# **Annual Report** 2011-2012





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# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



# This year we celebrated FARE's tenth anniversary – and what a year.

Over the last three years the Board has progressively re-positioned FARE to become a leader in the field of the reduction of alcohol-related harm.

We have moved from a grantmaking body, to becoming a proactive and strategic leader, funding key alcohol-related research upon which to base significant policy change, and a leader, advocate and organiser of the efforts to reduce alcohol misuse in Australia.

Our leadership has been across a number of important issues including alcohol pricing, alcohol product labelling and the tragedy of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD). We have a responsibility to promote new thinking, coordinate activity and encourage others to voice their concerns about these important issues. The policy leadership is a clear point of distinction from our former identity, the Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation.

FARE has become a translator of research into policy action. We broker information, analyse research findings, and tease out the policy implications of this work, looking for what works and what doesn't.

FARE continues its involvement in influencing research agendas. By analysing research efforts and learning about knowledge gaps, FARE has been able to direct more efficient research efforts; both through investigator-led and commissioned research.

We have restructured our partnership with the Victorian Government and the University of Melbourne to improve the effectiveness of the Centre for Alcohol Policy Research. This world-class research centre is one of FARE's most treasured partnerships, and Professor Robin Room and his team are a vital part of our work and achievements.

FARE's support for communities continues, but this too is changing. Our financial support for communities is somewhat reduced as we transition from the previous focus on grant-making to this broader sector role. Support will continue at a level that is sustainable, which this year meant about 20 organisations around the country were recipients of FARE funding.

Future support for communities will involve new ways of working for FARE.

To this end I am pleased the Commonwealth Government has commissioned FARE to undertake two modest but important projects, the Department of Health and Ageing's conference grants program and a special project to promote the National Health and Medical Research Council's Alcohol Guidelines. I hope these are portents of a broader relationship with the Commonwealth, which will mean capitalising on

FARE's infrastructure capabilities, its health sector network and its decade of "hands on" experience with large and small organisations and projects across Australia.

This year we have continued our director renewal program. Professor Ian Webster and Tim Costello retired from the FARE board, and were replaced by Professor Kate Conigrave from the University of Sydney, and Jonathan Nicholas, Chief Executive of the Inspire Foundation.

On behalf of the Board, I thank Ian and Tim for their years of service and wonderful contributions to FARE. I welcome Kate and Jonathan who have already shown they will be tremendous assets to our team.

To formally recognise these contributions, the Board this year decided to make Ian and Tim life members of FARE. We have also made former Directors Peter d'Abbs and Anne Mosey life members. These life memberships will provide an enduring relationship with FARE, and recognise the outstanding contributions of these Directors over many years. Congratulations to Anne, Ian, Tim and Peter.

Scott Wilson will retire early next year and I want to pay special tribute to his enormous contributions over these past 11 years. Scott is a former Chairman of the Foundation and is currently its Deputy Chairman. He has been the sole Aboriginal representative on our Board and has played a leading role in shaping much of the organisation's early thinking about working with Indigenous communities and alcohol and drug organisations.

Scott's level-headed thinking about alcohol issues has been appreciated by his fellow Directors and his strong support for FARE's staff is recognised by all. We wish him well.

I also thank the other Directors, David Crosbie, Bernadette Tobin and Peter Thomas for their valuable contributions to FARE over the course of the year.

I too, extend our gratitude to our grantee organisations and collaborating partners for their special efforts in taking on one of Australia's toughest problems – alcohol-related harm.

Finally, I thank our Chief Executive, Michael Thorn who has already demonstrated strategic vision and "lifted the bar" for the whole organisation. And of course I thank our passionate and dedicated management team and staff for their professional efforts and for making FARE the standout non-government organisation that it has become.

I will also be standing down as Chairman in the near future and I would like to recognise what a great privilege and honour it has been to serve as a Director and then Chairman of FARE over the past 11 years.

There have been many achievements during this time and some that stand out as highlights. Commissioning the world-first study, *The Range and Magnitude of Alcohol's Harm to Others* has been ground breaking research that will reframe the debate about alcohol misuse in the same way that passive smoking research did for tobacco. I am sure history will judge us well for this investment.

The \$4 million in seed funding provided to the Australian Drug Foundation to develop the *Good Sports Program* has helped more than 4,800 community sporting clubs across Australia. *Good Sports*, now with Commonwealth and State government funding, helps clubs all over Australia manage alcohol responsibly and address alcohol problems, such as binge drinking, in their communities.

Providing a deeper understanding and much needed medical and policy direction to efforts to combat FASD has been a significant FARE achievement. More than \$2 million has been invested in various measures, including \$500,000 in a range of special research projects, including the establishment of the first ever FASD diagnostic clinic in Australia.

A final highlight was the \$5 million funding partnership with the Victorian Government to establish the first Australian drug and alcohol rehabilitation service solely dedicated to helping young Aboriginal people.

We are in excellent shape and I believe that the time is ripe, as there appears to be a confluence of public, government and media desire for change. The tipping point is now. The cost of the misuse of alcohol to our society is now recognised and the desire for constructive change is clear.

FARE stands ready to provide strong leadership and effective evidence-based research upon which to base sound policy and good decisions that promote a healthy and safe Australian society.

# Cheryl Bart

Chairman

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Sometimes you need to go to the end of the earth to get what you want. Well, I went to Walcha in September 2011 to attend a regional tax forum organised by independents Tony Windsor and Rob Oakeshott. I went to argue the case for alcohol's inclusion at Treasurer Wayne Swan's Tax Summit that was to be held in Canberra in October 2011.

This was a successful foray and is indicative of the ongoing transformation of FARE in leading the public debate about alcohol reform in this country.

Prevailing circumstances have been conducive for invigorating this transformation.

The Blewett Report was released in January 2011 and governments undertook to respond to its some 60 recommendations by the end of the year. This provided the focus and the impetus for FARE to develop and prosecute the case for meaningful alcohol product health warnings.

FARE took the lead on behalf of the public health sector, developing the policy and designing model labels.

