



Western Australian Network of
Alcohol & other Drug Agencies

STRATEGIC PLAN

2023/24 - 2026/27

RELATIONAL
ENGAGEMENT

ACCOUNTABILITY

RESPECT

EQUITY

CEO STATEMENT

The Western Australian alcohol and other drug sector continues to be working within an environment of significant change, challenge, and opportunity. In this Strategic Plan timeframe one significant change will be where the Western Australian alcohol and other drug sector sits within the health system. WANADA will have a role in influencing changes that achieve positive outcomes for the specialist sector and the community.

WANADA's role in leading and influencing change, together with representing the sector and supporting a shared voice, will require a thorough appreciation of external factors, the sector's experiences, and priority development needs.

WANADA is the peak body for the Western Australian alcohol and other drug service sector and has members that deliver a diverse range of services including education, prevention, counselling, residential and therapeutic community, withdrawal, systems support, intoxication management, and harm reduction services. WANADA acknowledges the expertise and autonomy of our diverse membership.

WANADA recognises and is driven by the commitment, hard work, and expertise of our member organisations and their staff to achieve the best outcomes for individuals, families, and the community.

WANADA will continue to promote delivery of safe, quality, and evidence informed practice. This includes contributing to cross-sector capability building, recognising that alcohol and other drugs do not occur in isolation from a range of intersecting concerns.

This Strategic Plan prioritises the need for, and demonstrates WANADA's commitment to, Aboriginal self-determination together with furthering culturally responsive and inclusive practices. The Plan also reflects the need to challenge stigma and discrimination, which presents a significant barrier to essential reforms, to achieve health and wellbeing for all Western Australians.

WANADA's new Strategic Plan builds upon our strengths, past achievements, and unique position to lead reforms and initiatives in policy, planning, development, workforce planning and sector viability.



Jill Rundle, Chief Executive Officer
25 October 2023

VALUES

Relational Engagement

- WANADA seeks to be effective in its capacity to influence change through building and maintaining quality relationships and effective collaborations with stakeholders to inform decision making and solutions for the sector. This requires inclusivity and acknowledgement of expertise.

Accountability

- WANADA builds stakeholder trust by demonstrating honesty, integrity, commitment to continuous quality improvement, and alignment with evidence informed practice.

Respect

- WANADA respects diverse perspectives including those of: our members; individuals; families and communities impacted by alcohol and other drug harms; relevant researchers; and government representatives. WANADA works to being respected as a trusted peak body that effectively represents the WA alcohol and other drug sector.

Equity

- WANADA promotes the benefits of a needs-based approach aimed at enhancing alcohol and other drug service access by priority population groups, reducing alcohol and other drug stigma and discrimination, and supporting equitable opportunities for contributing to decision making at all levels.



AIM

To enable a specialist-sector led approach to achieve reduced harms associated with alcohol and other drugs for all Western Australians.

PURPOSE

To lead a shared voice within the specialist alcohol and other drug service sector that drives and influences systemic change needed to achieve best community outcomes.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Priority

- 1. Provide an informed voice to influence effective alcohol and other drug policy, planning, development and systems reform**
- 2. Promote effective evidence-informed systemic approaches that work to address alcohol and other drug stigma and discrimination**
- 3. Drive sector implementation of, and policy support for, the principles of self-determination**
- 4. Lead a coordinated approach to sector-wide development that enhances quality and evidence-informed practice**

Guiding Directions

Influencing policy, planning, development and implementation requires strong and respectful relationships with decision makers. WANADA's authority to provide an independent representative voice is based on awareness of relevant evidence that is grounded in sector expertise.

WANADA's mandate is to affect positive systemic change.

Stigma is a fundamental barrier to positive outcomes for individuals, families and communities as well as sector development. Stigma is evident in policy, planning and decision making across the alcohol and other drug and intersecting sectors. Decision making frequently reflects community sentiment.

Evidenced-informed approaches that address stigma and discrimination include consideration of language and human rights equity. Systemic change is needed to impact policy, planning and decision making as well as raising community awareness. Growing a shared voice that includes language and equity considerations with stakeholders (including members) can affect broader literacy on solutions to alcohol and other drug related harms.

A systems-based approach to self-determination will contribute to improved health and social wellbeing outcomes for Aboriginal peoples.

Translating the principles of self-determination into meaningful action, to achieve better outcomes, requires a sector-wide commitment supported by genuine partnerships and shared accountabilities.

An evidence-informed approach to sector development (e.g., workforce development/capacity building) requires an appropriate focus on the individual, organisation, and system.

WANADA's Alcohol and other Drug and Human Services Standard is a member driven resource aimed at supporting the application of continuous quality improvement and enhancing the quality maturity of the sector.

Measurements

- WANADA-developed and supported position papers that enable a shared sector voice.
- Case example(s) of WANADA's advocacy activities, including invitation to contribute to sector development as a respected voice.
- Case examples of WANADA's engagement in systems reform that have influenced a response aimed at addressing alcohol and other drug stigma and discrimination.
- Progress against the recommendations of WANADA's Aboriginal Leadership report, including development and delivery of projects that align with the principles of self-determination.
- Members and stakeholders report satisfaction with, and effectiveness of, WANADA's activities.
- Report on development and delivery of activities, that have impacted sector quality and evidence-informed practice.