



Government of **Western Australia**  
Mental Health Commission

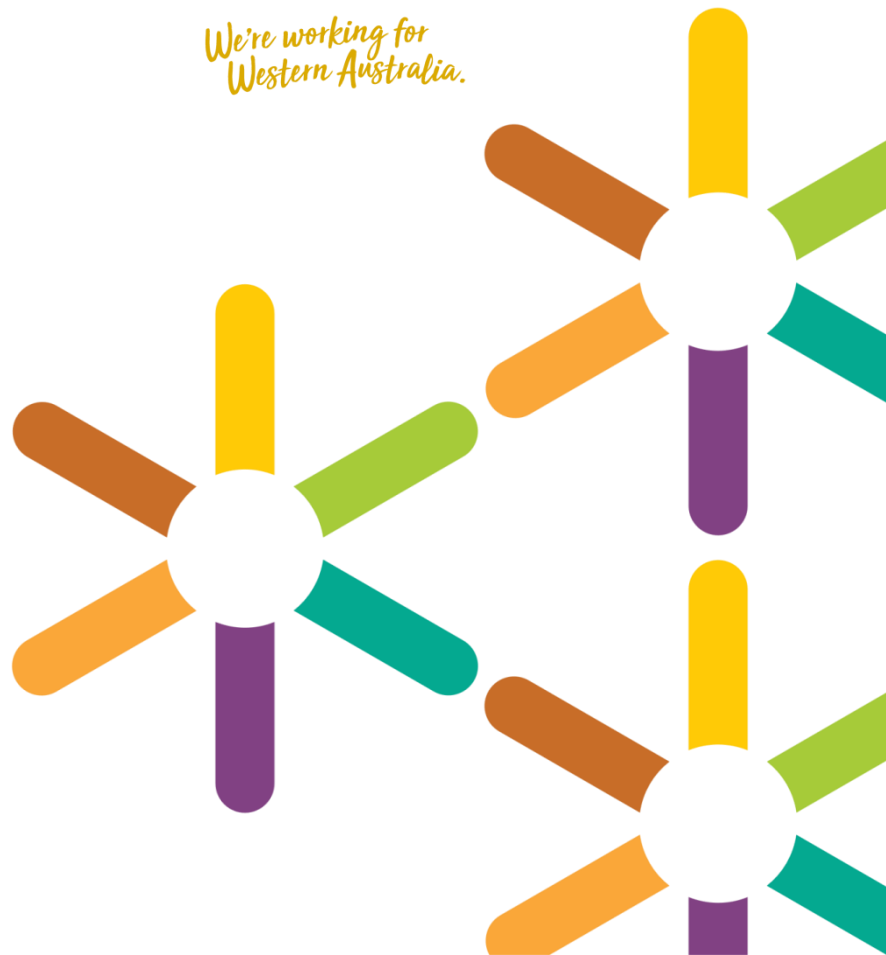
Jo Burnett, Prevention Officer

Community Support and Development Programs Team

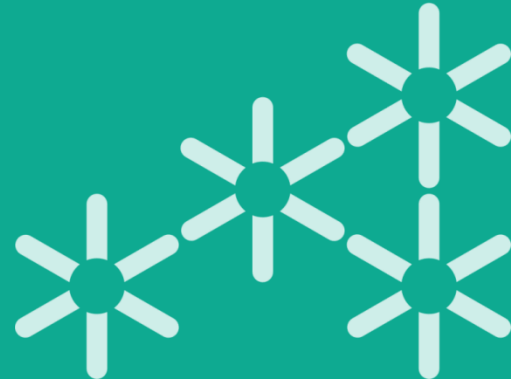
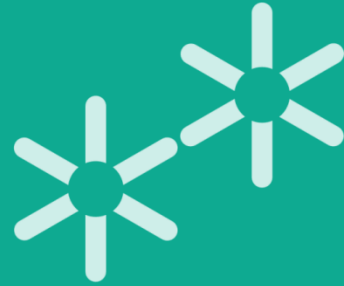
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# Community Support and Development Team

*We're working for  
Western Australia.*



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**Setting the scene**

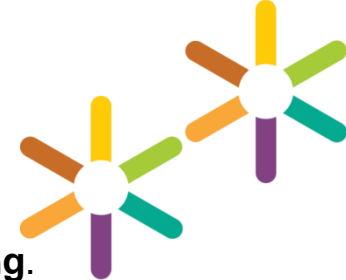


# Why prevention?

- For every \$1 spent on prevention there is a \$14 return on that investment.
- In other terms, for every \$1 invested in effective prevention initiatives, long-term financial savings of up to \$14 can be realised through reducing the need for treatment and other direct/indirect costs (for example, unemployment).