The launch of the policy at Parliament in August 2011 was the beginning of intensive campaigning efforts that lasted until December, when the Australian and New Zealand Food and Health Ministers decided to mandate pregnancy warning labels from December 2013.

Similarly, the Government's promise during the 2010 election campaign to hold a tax summit provided focus for a campaign to reform alcohol taxation, and in particular to replace the harmful Wine Equalisation Tax with a volumetric tax

This ongoing effort by FARE has been significant in raising awareness about the Review into Australia's taxation system, and the incoherence of alcohol taxation in this country. The campaign, led by the National Alliance for Action on Alcohol, was backed by FARE through commissioned economic research, policy development, and advocacy on this major issue.

Our efforts to raise awareness about Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) among decision-makers, has also brought significant credit to the organisation. FARE has been able to bring together a disparate group of researchers, families and carers, and policy makers to build the momentum for reform. I am optimistic that this will bring about real change for those affected by FASD and significantly reduce the rates of this entirely preventable disability.

These have been great achievements and it is reasonable to claim that progress is being made on many fronts. But it can be hard work in the face of political ambivalence about the need for reform and the Government's reluctance to accept what the evidence is telling them.

These efforts have combined to move along alcohol policy reform and to significantly boost FARE's profile and community recognition. This has been an important part of our other ambition to become a truly independent charitable foundation.

This ambition reveals itself in the redefining of the organisation, through our renaming from the Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation, to FARE and the complete transformation of our look and feel. This new look is one of optimism and faith in the future; a future that we can control.

The Annual Alcohol Poll once again showed that more than three quarters of Australians think Australia has a problem with alcohol, and a similar number want something done about it. This confirms FARE's decision to play a leadership role in advocating for evidenced-based alcohol policy reform.

Our strong media presence is an important part of this leadership role as it supports and encourages others to participate in the robust public debate. This year we sponsored the establishment of the blog *Drink Tank* to facilitate public discussion about alcohol reform and issues of concern among the Australian community. *Drink Tank* is a platform for people to express their opinions and to write about their experiences with alcohol and its use in Australia.

The alcohol evidence-base continues to grow as a direct consequence of FARE's significant and ongoing investment in research. FARE has renewed its \$2 million commitment to Professor Robin Room's Centre for Alcohol Policy Research in our terrific partnership with the Victorian Government, Turning Point Drug and Alcohol Centre and the University of Melbourne. Our strategic investment in commissioned research and an ongoing commitment to investigator-led research will continue to be a high priority.

Support for communities through our project funding continues to be an important area of work. This year another 20 organisations have been beneficiaries of FARE funding, increasing the total number of projects funded over the last decade to nearly 1,500. Currently, there are more than 50 active projects on our books.

These achievements have been a tremendous platform for FARE's fundraising efforts. Five *Conversations by Candlelight* dinners were held around Australia. These select dinners attended by industry leaders, decision-makers and alcohol experts are exposing a range of new people to FARE's issues of concern, and contributing to our growing network and support base.

Finally, none of this would have been possible without the loyal support of FARE's Directors. I thank them. And of course the achievements of the last 12 months have been delivered by a terrific staff team. This team is developing an enviable reputation in the alcohol and other drugs sector as clever, innovative and results-driven.

# **Michael Thorn**

Chief Executive

# **ABOUT US**

FARE is an independent charitable organisation working to prevent the harmful use of alcohol in Australia.

Our mission is to help Australia change the way it drinks by:

- helping communities to prevent and reduce alcohol-related harms
- building the case for alcohol policy reform
- engaging Australians in conversations about our drinking culture

## **Our work**

At FARE we know that we have a responsibility to help everyday Australians deal with alcohol issues.

We strive to make Australia a safer, healthier and happier place by supporting community-led, sustainable programs. To do this, we work with community leaders and local not-for-profit organisations to create lasting and meaningful change.

By empowering communities to address the issues that affect them, FARE is actively supporting longterm community development.

At a local level, we support the individuals and communities that need the most help. We also partner with leading research institutes and universities to build the evidence base for alcohol policy reform.

# **Our strategic focus**

- Policy and advocacy
   Pursue public policy reforms that will prevent the harms caused by alcohol misuse.
- Research and development
   Support research that contributes
   to the evidence-base on alcohol
   misuse and supports FARE's
   public policy objectives.
- 3. Community education and engagement
  Educate and engage the Australian community about alcohol, its use and its harms.
- Helping communities
   Directly support Australian communities by providing resources to respond to alcohol-related harm.
- Economic sustainability
   Manage FARE's resources in an economically efficient and sustainable manner.

# Why we do what we do

Every year around 10 million Australians are negatively affected by another person's drinking. There are some 367 deaths, 14,000 hospitalisations, 70,000 victims of alcohol-related violence, 24,000 victims of domestic violence, and almost 20,000 children who are victims of substantiated alcoholrelated child abuse every year.

Behind each of these statistics stand thousands of real people whose lives have been adversely affected.

FARE is promoting a healthier drinking culture because we believe that no mother, child, family or community should have to bear the brunt of alcohol-related harm.

# **HIGHLIGHTS**

# Celebrating 10 years of service to the Australian community

October 2011 saw FARE celebrate its 10th Anniversary at Old Parliament House in Canberra. The staff team was joined by Directors, past and present, parliamentarians, alcohol and other drugs sector colleagues, emergency services representatives, health professionals, and friends. Keynote presentations were delivered by Chairman Cheryl Bart, retiring Director Professor Ian Webster, the Ted Noffs Foundation's Matt Noffs and the McCusker Centre's

After 10 years of serving the Australian community, the Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation proudly revealed its new branding and name, the Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education, or FARE for short. FARE has received a great deal of positive feedback and congratulatory messages from key stakeholders on the organisation's new positioning and strategic focus.

A fun and festive night was had by all, with a highlight of the evening being the announcement of the establishment of the Professor lan Webster Scholarship; an annual \$10,000 competitive scholarship to support

"Love the new name and it has so many different and positive meanings."

