



THE WEB YOUTH SERVICE

93 McMasters Road WoyWoy NSW 2256 P.O Box 512 WoyWoy 2256
Phone 02 4342-3684
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Email webyouthservices@bigpond.com



The WEB Youth Service AOD Project

Hours of Operation-

Monday: 9.00am to 5pm

Tuesday: 9.00am to 5.00pm

Friday: 12.30pm to 8.00pm

The WEB Youth Service AOD (Alcohol and Other Drug) Project has been funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing since its inception in July 2002. The aim of the project is to provide a service for young people aged 12 to 18 who may have concerns about their own or others' use of alcohol or other drugs. This service provides information, counselling and referral in a youth facility and in an outreach capacity to two local high schools in the Peninsula area, alternate learning schools such as Workwise, the local refuges and the PCYC. The project is currently funded until July 2010.

The WEB Youth Service AOD counsellor is available at Brisbane Water Middle campus on Mondays from 9-12pm and the Senior campus on Tuesdays from 9-12pm. The service can arrange groups after these hours as needed. The WED AOD Counsellor's role at the schools is to provide support, counselling information, education and arrange referrals for youth. In addition to the school services, the AOD Counsellor is available for 'drop in' or appointments after school at the WEB Youth Service on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. Young people can approach the counsellor for a chat about any issue related to drugs and alcohol that may be affecting themselves, their families or friends. The counsellor is also available to parents or carers of young people who may require information and support.

The Web AOD counsellor is Sandy King. Sandy has worked extensively for the past 20 years in the area of drug and alcohol in varying capacities including community health settings, hospitals, prisons, University, women's organisations, HIV Prevention and the criminal justice arena. Sandy completed a Social Science degree in 1986 and has since completed many courses related to counselling, education and research through CEIDA, the University of QLD and the NSW Health Department. Sandy is interested in assisting local youth find a better quality of life and reach their individual potential without the problems associated with drug and alcohol use. She brings an extensive knowledge base and dedication to this position, is approachable and enjoys interacting with young people. Sandy believes the WEB Youth Service is a comfortable, caring, energetic and positive environment for young people to discuss concerns without feeling intimidated.

The AOD project has been very successful and effective since its commencement. Many relationships have been established between the AOD Counsellor and important members of the youth services sector and the wider community. This is important to ensure a holistic service is being provided to better assist young people and their community.

When at the schools, she receives new referrals most visits and there are always more young people who want to chat with her in the breaks. While at The WEB Youth Service the young people are always searching for correct information to combat different myths they have heard about alcohol and other drugs. It is important that young people are prepared with correct information in order to make informed decisions about the risks associated with drug and alcohol use.



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Historically, the partnership with Central Coast Area Health has been established which provides Sandy with ongoing support, the opportunity to share information with other professionals and participate in training to maintain her skills and professionalism. Sandy also works closely with the Adolescent Primary Health Clinic Doctors, Clinical Nurse Consultants and Youth Health Counsellors that are here every Friday evening to support young people with both physical and emotional health issues.

The WEB provides a venue for young people to meet and socialise in a youth friendly space and encourages them to access mainstream services such as doctors and nurses. By working together these services can better address the needs of young people and assist in the transition to a happy and healthy adulthood.