# Why prevention?



**In simplistic terms, prevention is when an action stops something from happening.**

This is where we can have the biggest impact on the health of our communities.

**Health Harms** such as:

- injury;
- chronic conditions and preventable diseases (including lung and other cancers; cardiovascular disease; liver cirrhosis);
- mental health problems; and
- road trauma.

**Economic Harms** associated with:

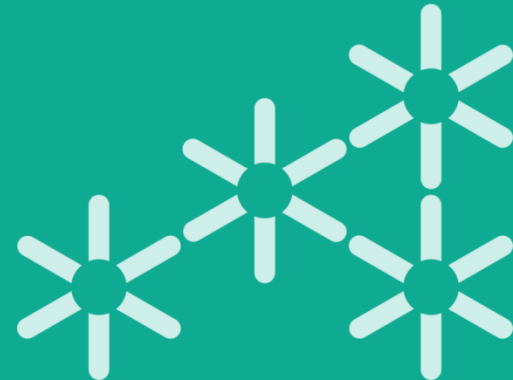
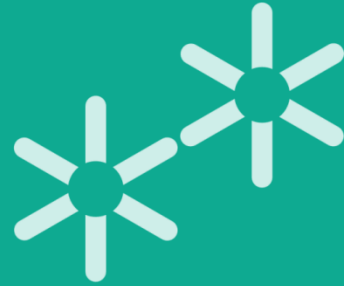
- healthcare and law enforcement costs;
- decreased productivity;
- associated criminal activity; and
- reinforcement of marginalisation and disadvantage.

**Social Harms** including:

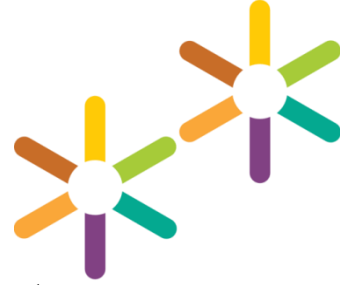
- violence and other crime;
- engagement with the criminal justice system more broadly;
- unhealthy childhood development and trauma;
- intergenerational trauma;
- contribution to domestic and family violence;
- child protection issues; and
- child/family wellbeing.



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How can we help?



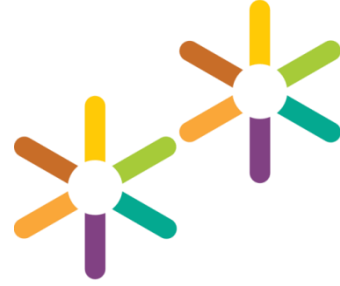
# Where does this fit in?



- There is an increasing demand from communities and agencies to address alcohol and drug related harm and Mental Health and Wellbeing with Local Government being an integral part of this process
- Alcohol and Other Drug Management Plans (AODMP) or Community Wellbeing Plans can create an opportunity for Local Government to strategically address alcohol and drug related harm in Public Health Planning with attention to Objective 1- Empowering and enabling people to live healthy lives. (DOH State PHP for WA 2019-2024)



# Community Support & Development Programs Team

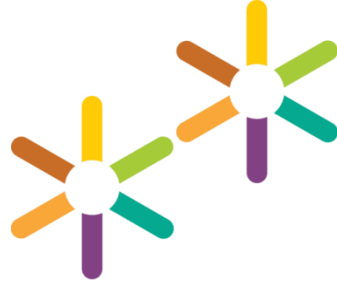


- Targeted capacity building/workforce development for community and agencies (converting evidence into practice).
- Establishing and maintaining state, regional and local networks.
- Influencing funding for evidence-based activities and advocating for targeted funding opportunities.
- Supporting the development of localised initiatives to address local problems such as the development of community driven plans.
- Providing the opportunity for like minded people to work in a mutually constructive manner.



