



Alcohol, Tobacco & other
Drugs Council Tas Inc.

MEDIA RELEASE

2014 Tasmanian ATOD Awards recipients announced

EMBARGOED UNTIL 2:30PM

16 June 2014

Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Council CEO, Jann Smith, today congratulated the four recipients of the 2014 Tasmanian Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Awards.

The Awards, in their third year, recognise, promote and reward outstanding practice in the alcohol, tobacco and other drugs field in Tasmania.

ATDC is supported by the Tasmanian Government through the Department of Health and Human Services, and the winners will receive their awards from **the Acting Secretary for the Department of Health and Human Service, Mr Michael Pervan** at a presentation today.

“The Awards recognise individuals who have made outstanding contributions to improving the health and well-being of people affected by alcohol and other drugs, to reducing harm and developing the profession”, Ms Smith said.

“They demonstrate the depth of talent, skill and knowledge within the Tasmanian workforce, and reflect the desire of the sector to recognise the exceptional practices of our colleagues”.

Winners receive an engraved trophy and \$500 to be spent on professional development.

The four winners for 2014 are:

Outstanding Contributions Award - Awarded to Tamara Speed
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Recognising the work of someone who may not necessarily work directly in the ATOD sector, but whose activity plays an important and positive role in the work the sector undertakes.

Tamara has played a significant role in the ATOD sector in Tasmania over a number of years. She has extensive experience in senior roles within the ATOD sector interstate and in national roles and on national expert panels.

Tamara is an advocate for innovation and a staunch advocate for consumer participation. She is deeply committed and works tirelessly to reduce stigma and discrimination against ATOD consumers. Her evidence-based expansion of ATOD practice has brought ATOD services into the reach of an increasing number of vulnerable population groups in Tasmania.

This award acknowledges Tamara’s contribution, commitment and dedication over many years.

Excellence in Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drug Work Award - Awarded to Liz Moore

Recognising the outstanding work of an individual worker or manager in the field.

Liz is the Acting Coordinator of the Southern Court Mandated Diversion team, Tasmanian Department of Justice. She has extensive experience in helping people with addictions to alcohol, tobacco and illicit drug.

She has over 23 years' experience in the field. She has undertaken research to achieve higher qualifications, champion evidence-based practice and policy and has a comprehensive practical and theoretical understanding of therapeutic jurisprudence.

Liz's work helps participants achieve their goals of breaking the drug-crime cycle and becoming sustainably drug-free and crime-free. Her work makes an effective contribution to a safer Tasmania.

Emerging Researcher Award - Awarded to Dr Amy Peacock

Recognising the importance of quality, evidence based research in the area of alcohol, tobacco and other drug use.

Amy completed her PhD in less than 3 years, undertaking a series of studies examining the use and effects of alcohol mixed with energy drinks. The results of Amy's research have been shared with the ATOD sector during ATDC education and training events.

Amy's work has also been published in top-tier peer-reviewed journals and her thesis was marked and commended by two international experts in her field. Amy is a member of the Alcohol Advertising Review Board, which provides assessments of alcohol advertising to ensure that it meets regulatory standards.

Her expertise has been further recognised through her inclusion in national policy work as well as her mentorship and supervision of honours and masters level students.

Early Career Award - Awarded to Debbie Hollinger

Recognising excellent work by someone within the first two years of their career in the field.

Debbie is a Case Manager with the Kids In Focus Program run by Anglicare Tasmania. She began working in January 2014 after many years training and volunteering in the sector. She developed a passion for the Alcohol and Other Drug field while completing her TasTAFE Certificate 4 in Alcohol and Other Drugs in 2013. She now works with parents to make changes that are positive for them and their children.

Her commitment to harm minimisation; embracing of consumer participation and self-determination; and her evidence based, holistic approach are enabling her clients to achieve positive outcomes.

***Photos of recipients being presented with their awards by the Acting Secretary will be available on request.**

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