- **Vicki Russell**, Drug Education Network Tasmania. "Congratulations to all concerned at FARE for the great new name and new look website!"

> - **Sue Miers AM**, NOFASARD.



the building of leadership and management capacity in the alcohol and other drugs sector

Since the launch of the new branding and website, FARE has seen significant uptake in E News Bulletin subscriptions, new relationships and alliances developed in the social media space and a greater level of engagement and interest in FARE's research and policy initiatives.



# Annual Alcohol Poll 2012

A majority of Australians (seventy nine per cent) see no end in sight to the country's alcohol-related problems and believe the issue will get worse, or at best, remain the same over the next five to ten years.

That was just one of the major findings of FARE's *Annual Alcohol Poll*.

Now in its third year, the Annual Alcohol Poll: Attitudes and Behaviours, gives Australians a voice, revealing what they think about alcohol, what they feel about their own drinking, and their attitudes and support for various alcohol policies.





The 2012 Poll again found that threequarters (75 per cent) of Australians believe that Australia has a problem with excess drinking or alcohol abuse, and that more needs to be done to reduce the harm caused by alcohol-related illness, injury, death and related issues.

When compared to the gambling, tobacco and fast food industries, the alcohol industry was least likely to be perceived as doing the most to address the harm that arises from its products.

Australians' consumption of alcohol in 2012 remained stable when compared to 2010 and 2011, with 81 per cent of people consuming alcohol. There was a significant increase in the number of Australians consuming six standard drinks or more on a typical occasion, with 16 per cent of people reporting this, up from 12 per cent in 2011. A significant number of Australians continue to drink to excess, with over four million Australians reporting drinking alcohol to get drunk, and over two million doing so at least once a month.

The Poll also highlighted a lack of awareness around alcohol use and misuse. Only 14 per cent of Australians are aware of the content of the National Health and Medical Research Council's Australian Guidelines to Reduce the Risks from Drinking Alcohol (Alcohol Guidelines). The Alcohol Guidelines recommend that no alcohol is safest for pregnant women; however 25 per cent of people estimated that a pregnant woman could safely consume one or more standard drinks.

When asked how many standard drinks are contained in different alcohol products, Australian drinkers were mostly unable to provide accurate estimates and were particularly likely to underestimate the number of standard drinks in a bottle of wine.

When asked about support for specific policies to address alcohol-related harms, 61 per cent of Australians believe that health information labels should be placed on alcohol products, and 64 per cent support a ban of alcohol advertising on television before 8:30pm.

# Launch of the Conversations by Candlelight Dinner

This year, FARE entered an active phase of community building. It was an important exercise, as FARE sought to raise its profile with key groups and corporate stakeholders outside the alcohol and other drug sector.

A main component of the community building strategy was the *Conversations by Candlelight* dinner series. Designed to raise awareness of alcohol as an issue of national importance, build FARE's brand profile, and engage with key stakeholders, the five intimate events in Sydney, Melbourne and Perth encouraged round table discussion about alcohol and Australia's drinking culture.

The events provided a range of businesses, community leaders, and opinion leaders with an opportunity to share their thoughts on alcohol, its impacts on their particular sector, and potential solutions to some of the issues needing to be addressed.



"Such a thought provoking and insightful evening – the range of attendees, diversity of industries and variety of approaches all provided a useful insight into the depth of issues surrounding alcohol – and left my mind swirling with so many ideas and opportunities."

- Andrew McMahon, Manager Health, Safety, Employment and Skills, NSW Minerals Council

# **Tax Day of Action**

On 6 July 2011, FARE and the National Alliance for Action on Alcohol (NAAA) led a coalition of Australia's leading health bodies in calling on the Federal Government to put alcohol pricing on the agenda of the Federal Tax Forum in October.

Health experts from across Australia briefed more than 50 parliamentarians from all sides of politics on the impact of pricing policies in reducing the harms caused by alcohol and the \$36 billion annual cost in Australia.

The Tax Day of Action was the first major effort of the year to drive one of FARE's key strategic goals – to reform alcohol pricing. The significance of the event was marked by the Government giving its first public indication that it would be placing alcohol pricing on the Tax Forum agenda, with the then Health Minister Nicola Roxon putting her support for a review of alcohol taxes on the public record.

FARE will continue to apply pressure to the Treasurer to review and reform alcohol taxation throughout the year.



# Introducing *Drink Tank* - Australia's conversation space about alcohol

On 30 March 2012 FARE launched a new online conversation space that's all about discussing and debating alcohol issues. The blog, *Drink Tank*, aims to bring people together from across Australia and the globe, to showcase a wide range of opinions and perspectives about alcohol policy and related community concerns.

Since the official launch on 30 March, *Drink Tank* has generated a groundswell of attention from a range of FARE's stakeholders, including mainstream media and professional bloggers, politicians and influencers in the health sector, as well as everyday Australians.

The West Australian's Medical Editor, Cathy O'Leary predicted that Drink Tank "...may provide a welcome middle ground in a debate that's far from over." In other signs that mainstream media are following Drink Tank closely, the Australian Financial Review's (AFR) Rear Window columnist was quick to criticise Professor Mike Daube and his post on Drink Tank about the issue of 'wowserism.' This was promptly followed up by a letter to the AFR

editor from Warwick Anderson, Chief Executive of the National Health and Medical Research Council pointing out the column's incorrect claims.

Melissa Sweet, Health Writer for Croakey (Crikey's Health Blog) acknowledged *Drink Tank's* arrival writing "the opportunities of the digital age are changing the way public health advocates engage with the wider community, as evidenced by the recent launch of *Drink Tank*, a new 'conversation space' for discussions about alcohol."

To date, *Drink Tank* has featured a range of authors and showcased a broad spectrum of opinions including that of Journalist Lucy Kippist, Julia Stafford from the McCusker Centre for Action on Alcohol and Youth, and MPs Richard Di Natale, Andrew Laming, and Andrew Leigh who shared their thoughts on the results of FARE's *Annual Alcohol Poll*.