# AOD Prevention Workers

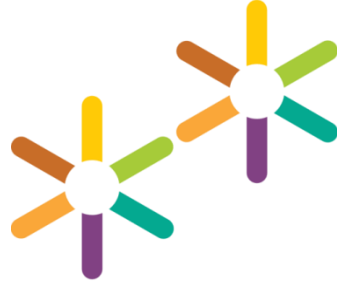
- Capacity building –Community/agency
- Networking
- Agency prevention plans
- Knowledge of the region and what others are doing to address issues
- Facilitate the establishment of AOD management groups to develop and implement AOD management plans - currently 32 plans
- Coordinate the Localising of state-wide campaign messages
- Supporting the implementation of liquor control measures



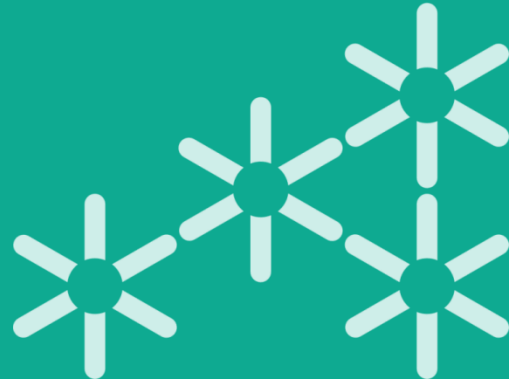
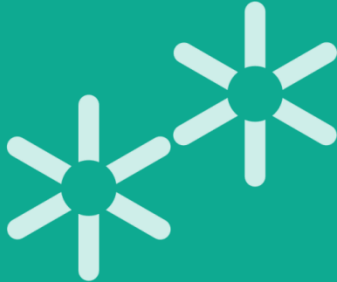


# SP Coordinators

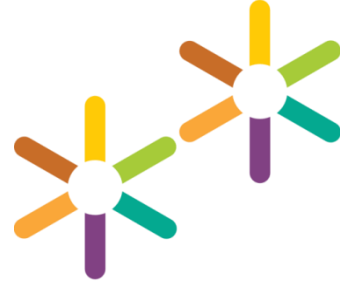
- Promotion/facilitation of suicide prevention and mental health training to increasing local communities and service capacity to identify and respond to suicide and related mental health issues
- Providing suicide postvention coordinated responses to families and communities
- Promotion of mentally healthy workplaces
- Providing public education campaigns and resources tailored to specific age groups and populations
- Assisting local capacity building through Suicide Prevention Community Plans or Wellbeing Plans (SP & AOD)
- Facilitating events to create community dialogue and inspire action in the area of suicide prevention



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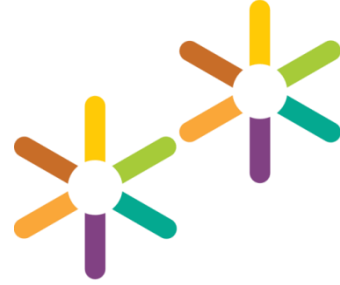
# How can MHC support LG?



- Co-design and work together
- Evidence-based information
- Resources and campaign support material to support locally based programs and initiatives
- Partnerships and collaboration
- Case study examples



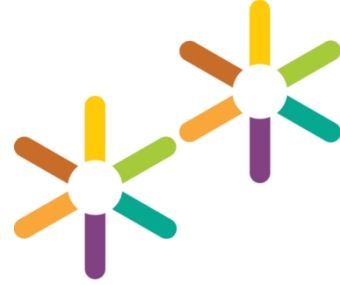
# What do LG's need from MHC?



- Knowing what you know now:
  - What can MHC do to assist you?
  - Can we engage with you about the next steps for us to support you with your public health planning around mental health and other drugs?
  - Q&A



# Contact Us – Community Support and Development



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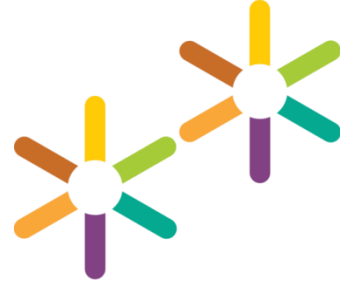
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Additional key performance indicators may be developed over the life of the Strategy as needed that focus on priority groups, drugs of concern and emerging issues.

