ Implement the only sexual health awareness raising information site at the Sex –Expo (snakepit stadium- Dec). Over 3,000 people in attendance.</li> </ul>	<p>Regional perspectives are lobbied for, and Illawarra’s professional advice &amp; experience shared across the state.</p> <p>Improved communication between partners, producing better projects, streamlining resources to have greater reach.</p> <p>Increase awareness of WAD and it health messages to the general Illawarra public</p> <p>Annual evaluation, documentation of strategies strengthens partnerships and improves coordination and implementation</p> <p>Increase knowledge of HIV/AIDS, and other relevant sexual health issues to a large audience.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Support the coordination of Sexuality week at the University of Wollongong - by notifying and liaising with relevant services and supporting with project development</li> <li>▪ Conducted local publicity about Sexual Health.</li> <li>▪ For the University Games week (4000 extra students in Wollongong) Delivered Sexual Health training and coordinated distribution of safe sex resources.</li> </ul>	<p>Improve access to services</p> <p>Minimise the transmission of HIV and other sexually transmissible infections</p>
Improve coordination and delivery of sexual health education in the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Liaison with other agencies and coordination of schools with 'Cross Roads' health education programs</li> <li>▪ Delivered sexual health seminars to 6 schools- developing negotiation skills and raising awareness with 800 young people</li> <li>▪ Encourage development of Condom and Homophobia policies in regional schools</li> </ul>	<p>Lesson morbidity from HIV and other sexually transmissible infections</p> <p>Improve the mental and physical well-being associated with sexuality, sexual function and relationship issues for the Illawarra/ Shoalhaven's young people</p>
Support special communities through principles of capacity building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Supported the establishment and running of the Darcy House Outreach service for street workers including 9 management committee meeting.</li> <li>▪ Minimum of 3 hours per week provided onsite referral and client support at Darcy House</li> <li>▪ Assisted specific health project development at Darcy House by holding a 'Pamper Day' and planning</li> </ul>	<p>Improve quality of life for the areas Street Sex Workers and improve access to health and other social services</p>

	<p>a tribes project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Participated in Aboriginal Health Strategic Planning including the Shoalhaven Safe Communities project</li> <li>▪ Liaison and support with colleagues in Aboriginal health regarding sexual health issues.</li> <li>▪ Personal support to PLWHA though counselling, and coordination of special functions ie. Memorial service</li> </ul>	<p>Raise the profile of sexual health on mainstream safety agendas</p> <p>Improve health outcomes for aboriginal community through sharing of resources and knowledge</p> <p>Advocacy for PLWHA provides support and strength to those in need.</p>
Provide professional input into service planning for sexual health in the region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In partnership with Men's Sexual Health worker conducted a formal review of SHAG, and update terms of reference</li> <li>▪ Participated in 4 HIV working party meetings</li> <li>▪ Participated in QMS process for the IAHS -Sexual Health Service</li> <li>▪ Involved in Municipal Health planning process for Kiama</li> </ul>	<p>Improve planning processes to improve service coordination.</p> <p>Provide feedback from affected community members about service issues</p>
Maintain a high level of organisational and professional effectiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Successfully applied for grants to attend conference and training opportunities on relevant issues such as homophobia, sexual health and HIV updates</li> </ul>	<p>Improve expertise in the field promotes contemporary skills and knowledge in practice</p>

**2. Major users of the service.** This service has supported both individuals and other organisations as indicated in the table above. An emphasis of the work has been in line with national and state policy to support PLWHA including street sex workers. Extensive assistance has been provided into the Darcy House Outreach Service at Port Kembla where clients are marginalised and suffer multiple disadvantage eg. drug dependent, HIV positive, homeless, mental illness. Close working relations were maintained with Aboriginal health workers including the Men's Aboriginal Sexual Health Officer. Administrative support continued to be provided to other service providers by the coordination of the Sexual Health Advisory Group (SHAG). Secondary schools remain an important user group with coordination of agencies for the 'Crossroads' program as well as sexual health contributions to 'Crossroads' and other school initiatives.

**3. Comment briefly on how the project was of direct benefit?**

Please see table above.

**4. Any changes in the demand for service?** No specific changes in service demand but changes in emphasis including opportunities for the integration of sexual health promotion into planning, policy and other organisations programs.

**5. Any difficulties encountered in providing the service to the level outlined?**

The NW Health grant has not kept pace with inflation and wages increases. Although the position is financially supported by the budget of Healthy Cities Illawarra this year it was necessary to reduce workers hours from 18 to 15 and this did have impacts on the service work. Internal planning identified work plan priorities and workers hours were focussed on these which mean't that some opportunities particularly in the Shoalhaven could not be pursued.

**6. Has there been a review of the project/service?**

As part of the application process for continuation of funding a review of the service was conducted by the relevant contact within the Area Health Service. Funding was renewed. Additional to that Healthy Cities conducts its own annual review of performance and work plans are monitored and adjusted on a regular basis. A review of SHAG has been held by participating members.

**7. Outline interaction between your organisation and other NGO's?**

The position works with other partner organisations on projects of mutual benefit. These projects are specified in the table above. Following is a list of key partners:

Communities and Organisation	Title
Darcy House	Coordinator, Committee
ACON (Head Office and local branch)	Various Staff
CHAIN	Youth Workers
Merit- Shoalhaven	Team Leader
Wollongong University	Sexuality Officer
Kiama Municipal Council	Health & Environment Division
Shellharbour City Council	Community Development Team
Shoalhaven City Council	Community Development Team
Shoalhaven Aboriginal Medical Service	Health Workers
Illawarra Health	Sexual Health Service Social Health Team Division of Population Health
NSW Education Department	PDHPE Heads
Local Businesses	Various
People living with HIV/AIDS, their partners friends and families	

**8. Consumer/user involvement?** The position works closely with the community and the work is underpinned by a community development philosophy. This means that project development, planning includes where possible consumers. Input from the affected community is integral to the planning of effective projects.

- 9. Does the project use volunteers?** Volunteers are involved in planning but also in the implementation of projects. Volunteers are often not directly recruited by HCI but are involved in projects where HCI is a partner. During World Aids Day a large number of volunteers are engaged by ACON. At Darcy House volunteers have been involved in the establishment and running of the centre. Volunteers have been recruited for the delivery of specific World Aids Day activities eg. Positive Speaking. HCI provides training and administrative support as required for any volunteers in line with our commitments as a member of Volunteering Illawarra.
- 10. Operating hours of the service?** 15 hours per week
- 11. Other relevant information.** See attached including salary return

## **ACRONYMS USED**

<b>HPO</b>	Health Promotion Officer
<b>HCI</b>	Healthy Cities Illawarra Incorporated
<b>UOW</b>	University of Wollongong
<b>IAHS</b>	Illawarra Area Health Service
<b>ACON</b>	AIDS Council of NSW
<b>PLWH/A</b>	People Living with HIV/AIDS
<b>WAD</b>	World AIDS Day
<b>AAMQ</b>	Australian AIDS Memorial Quilt