Visit Drink Tank at ww.drinktank.org.au



# FARE's health warning labels

What should an alcohol warning label look like?

On 16 August FARE released its policy position and model health warning labels for alcohol products at Parliament House, Canberra. The labels included messages that drinking any alcohol can harm unborn babies, damage young developing brains, and increase the risk of cancer. Other messages warn against drinking and driving, and the risk of injury.

The model labels were launched as the Australia and New Zealand Food Regulation Ministerial Council prepared its response to the Blewett report on food labelling.

In developing the labels, FARE consulted with leading Australian health experts including Professor Simone Pettigrew from the University of Western Australia, Professor Melanie Wakefield, Director of the Centre for Behavioural Research in Cancer, Professor Sandra Jones, University of Wollongong, Maurice Rickard, Australian Medical Association, Claire Wilkinson, Centre for Alcohol Policy Research and Brian Vandenberg, VicHealth.

FARE's policy urged that for health warning labels to be most effective they need to be government-regulated, applied consistently across all products, include a range of specific and rotating messages, and be accompanied by a comprehensive public education campaign.

# **Booze Before Babies**

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) was an important focus of FARE's work with the Commonwealth Government's response to FASD now at a critical juncture in Australia. November 2011 saw the announcement of a Parliamentary Inquiry into FASD by the House of Representatives. The inquiry provided an historic opportunity for governments to develop a long term strategy for the prevention of FASD and to make a significant difference in the lives of people with FASD, and their families and carers.

The Inquiry received five submissions from alcohol industry bodies. FARE put the industry submissions under the microscope by examining the legitimacy of the alcohol industry's claims. From this, FARE published a report on 24 May, titled *Booze Before babies*. Timed to coincide with a presentation to the Inquiry by members of the alcohol industry, the report identified three themes in the industry submissions, namely:

- the minimising of FASD as an issue in Australia and 'talking down' the need for action
- the suggestion that current industry activities are sufficient to prevent FASD
- false or misleading claims about the possible effects of public health interventions to prevent FASD.

The release of *Booze Before Babies* was covered in the Sydney Morning Herald and by Channel Ten's news program 'The Project', which explored the wider issue of alcohol consumption during pregnancy and whether or not alcohol warning labels are a viable policy response.



# OUR COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Our national grants program helps some of Australia's most vulnerable communities to identify the causes of their alcohol-related issues, and address them with practical, local solutions.

The program provides communities with the money they need to make long-term improvements in their lives, and in the lives of their families.

This year, the grants program provided support to 20 projects across Australia valued at \$325,000. The FARE team continued to manage over 100 active community projects that were funded in previous years.



# One Sunday at a time: Hello Sunday Morning Evaluation

FARE supports communities and organisations around the country with the aim of changing the way Australians drink. An important element of that support is the critical and rigorous assessment and evaluation of projects to ensure that the lessons learnt can be confidently shared more widely, to the benefit of communities around the country. A FARE grant to fund the evaluation of the innovative online initiative, *Hello Sunday Morning*, was one such assessment.

Hello Sunday Morning (HSM) is a blogging website that encourages people to undertake a period of sobriety and reflect on the role alcohol plays in their life. The research project examined what participants blogged about, what their motivations, goals and challenges were, and how their alcohol consumption and expectations changed over time.

The research report was launched at Parliament House, Canberra with the support of the Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Primary Healthcare, Dr Andrew Southcott and Greens health spokesperson Senator Richard Di Natale; who both signed up for a break from alcohol and blogged about their journeys.

The evaluation found that HSM is helping people change their behaviour and improve their health. An analysis of 1,768 blogs shows that over a period of three months of not drinking, participants embark on a journey of self-reflection. It begins with a focus on their own drinking and that of their peers, shifts to reflecting on the role alcohol plays in their lives, and finally, to looking at the role of alcohol in society, and how to best help and support others in their own HSM journeys.

Chris Raine, the founder and CEO of HSM attended the launch and said the use of social media has been the key to successfully reaching young people and helping them to change their behaviour and improve their health.

# The Four C's 4 Court program

This project was designed to enhance the skills of alcohol and other drug (AOD) workers to enable them to better support their clients involved in the court system.

The Victorian Alcohol and Drug Association (VAADA) received funding from FARE to deliver six workshops throughout metropolitan and regional Victoria to over 160 participants. The main objectives of the project were to:

- improve AOD workers' understanding of the court system and processes and the responsibilities for children and young people
- provide AOD workers with training in giving written and oral evidence and
- build links between the AOD sector, child protection, family services and the criminal justice system.

The program's success can be seen in the subsequent development of relationships between service users, AOD service providers, health and community sectors, and the broader community, resulting in a more collaborative and consistent approach to addressing AOD-related harms. Following on from the program's success in implementing this project, the Network of Alcohol & Drug Agencies (NADA) have commenced delivering a similar project in NSW.

# The Yarn-Up program

The challenges of living in a remote community with very few youth activities and high rates of social disadvantage will be addressed as part of a new youth project in Coonamble, a town on the central-western plains of NSW.

The 'Yarn-Up' project encompasses free after school activities for high school students, allowing them to explore their own behaviours around alcohol and take a leadership role in developing a community message on alcohol misuse.

The project's primary goals are to increase the capacity of participants to respond to the negative impacts of drinking behaviours of family members, and increase the dialogue and connection between young Aboriginal people and Elders in the community.

During the campaign, a resource will be developed which will be shared with the broader community together with a plan for intergenerational and intercommunity connectedness.

