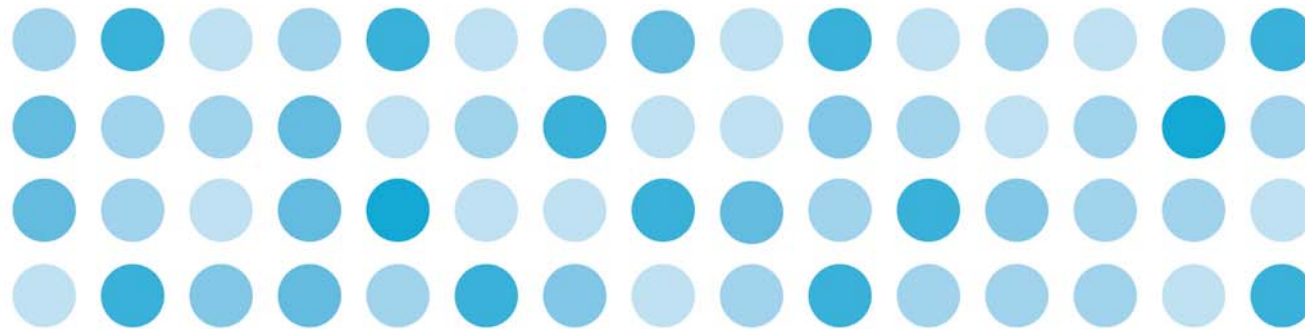


25-26 October 2010
Melbourne Cricket Ground



Anex 2010

AUSTRALIAN DRUGS CONFERENCE

Public Health and Harm Reduction

Shane Garvey



Principal Sponsor



Sponsor





Dinner Parties & Cabarets

Q-ARTS
Shane Garvey

Engaging creatively with
Lesbian Gay Bisexual &
Transgender
Queenslanders



Paintings by Tim Glazema, 2008
'Yesterday Today Tomorrow'

STATES OF MINDS: Mental Health & Wellbeing and Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs in QLD LGBT Communities

To develop state-wide action plans to address both Mental Health and Wellbeing & AoD needs of LGBT Queenslanders.

Plans informed by production of :

- Literature Review
- Communities Consultations
- Community Survey
- Service Provider Consultation
- Services survey

Limitations of 'Health Promotion' and 'Research Methods'



- Exponential diversity in 'LGBT' cultures /tribes
- limitations of 'traditional health promotion' (passive, anti-marketing, high cost)
- limitations of traditional research (community disengagement, research fatigue)





Why are we doing it ?

- Re-new community engagement, mobilisation & citizenship
- Pilot new research dissemination & health promotion techniques focused on diversity
- Develop multi-D evidence-base & picture
- Pilot low cost cultural interventions for health & well being
- Strengthen our research capacity with universities





Our Approach

- Combining Conventional & Action Research & Cultural Interventions
- ‘Research collation : ‘Dinner Parties with tribes’
- ‘Established Q-Arts : to support our Queer Artists to create work as around the findings





Findings : Impacts

- Homophobia & Hetero-Normativity=Social Exclusion
- Mental Health - 27% Depression 40% Anxiety Suicide 3-5 x's
- Illicit Drug Use, Smoking & Alcohol - 2-4 x's higher
- Patterns of Use –Stress & Coping as well as Creating Positive Identity & 'Health-Wise' Use
- Service Limitations (medicalised, homo-bi-trans-phobic, access barriers, few specialised services)





Findings : Influences

- Decade of conservatism, 'PC' & human rights restrictions
- Commodification, stereotyping & mainstreaming of identity
- Limited cultural expression of real diversity & of positive images in public culture
- Globalisation & Community Anomie – fragmentation, movement, disengagement & isolation
- One community !!!? Consumers or Citizens ?
- Creative expression as a 'common language





Q-Arts

- A research, mentoring and production initiative which invited LGBT performers to interpret the research themes in order to engage more directly with LGBT communities
- Connected established & emerging queer artists
- Created practice environments
- Funded queer art projects





Q-Arts Project

- Cabaret Q



Cabaret Q

Wed 30th Sept

Free Event

Free Food provided

A night of queer and quirky performance celebrating the findings of the **States of Mind Project**

Doors open 6.30pm. Shows start at 7pm sharp!! Don't be late or you'll miss your bus!

Shows Finish 9.30pm, then stick around for the after party.

multiple shows over 3 locations in one night

What to do: Meet at QAHC, 30 Helen street, Newstead. You will then be transported by bus with your very own host to secret locations

RSVP Essential. Limited spaces available so get in quick!

Ph: Jan or Tim on 3017 1777 to make a booking



The States of Mind project was funded for 1 year to research mental health & wellbeing and drugs and alcohol in QLD LGBT communities. This event brought to you by Q-ARTS, the creative component of the States of Mind Project

Cabaret Q

- Acted as the launch of the findings
- Cabaret format chosen to engage more directly and creatively to the LGBT community.
- Free event - attracted over 200 attendees

Cabaret Q

- 16 performances over 3 locations: punters transported by bus
- 28 artists engaged
- Large tech crew – volunteers & professionals

Process

ALL artists paid

Established a mentor program: established and emerging

Supported mentors and mentoree's with mentor workshops (Youth Arts Australia)

Supported artists: access to artistic director, dramaturg – Chris Ryan – 3 visits to Bris....

























From the Cabaret Programme:

Stephanie Thuesen *Performance: Little Boxes*

A girl from the bush comes to terms with rampant homophobia and blatant discrimination within her small town. Challenging the dominant attitudes and perceptions of what is 'normal', "Little Boxes" demonstrates how small town communities can get the wrong idea

Our research shows that 50% of regional LGBT Queenslanders have a significant homophobic experience compared to 37% of LGBT people who reside in urban areas

What's next?

Cabaret Q Cairns

- July 2011
- Funded by FebFast Grant

Shane Garvey

sgarvey@qahc.org.au

www.qahc.org.au