

Solaris Therapeutic Community

Alexander Maconochie Correctional Centre, ACT

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Mission Statement

“Solaris is a modified Therapeutic Community that provides a safe, secure and supportive learning environment within a correctional setting where participants can explore and establish change within a social and personal context”

What is SOLARIS?

- Custodial Therapeutic Community
- Provides a structured residential environment in the men's neighbourhood offering a multidisciplinary approach to treatment
- Supports the women's neighbourhood with TC principles with the view to implement the TC model incrementally
- Partnership between ACT Corrective Services and ADFACT – commenced June 2008, operational July 2009
- Enables active participation of non-government service providers within the prison.
- Occupies one of four 20 bed low security men's cottages



Solaris Objectives

- To create a safe TC environment underpinned by the healthy prisons concept
- To reduce the incidence of drug and alcohol related recidivism through the provision of targeted interventions
- To deliver a comprehensive range of programs including educational, vocational training, therapeutic interventions and culturally appropriate support
- To increase participants' educational achievements and employment capacity
- Encourage and promote the reintegration and post release support of participants
- Enable provision of health services

Eligibility Criteria

- Prisoners need to volunteer for the program with recommendation from staff
- Be serving a non-parole period or fixed term of 7 months or more with at least 6 months left to serve
- Currently have a minimum security classification
- Have no appellant matters
- No history of sexual related offences of any type
- Stable pharmacotherapy and or psychiatric medication regime
- Other medical conditions must be supported by documentation stating their stability



Solaris Partnership & Staffing

- Partnership between ACT Corrective Services and ADFACT means matrix management.
- Staff include Therapeutic Correctional Officers, Alcohol and Other Drug Clinicians and front line managers from Corrective Services and ADFACT
- Therapeutic Correctional Officers have an extended role that includes correctional, therapeutic and social roles.
- TC works closely with Corrections Health to provide a coordinated treatment approach to participants with health needs.
- Other services such as chaplaincy and psychology available as required.
- High level joint Reference Group to monitor implementation



Solaris Treatment Continuum

Staged throughcare program that encompasses:

- Assessment/Screening
- Induction 6 weeks
- Treatment 20 weeks
- Transition and Release, with priority for AMC
Transitional Release Centre
- Throughcare/Aftercare

Induction Phase

Primary Objectives

- Physical orientation of the participant
- Introduction of basic concepts, house rules, structure and procedures
- Establish individual intervention with AOD clinician
- Development of short term goals
- Collection of additional information to assist treatment planning
- Enhancement of the participants motivation to engage in the program

Modules

Readiness Program... Personal Effectiveness Program (PEP)

- 40 sessions delivered by Correctional Officer and Programs Officer
- Collage development and delivery



Treatment Phase

Underpinned by 3 core program areas: *Work, Education and Therapy*

Primary Objectives

- Maintain participants engagement with treatment
- Further develop the participants Basic Living principles and incorporate these into their day to day behaviour
- Continue to provide a safe secure environment, whilst assisting participants to explore difficult areas of their lives and recovery
- Encourage active participation as a member of the therapeutic community



Treatment Phase Modules

Program Modules include:

- Criminal Conduct and Substance Abuse Treatment (Wanberg/Milkman) 50 Sessions
- Positive Life Skills (Relapse Prevention)
- Debate
- Parenting
- Managing Finances
- SMART Recovery
- 12 Step Self Help Groups
- Art Therapy
- Horticulture



Throughcare and Exit Pathways

“Research has shown that prisoners are most at risk of reoffending when an integrated throughcare post release structure is not accessible”

Dr George De Leon

Centre for Therapeutic Community Research at NDRI

Preparation

6 week AOD program provided to all prisoners prior to entry to TC



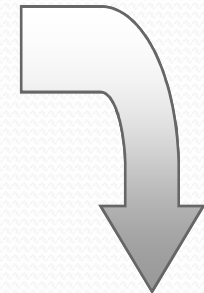
INDUCTION PROGRAM

First point of entry to TC
Six week continual assessment, education and case management



TREATMENT PROGRAM

Six month treatment program comprising individual & group counselling, CBT, parenting & relationship skills, relapse prevention & family interventions.
Work skills training



There are a number of pathways from the AMC TC to the community, depending on the point of release and the person's stage of readiness to re-enter the community.



ADFACT's Karralika TC, Transitional Housing and Nexus Halfway House Program

- Individual Counselling
- Current pharmacotherapies
- Solaris participants may receive early release based on admission to Karralika
- Individual Case Mgt



TRANSITION RELEASE CENTRE
Release to the TRC outside the wall, outside work or education, return to TRC in evening. Supported within TRC by clinical workers & case management



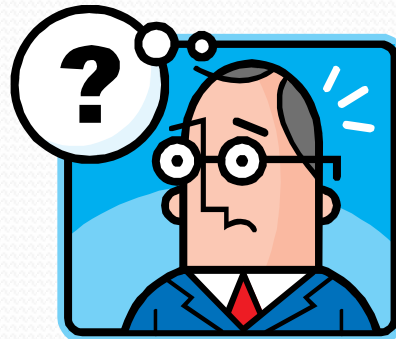
MANAGED ACCOMMODATION PROGRAM
Release to high intensity supported accommodation. Corrective Services and ADFACT staffing, supported by Outreach Worker

ADFACT Outreach Support Worker

Subject to resources, we will employ an outreach worker to provide support around:

- family restorative practice
- maintenance of previously established links with community and other support networks
- Support to create additional community and social supports





QUESTION TIME