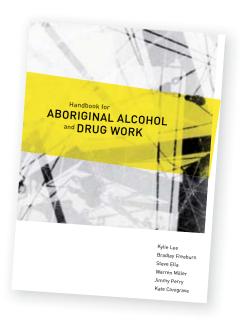
# Indigenous Clinicians Substance Misuse Handbook

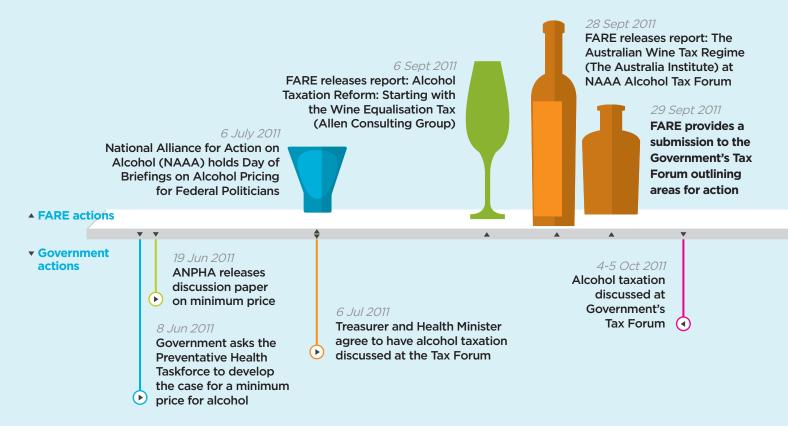
This plain English, evidencebased guide, written with and for Aboriginal people, is the first of its kind in Australia.

Developed by the University of Sydney, the resource provides information on alcohol and other substances, covering the use of the substance through to treatment options for risky, hazardous, and harmful misuse. The handbook also contains sections on tips for clinicians, special groups and situations, comorbidity, and legal issues.

Much of the content was either written or reviewed by Aboriginal professionals who work in the AOD field.

With no equivalent publication as widely accessible, the new resource has been welcomed by workers with many noting that the handbook does not require the reader to have knowledge of advanced science, and is highly informative and authoritative.





#### **FARE actions**

## 6 July 2011 - NAAA holds Day of Briefings on Alcohol Pricing for Federal Politicians

Public health experts from more than 20 leading health organisations and institutions briefed over 50 politicians to call for a commitment to including alcohol taxation at the Government's Tax Forum

# 6 September 2011 - FARE releases report: Alcohol Taxation Reform: Starting with the Wine Equalisation Tax (Allen Consulting Group)

FARE commissioned the Allen Consulting Group to model different scenarios for alcohol tax reform. Launched at Parliament House in Canberra, a panel of experts discussed why the WET is bad for the economy, bad for health, and bad for the Australian wine industry.

# 28 September 2011 - FARE releases report: The Australian Wine Tax Regime (The Australia Institute) at NAAA Alcohol Tax Forum

FARE commissioned The Australia Institute to determine the veracity of claims made by the Wine Federation of Australia (WFA) that wine tax reform would result in a fall in production of 34 per cent and the loss of up to 12,000 Australian jobs. The report was launched at NAAA's Alcohol Tax Forum hosted by the Australian Medical Association (AMA), and concluded that the WFA exaggerated claims of the impact of tax reform on the Australian wine industry.

# 29 September 2011 - FARE provides a submission to the Government's Tax Forum outlining areas for action

FARE's submission called for three key actions: replacing the WET with a volumetric rate of taxation, abolishing the WET rebate and replacing it with a more targeted structural adjustment regime and carrying out an analysis of the broader alcohol taxation regime.

# 30 April 2012 - FARE and other leading public health organisations write to the Prime Minister calling for urgent action on alcohol taxation

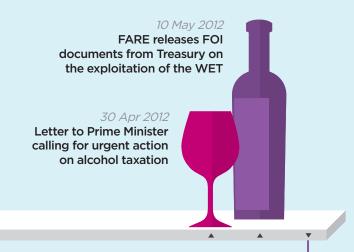
On 30 April 2012 FARE, AMA, Cancer Council Victoria and the McCusker Centre for Action on Alcohol and Youth appealed directly to the Prime Minister to simplify Australia's alcohol tax system by immediately reforming the WET, saying that this move would reduce the harms of alcohol misuse and raise \$1.5 billion each year to fund public health programs.

# 10 May 2012 - FARE releases FOI documents from Treasury on the exploitation of the WET

FARE released Treasury documents gained through a Freedom of Information (FOI) request on 10 May 2012, showing that the WFA's claim that the WET rebate is being exploited 'to the tune of \$50 million per year', did not have any supporting evidence and was an 'order of magnitude estimate only.'

# Alcohol taxation and pricing timeline

Alcohol pricing reform is proven to be one of the most effective ways to reduce alcohol-related harms. A key focus of FARE's activities is to encourage the Government to address Australia's incoherent alcohol taxation system. This task is far from over, but throughout the year FARE contributed significantly to increasing the evidence-base on alcohol taxation policy to raise awareness of the need for reform. With the current alcohol tax system failing to adequately recognise the extent of alcohol-related harms, the need for FARE to continue to press for reform is essential. This will be an integral part of FARE's work over the next 12 months.



8 May 2012

Government announces measures to tighten WET rebate in Budget

#### **Government actions**

# 8 June 2011 - Government asks the Preventative Health Taskforce to develop the case for a minimum price for alcohol

The then Health Minister, the Hon Nicola Roxon, called on the Australian National Preventive Health Agency (ANPHA) to develop a public interest case for a minimum price for alcohol in Australia.

# 19 June 2011 - ANPHA releases discussion paper on minimum price

On 19 June 2011 ANPHA released a discussion paper Exploring the Public Interest Case for a Minimum (floor) Price for Alcohol in response to the Health Minister's call to develop a public interest case.

# 6 July 2011 - Treasurer and Health Minister agree to have alcohol taxation on the Agenda at the Tax Forum

In response to the NAAA Day of Alcohol Pricing Briefings at Parliament House, the then Health Minister Nicola Roxon, announced that there was a "growing alliance of people who are interested in talking in a very detailed way about alcohol taxation and the Treasurer has made clear he's happy for that to be on the agenda" at the Tax Forum.

