



ATCA Symposium & AGM 2024
Therapeutic Communities Today: Adaptation & Impact

9.00-4.30pm Tuesday 19th November
Amora Riverwalk Hotel Melbourne
649 Bridge Road, Richmond

Acknowledgments

The ATCA acknowledges the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which this symposium is being held.

The ATCA acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the Traditional Custodians of this country and its waters. We wish to pay our respects to Elders past and present and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people attending the symposium.

The ATCA wishes to thank its members and colleagues in the alcohol and other drug sector and other health and human services for their interest and support.

Symposium organising committee:

We would like to extend our gratitude to the Symposium working committee for their time and invaluable assistance in preparing for the event, Michelle Ridley (Executive Officer, ATCA), Mark Ferry (Treasury, ATCA), Anne Cox (Odyssey House Victoria), Tim Flora (Odyssey House Victoria) and Abigail Krause (Windana).



We also acknowledge the Australian Government Health and Aged Care for their financial support of the ATCA Secretariat.



For more information about the ATCA and Symposium contact:
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ATCA Symposium Program 19th November at the Amora Riverwalk, Melbourne

9.00-9.20	<p>Registration Tea and Coffee and networking</p>
9.20-9.30	<p>Acknowledgment of Country Symposium Welcome & Opening Address Gerard Byrne (ATCA, Chair) In his opening address Gerard will reflect on how TCs have adapted to modern challenges and the impact they continue to have on both individuals and communities.</p>
9.30-9.55	<p>Speed Connect Session facilitators Michelle Ridley (Executive Officer, ATCA) & Gerard Byrne (ATCA, Chair) This first session will include a round of speed networking where you'll meet new colleagues, exchange ideas, and offer feedback on the symposium's theme.</p>
9.55-10.10 Presentation	<p>Lived experience perspectives: the impact of Therapeutic Communities Insights from people who've accessed a TC: their experience, benefits, challenges and more.</p>
10.10-11.15 Presentations 10:10-10.25 10.25-10.40 10.40-11.15 Panel	<p>Understanding Cultural Context: Enhancing practice with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People</p> <p>Culturally inclusive approaches when working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People in TCs in rural and remote areas Joceyln Dhu (Deputy CEO, DASA). Joceyln (Deputy CEO, DASA) was born and raised in Mparntwe (Alice Springs). She is a proud Arrernte & Banyjima woman, and mother of three children. Jocelyn has worked for DASA for 12 years and prior to this, Jocelyn worked in NT Community Corrections and Territory Families. Jocelyn was a Finalist in the 2024 NT Woman of The Year Awards (First Nations Category).</p> <p>Culturally inclusive approaches for supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women experiencing alcohol and other drug issues Natalie Purchase (Program Manager, The Glen for Women) and Sarah Sammons (Operations Manager, The Glen for Women).</p> <p>Culture, connection and TCs & Residential Rehab Services Panelists will discuss the importance of culture and connection and how workers and organisations can enhance their service delivery when working with First Nations service users. Panelists: Jocelyn Dhu. More panelists to be announced soon.</p>
11.15-11.45	<p>MORNING TEA AND NETWORKING</p>
11.45-1:00 Workshop	<p>Improving Engagement and Impact in Therapeutic Communities – World Café Workshop Facilitators Carol Daws (CEO, Cyrenian House & Deputy Chair, ATCA Board) & Michelle Ridley. This World Café Workshop will explore critical aspects of service delivery in Therapeutic Communities. Participants will rotate through these topics, sharing insights, experiences, and innovative ideas to enhance service access, retention, and outcomes in Therapeutic Communities.</p> <p>Pathways to Engagement: Enhancing Service Access: Discuss strategies to promote access and equity to services and improve the initial engagement and intake processes. Explore methods to encourage people to engage with your service.</p>

	<p>Consistent Care: Enhancing Retention and Successful Treatment Outcomes: Identify best practices for supporting people to maintain and complete treatment. Delve into factors that influence duration of stay, occupancy and retention.</p> <p>Beyond Completion: Ensuring Long-Term Treatment Outcomes: Examine ways to support people in maintaining their treatment outcomes post-discharge. Discuss the importance of aftercare, cross-sector collaboration, and building robust networks that provide continuous support. Consider the requirements and funding necessary to sustain these collaborative efforts.</p>
1:00-2:00	LUNCH AND NETWORKING
2.00-2.45 Panel	<p>TC Leaders Unplugged: Opportunities, Challenges, and the Future TC leaders will explore today's therapeutic communities, identify opportunities for growth, tackle challenges, and share their insights and ideas for advancing TCs into the future.</p> <p>Panelists: Dr. Stefan Gruenert (CEO, Odyssey Victoria), Andrea McCloud (CEO, Windana), Eloise Page (CEO, DASA) & Mark Ferry (COO Ted Noffs Foundation) More panelists to be announced.</p> <p>Panel Moderator: Gerard Byrne (Operations Manager, WHOS & Chair, ATCA)</p>
2.45-3.00	<p>Recap and Reflections Michelle Ridley and Gerard Byrne Learnings from today and where to next</p>
3.00-3.30	AFTERNOON TEA
3.30-4.30	<p>Annual General Meeting Join our AGM for a Q & A with the ATCA Board. More details to be announced</p>
4.30	Event Close

Register

To secure your place at the ATCA Symposium, click on the link to register [HERE](#)

Symposium costs: ATCA member = \$100 & Non-member = \$130

Morning and afternoon tea and lunch will be provided