



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **PEAK BODY WELCOMES POSITIVE STORIES.**

The Australasian Therapeutic Communities Association (ATCA) welcomes the Australian National Council on Drugs' (ANCD) Positive Stories initiative.

For too long people with drug and or alcohol issues have been demonized and their families have suffered immensely from negative responses and prejudicial attitudes.

This bright new positive initiative provides inspiring stories of treatment that does work and the notion that there is hope.

Our members currently provide over 45 alcohol and drug rehabilitation programs throughout Australia and New Zealand. These Therapeutic Communities provide treatment to more than 5000 people annually, as well as supporting families affected by drug and alcohol abuse.

Janice Jones, ATCA's Executive Officer said; "Hopefully these positive stories will encourage more people to seek treatment." Ms Jones added; "The provision of more treatment beds would reduce waiting lists and enable a timely response to those seeking assistance."

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