# 4-5 October 2011 - Alcohol taxation is discussed at Government's Tax Forum

Alcohol taxation was raised at the Tax Forum with the facilitator, Paul Clitheroe clearly stating that "Alcohol actually is formally on the agenda..." Economist John Freebairn, then Greens leader Bob Brown and Chief Executive Officer at Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association

Prue Power all raised the issue, with Ms Power stating that "As far as an alcohol tax is concerned, there is a lot of evidence to suggest that there's a strong link between price, consumption of alcohol and harms and particularly for young people. So I think this nation must consider looking at alcohol tax. We need a taskforce".

Unfortunately, despite the interest in alcohol taxation, the Government took no action on the issue following the Tax Forum.

# 8 May 2012 - Government announces measures to tighten WET rebate in Budget

In the 2012-13 Budget, the Commonwealth Government announced that they would tighten the WET rebate by amending the wine producer rebate "to ensure that wine producers will not be able to claim multiple rebates for the same quantity of wine, beyond the total amount of wine equalisation tax payable."

#### **FARE actions**

# 16 August 2011 - FARE releases its alcohol labelling policy and model alcohol labels

FARE released its comprehensive position on alcohol health warning labels and consumer information, which was developed in consultation with a range of public health organisations and drew on the existing evidence-base. FARE also released model alcohol health warning labels.

# 5 September 2011 - FARE provides submission to the Government on Labelling Logic report

FARE provided a submission to the Government consultation on the Labelling Logic report on food labelling. Within the submission, FARE called for health warning labels to be applied to all alcohol products sold in Australia.

# 9 November 2011 - FARE releases report: Alcohol health warning labels: attitudes and perceptions (Galaxy Research)

FARE commissioned Galaxy Research to carry out market testing to determine the extent of community support for alcohol health warning labels. The research found that a majority (58 per cent) of Australians support the application of health warnings on alcohol products.

# 30 November 2011 - FARE releases report: Alcohol health labelling: community perceptions of the FARE and DrinkWise model alcohol labels (Galaxy Research)

FARE commissioned Galaxy Research to carry out market testing to determine community perspectives of the effectiveness of both the FARE model alcohol warning labels and the DrinkWise consumer information messages for alcohol. The report found that the FARE labels were selected as being superior to the DrinkWise labels in all respects.

# 9 December 2011 - FARE and other leading health and community leaders write to the Legislative and Governance Forum on Food Regulation calling for action on alcohol labels

In an open letter to members of the Legislative and Governance Forum on Food Regulation (FoFR), 63 leading health and community professionals, including two former Australians of the year, urged effective action to warn women about the effects of alcohol consumption during pregnancy.

# 22 February 2012 - FARE releases documents attained through FOI request showing the Government ignored its own research on pregnancy warning labels

In February 2012 FARE publicly released two reports gained via an FOI request to Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ). These reports highlighted that pregnancy warning labels on alcohol products are cost effective, have the potential to prevent cases of FASD and should be mandatory.





One of the most effective aspects of alcohol health warning labels is that they promote health messages at the point of sale and at the point of consumption in a way that other health promotion initiatives do not. When alcohol warning labels are properly implemented with mandated regulations on the specifics of warning messages, design, and application; this policy can both increase awareness and change behaviour.

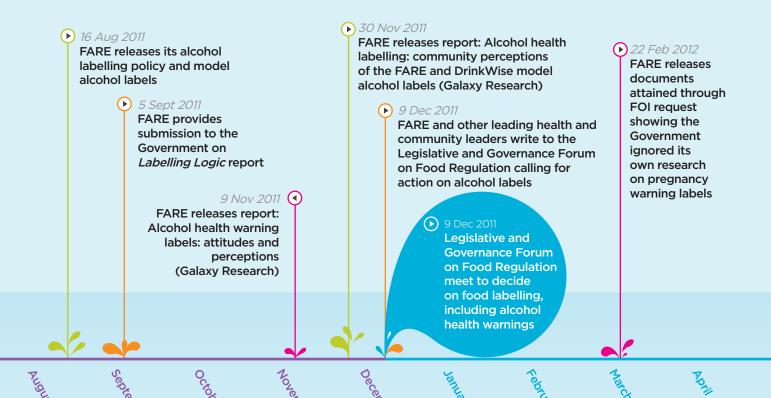
Much of FARE's recent work in this area has focused on the release of *Labelling Logic*, developed by the independent Panel for the Review of Food Labelling Law and Policy. This was the final report from the most comprehensive review of food labelling law and policy in Australia and New Zealand. The report made four recommendations regarding alcohol labelling, including that health warning labels be applied to alcohol products.

## **Government action**

9 December 2011 - Legislative and Governance Forum on Food Regulation meet to decide on food labelling, including alcohol health warnings

On 9 December 2011 FoFR met to consider the recommendations from the Labelling Logic report. At the conclusion of the FoFR meeting a communique was released that outlined that "Ministers agreed that warnings about the risks of consuming alcohol while pregnant should be pursued. Industry is to be given the opportunity to introduce appropriate labelling on a voluntary basis for a period of two years before regulating for this change."

This decision by FoFR gives the alcohol industry until December 2013 to introduce pregnancy health warnings on all alcohol products, before mandating for the change. The decision to mandate pregnancy warning labels was welcomed, however FARE called for a clear process to be outlined, and recommended that the labels be developed through a meaningful consultation process with industry and public health experts.



# OUR RESEARCH

# About the Centre for Alcohol Policy Research

The Centre for Alcohol Policy Research (CAPR) is an innovative, world-renowned research facility at the forefront of informed alcohol policy development. A joint undertaking of FARE, the Victorian Government, Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre, and the University of Melbourne, CAPR is unique in Australia's research landscape in that its sole focus is on building the evidence-base on alcohol issues.

Based in Melbourne, CAPR is led by Professor Robin Room, who has over 40 years' experience in investigating alcohol and other drugs issues, is a frequent adviser to the World Health Organization (WHO), and a recipient of many research awards, including most recently the Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Drug and Alcohol Endeavours.



