

“WE ARE FAMILY” IMPROVING RESPONSIVENESS TO FAMILY & WHANAU IN THE AOD SECTOR IN AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND.

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Introduction / Issues:

Addiction affects people across all demographics and all stages of life and is associated with a range of social and health problems. Issues of dependence can impact upon a broad range of people.

Based on the prevalence of life time substance use disorders (SUD) identified in Te Rau Hinengaro, it was estimated that 12.3% of the population would be likely to have a SUD at some stage of their life. In today's terms that would mean approximately 565-566,000 people in Aotearoa New Zealand may develop a SUD at some stage of their lives. In terms of the impact on family and whanau. NCAT, in the infographic “Shaping The Sector” estimate 4 people will be directly affected by SUD (finances, relationship problems, violence, emotional neglect etc.) then potentially a further 1,100,000 people will at some stage of their lives be affected by substance use and in need of support in their own right.

Method:

Research by Orford et al indicate two related needs

- To receive advice and support in their own right
- To be supportive of the relative's treatment and be involved if useful

Discussion:

This suggests AOD services need to be equipped to be responsive to these needs. In this presentation we will describe and discuss how Matua Raki is responding by providing training and support to equip the sector with practical evidence based intervention skills, including “The 5-step Method’ & “Single Session Family Therapy.”

Disclosure of Interest Statement:

Nothing to disclose

References:

Orford, J., Copello, A., Velleman, R., & Templeton, L. (2010a) *Family members affected by a close relative's addiction: The stress-strain-coping-support model*. *Drugs: Education, Prevention and Policy*, 17(S1), 36-43

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