



Strategic Plan 2009 – 2012

Including 2009/10 Activity Plan



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Anex was founded in 1995 out of an informal network of service providers. In 2004, representatives from Australian Needle and Syringe Programs (NSPs) endorsed Anex as the national voice and advocate for NSPs and harm reduction.

Anex does not condone drug use but works to protect people from drug related harm when at their most vulnerable.

Anex is an independent non-profit public health organisation. Our original goal of connecting front line experience with policy and program responses to drug use issues still stands. Our activities increase capacity to prevent and reduce drug related harms. We seek to increase understanding and improve responses to drug problems.

This Strategic Plan outlines Anex's goals and priority areas for the next three years. This document also identifies shorter-term activities we have committed to undertake over the 2009/10 year to bring us closer to these strategic goals.

By 2010, NSPs will have helped to prevent 25,000 HIV infections, 21,000 hepatitis C infections, and 4,500 HIV deaths.



Anex Vision

A society in which all individuals and communities are free from drug-related harm.

Anex Mission

To prevent and reduce drug related harm by supporting evidence based policy and practice.

What we do

We increase the community's capacity to respond to drug use problems through:

- **Research and policy development**
- **Education and capacity development**

Why we do it

In Australia

- One in every seven people are illicit drug users.
- Illicit drugs cost \$18.3 million per day in crime, health care and lost productivity.
- 215 drug related arrests are made every day.
- 300 people die from drug overdose in a year.
- Each day, there are 33 people diagnosed with hepatitis C infection for the first time, mostly from injecting drug use.

Internationally

- 28 million people are physically or psychologically dependent on drugs.
- More than half of the 158 countries where illicit drug use is reported support harm reduction policies and programs to prevent and reduce drug related harm.

Goal 1

A highly capable, recognised and resourced harm reduction services sector

Priority areas	Activities
Promotion and development of the capability of the harm prevention and reduction workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing support to the NSP sector through initiatives such as the Anex Bulletin, Conference, NSP Forum and NSP Network Meetings. • Development and delivery of the Anex Pharmacotherapy Network to support pharmacotherapy service providers. • Address the gaps in NSP service delivery for people who inject drugs from culturally and linguistically diverse communities.
Promotion of harm reduction to ensure adequate funding, support and recognition of the sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for improved NSP services in community settings. • Advocate for prison based NSPs in Australia. • Partner with the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation to improve access to harm reduction services for Indigenous Australians.
Completion of high quality research that will continue to increase the evidence base for harm prevention and reduction and inform best practice for the sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further Anex's research contribution upon advice of its Research Advisory Committee. • Map drug-related issues in regional Victoria and understanding the challenges facing regional service providers. • Rapid situational assessments of pharmacotherapy and other harm reduction services. • Research into factors that will improve the safe disposal of used injecting equipment.

Goal 2

An informed and engaged community that understands and supports harm prevention and reduction approaches to drug issues

Priority areas

Increase the general public's knowledge and awareness of harm prevention and reduction approaches to drug issues

Activities

- Develop and implement a program of community engagement that includes engagement of community organisations.
- Identify opportunities to translate Anex's current programs and activities into communication materials.
- Provide support to workplaces on drug and alcohol issues including advocating for NSPs in custodial settings as an OH&S issue.

Goal 3

A highly capable and sustainable organisation with fruitful strategic relationships

Priority areas	Activities
Continue to grow and diversify Anex's revenue streams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development and implementation of a fundraising plan that identifies the best opportunities for contributions to Anex. • Submission of proposals for government-based funding on an opportunistic basis. • Provide services to business.
Further Anex's strategic relationships and partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to build relationships with Anex stakeholders through formal and informal channels. • Continue to initiate and attend meetings and other activities with the aim of building and maintaining relationships with Anex stakeholders. • Develop profile through strategic engagement with community leaders and media.
Continue to develop Anex's organisational management and governance systems to ensure a highly professional, effective and efficient organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued maintenance of good governance practices through regular Board and sub-committee meetings. • Improve Anex's staff performance management and development system. • Ensure compliance with relevant legislation and regulations.