# **Flagship studies**

CAPR has examined a range of critical gaps in alcohol research including:

- the impacts of a range of alcohol policies
- alcohol policy formation and regulatory processes
- patterns and trends in drinking and alcohol problems in the Australian population
- the influence of drinking norms, cultural practices, and social contexts

# Leadership in alcohol research

CAPR is involved in promoting and facilitating alcohol research, as well as disseminating research findings to build capacity in the field. The team has advised and informed alcohol policy issues internationally, as well as at national, state and local government levels within Australia.

Internationally, CAPR is working with the WHO to leverage the Range and Magnitude of Alcohol's Harm to Others study as a model for new projects in North America, Asia, and Nordic countries.

# Key research projects

Perceptions of low-risk drinking levels among Australians during a period of change in the official drinking guidelines

#### **FARE Partnership Project**

Principal researcher Mr Michael Livingston, CAPR

Released: 6 March 2012

This research analysed data from the National Drug Strategy Household Survey to examine Australians' perceptions of low-risk drinking over a period where the official Alcohol Guidelines relating to drinking were changed. The study used two sets of questions relating to low-risk levels of drinking in the short and long-term, and examined how perceptions of low-risk drinking varied from 2007 to 2010 between different sub-groups of the population.

The results demonstrated that fewer than five per cent of people were able to correctly identify safe drinking levels to avoid short and long-term harms, and between 30 and 50 per cent of respondents couldn't provide estimates. When asked to estimate levels for lowrisk long term drinking, Australians generally estimated reasonable levels, with mean estimates of 2.5 drinks per day for men and 1.4 for women (compared to the two drinks per day recommended in the 2009 Alcohol Guidelines).

In contrast, estimates for low-risk short term drinking were high, with two-thirds of men and one-third of women providing estimates in excess of the four standard drinks recommended in the Guidelines. Heavier drinkers and younger people provided the most concerning estimates.

For example, a mean low-risk short term level of 8.8 drinks per occasion (compared to the four drinks per day recommended in the Alcohol Guidelines) was estimated by 14-19 year old males.

The study also examined whether perceptions of low-risk drinking levels had changed following the publication of the 2009 Guidelines. The major differences between the old and new guidelines were reductions in the safe drinking levels set for male drinkers. The findings suggest a small change in men's perception on what constitutes low risk drinking to avoid long-term harm. About five per cent more men selected one-two drinks as being the amount they could consume in any one day, compared to 2007.

The findings highlight that communication of the current (2009) Alcohol Guidelines is insufficient and requires better promotion to change perceptions and behaviours around alcohol.

Alcohol and energy drinks: a preliminary study exploring patterns of consumption and associated harms

#### Foundation Grant: \$20,000

Principal researchers: Ms Amy Pennay, CAPR, and Professor Dan Lubman, Turning Point Alcohol & Drug Centre

Released: 14 November 2011

This research explored alcohol and energy drink (AED) consumption using field observation and qualitative data collection. The research examined the physical and social contexts in which AEDs are consumed, the risks and harms associated with AED consumption, and the challenges that AEDs pose for venue management and emergency services.

The study found that AED consumers tended to consume between two and five AEDs over the course of a night, primarily at the beginning and end of an evening. AED use was found to be normalised in that they are commonly consumed, easily purchased from a range of licensed venues and not mentioned to emergency staff providing treatment to intoxicated AED users.



Cited benefits of AED use included taste, promotion of wakeful drunkenness, quicker intoxication and the social nature of the drinking process. The problems associated with AED use included difficulty sleeping, more severe hangovers, and heart palpitations.

This study was the second known qualitative study conducted on this topic internationally, providing insight into AED consumption as well as highlighting the need for further research into this area. As part of the research, suggestions for regulatory action around AED use were proposed. Drawing from international examples, potential avenues for regulatory action include better product labelling around the health and social consequences of AED consumption, restrictions on the sales of energy drinks and controlled advertising.

# Young women's drinking experiences in public venues

#### Foundation grant: \$19,910

Principal researchers:
Dr Kerry Ann Armstrong,
Queensland University of
Technology, Ms Hanna Thunstrom,
Queensland University of
Technology, and Professor Jeremy
Davey, Queensland University of
Technology

#### Released: 2 December 2011

This research explored young women's experiences in public drinking venues, the behaviours associated with drinking that occur in these venues, and the norms surrounding alcohol consumption for young women. Researchers used observations and qualitative interviews to conduct the field work.

The research found that young women felt that it was more socially acceptable for them to drink to intoxication during celebratory occasions like birthdays and hen's nights, than on other occasions. While young women endorsed risky drinking behaviours, they also recognised that when they were intoxicated they were more vulnerable to a range of potential harms, including falls, injuries and being less able to identify and ward off attacks or sexual assaults from strangers.



Young women also felt less safe in environments where drinking to excess was highly tolerated, including venues with poor lighting, that were crowded, unclean, and had a lack of security personnel and police. The safety behaviours most commonly employed focussed on a 'culture of care' within the friendship group. These included advice from members to slow alcohol consumption, having one member take a maternal role and oversee the safety of others, and maintaining contact to ensure no one was separated from the group.

As a result of the findings, a number of policy recommendations were formulated. For example, proactively using the safety behaviours reported by young women as part of safety information to be disseminated to young women in school and community based programs.

# FUNDRAISING AND PARTNERSHIPS

FARE's funding development program was established in May 2011. One year on, we're happy to have grown our community through a range of initiatives, both on and offline. This critical first year has involved extensive planning and designing of the overall funding development strategy and a three-year road map that will guide our activities in this area.

# **Connecting and building relationships**

The first stage of the funding development program focused on reaching out to new and diverse stakeholders and cultivating relationships.

A key aspect of this work is the ongoing *Conversations by Candlelight* dinner series which was launched in Melbourne in August, 2011.

# **Building the donor database**

The second phase of the funding development program focussed on increasing FARE's donor base and revenue. To initiate this process, FARE launched a new donations portal, housed on the new FARE website. The purpose of the portal is to facilitate online giving, and was supported by targeted online fundraising campaigns such as Fundraising on Ice.

