Pathways AOD use and Offending Program
Pathways program

- An evidence-based, manual-guided treatment program for adults with a history of Criminal Conduct and AOD problems
- CBT based program
- Developed in United States
- Rolled out successfully across Queensland
- Can be delivered in prison and community settings
Who delivers Pathways

- Dept of Corrective Services
- Cyrenian House
- Holyoake
- Aboriginal Alcohol and Drug Service
- Women’s Health and Family Services
- Warminda
Program Goals

• Prevent recidivism into criminal thinking and conduct
• Prevent relapse into substance use and abuse
• Help clients to live a meaningful and responsible life
Primary Objectives

To learn, practice and apply:

- Cognitive self-control and change skills to everyday living
- Relationship skills that lead to prosocial and positive outcomes
- Community responsibility skills that lead to prosocial behaviour
Program Structure

- 50 Sessions
- 12 Treatment Modules
- 3 Program Phases – Challenge to Change, Commitment to Change and Ownership of Change
- Primarily run for 2-3 days/week in WA prisons covering 2 sessions per day
Program Content

- Large focus on mental self-control skills
- AOD use patterns and the cycle of addiction
- Communication skills and conflict resolution
- Relapse and reoffending prevention
- Managing stress and depression
- Managing anger and aggression
- Developing empathy
Approach of Pathways

- Interactive approach - Feedback and challenging encouraged
- Role plays, work exercises, group sharing and discussions
- Application of concepts and models to client’s own patterns of behaviour
- Similar to TC concepts i.e. the group itself facilitates change
- Effective in combination with other programs (DATS)
Drug & Alcohol Through-care Service (DATS) and Prison to Parole Program (PPP)
Origins of DATS

• 1995 Government of WA Task Force on Drug Abuse
• 1996 (Dec) Prison to Parole Program
• 2001 Community Drug Summit
• 2009 Drug and Alcohol Through-care Service
The Drug and Alcohol Through-care Service (DATS) is:

an assessment, counselling and referral service for adult offenders with drug and/or alcohol problems.

Aim

To contribute to the reduction of recidivism rates by: providing prisoners who have drug related issues with assessment and brief counselling with the objective of engaging them in a drug treatment program in the community after release on parole.
Who provides DATS?

DATS receives funding from the Department of Corrective Services
PPP receives funding from the Australian Government (DOHA)
How does DATS work?

• Voluntary - available to adult offenders 3 months prior to release date (Metro prisons)
• Supervised or unsupervised release offenders
• Offenders residing in the regions upon release referred to local services
How does DATS work?

- Referrals coordinated through Transitional Managers
- 1:1 counselling in prison setting
- Provide counselling services in community from 6 weeks - 6 months
- DATS can provide links to other services
- Parole Review Board may mandate DATS as condition of parole
Observations

- Importance/benefits of 1:1
- Acceptance by stakeholders
  - DCS
  - Client group
  - Prisons
- PRB mandate as condition of parole
Conclusions

• The drug problem is a community problem and needs to be addressed as such.

• Ideally DATS should not be seen just as a voluntary program, which may or may not be an alternative to prison based programs, but rather as an extension of the PATHWAYS program and integrated into the overall drug intervention treatment for offenders.