Cheryl Bart, AO, Chair of FARE, is an intrepid explorer. In January this year, Cheryl set out to ski to the South Pole to celebrate the centenary of Mawson's journey. This icy escapade was the inspiration for *Fundraising on Ice*, an online campaign that followed Cheryl's journey and raised money for FARE's national grants program. The campaign certainly melted the freeze on online fundraising activity!



# **Developing corporate** partnerships

The third phase of the funding development program saw FARE building its corporate connections through meaningful and mutually-beneficial partnerships. The alignment of mission and brand values underpins all FARE's partnership approaches, and currently there are a number of partnership opportunities being actively explored. Sponsorships and co-branded grants rounds are a unique partnering opportunity at FARE.

Another key aspect of FARE's corporate outreach activities is around workplace giving, a new avenue for fundraising. FARE has developed a program for engaging corporates in potential workplace giving arrangements.



# **Growing the Foundation**

This year FARE began a dialogue with the Commonwealth Government about re-capitalising FARE's corpus. This will continue over 2012/13 and will be critical factor in shaping FARE's future.

A number of dedicated funding pathways were also identified in order to channel funds into FARE's national grants programs. The funds provide flexibility for donor support. allowing them to nominate which fund best matches their passion and interest.

FARE's Capital Works Fund has been developed to build the capacity, sustainability, and infrastructure of AOD sector organisations. The fund supports the establishment of treatment and outreach services and the provision of essential assets such as vehicles to adequately equip treatment and service professionals working in regional and remote settings.

The Ian Webster Scholarship Fund was launched on 18 May 2012, and aims to provide ongoing support to the professional development of leaders within the AOD sector. FARE has invested \$50,000 to sustain the fund over its first five years.

# **Building new business**

Over the course of the year, FARE has created new business models. across a range of consulting and contracting opportunities. These models focus on using FARE's grants management and financial management expertise. The commercialisation of FARE's intellectual property is also being explored, and to date we have seen a marked increase in the sale of a range of resources through our online shop.

FARE would like to extend a warm thanks to all our donors. By supporting FARE you are helping us reduce alcohol harms to create a safer and healthier Australia for all.

# **OUR BOARD**



Cheryl is a lawyer and company director. She is the Chairman of ANZ Trustees Ltd, the South Australian Film Corporation, the Adelaide Film Festival and the Environment Protection Authority. During the past year Cheryl also served as a director of Spark Infrastructure Ltd, Audio Pixel Holdings Ltd, Australian Broadcasting Corporation and ETSA Utilities.

Cheryl also serves on the Nominations and Remuneration, and Audit and Risk Committees.



Scott is the State Director of the Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council (SA ) Inc, which is the only Indigenous organisation of its kind in Australia. In 2003, he was awarded the Centenary Medal for service to Indigenous substance misuse issues. Scott is the Co-Deputy Chairperson of the National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee and serves on a variety of other national and state committees.

Scott also serves on the Nominations and Remuneration, Audit and Risk, Research, and Small Grants Committees.



Peter is a director of TFG International, a consulting and advisory firm. Peter sits on the boards of a number of government entities, including the Australian Solar Institute and Indigenous Business Australia. He is also active in the not-for-profit sector.

Peter Chairs the Audit and Risk Committee and the Small Grants Committee.



**David Crosbie** 

David is the CEO of the Community Council of Australia and was previously the CEO of the Mental Health Council of Australia the national mental health peak body, the CEO of Odyssey House Victoria one of Australia's leading alcohol and drug treatment agencies, and the CEO of the Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia.

David Chairs the Research Committee and also serves on the Nominations and Remuneration and the Small Grants Committees.



Bernadette is Director of the Plunkett Centre for Ethics at St Vincent's Hospital in Sydney and Reader in Philosophy at Australian Catholic University.

Bernadette Chairs the Nominations and Remuneration Committee and also serves on the Audit and Risk and the Research Committees.

# **OUR BOARD**



Jonathan is the CEO of Inspire Foundation, the organisation behind the youth mental health service ReachOut.com. Jonathan was the Founding CEO of Inspire Ireland Foundation and is a human rights consultant for AusAid and UNICEF in Indonesia and Cambodia. Jonathan currently sits on a number of advisory committees including the NSW Commission for Children and Young People and the NSW Expert Advisory Group on Drugs and Alcohol.

Jonathan also serves on the Small Grants Committee.



**Katherine Conigrave** 

Kate is an Addiction Medicine Specialist and Public Health Physician based at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. Kate cares for individuals with alcohol or other drug problems and has worked for many years on education of health professionals in this field, particularly at the University of Sydney. Kate's research has spanned the health benefits of alcohol, and the early detection and intervention for alcohol problems. She has worked with several Aboriginal communities to assist their efforts to tackle substance misuse.

Kate also serves on the Research Committee.



Ian Webster AO
Director
MBBS MD (Melb) FRACP FAFPH M
FAFR M FA Cham FRACGP

lan was the FARE Chair from 2001 to 2009. He is a consultant and Emeritus Professor of Public Health and Community Medicine of the University of New South Wales. He is Patron of the Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia, Chair of the Australian Suicide Prevention Advisory Council, NSW Expert Advisory Committee on Alcohol and Drugs, and Governing Council of The Ted Noffs Foundation.

#### Special Responsibilities

During the year Ian was the Chair of the Research Committee. (retired November 2011)



**Timothy Costello AO**Director

LLB, DipEd (Monash), Bdivinity (BTSR uschlikon), Mtheol (Whitley) AO. Doctorate of Sacred Theology

Tim is one of Australia's leading voices on social justice issues. He has taken a prominent role in national debates on issues such as gambling, urban poverty, homelessness, reconciliation and substance abuse.

Tim has served as Minister at the Collins Street Baptist Church in Melbourne and as Executive Director of Urban Seed, a Christian not-for profit outreach service for the urban poor. Between 1999 and 2002 he was national President of the Baptist Union of Australia. In April 2008 Tim chaired the Strengthening Communities Supporting Families and Social Inclusion Committee of the Australian Government's 2020 Summit in Canberra. Tim is currently Chief Executive Officer of World Vision Australia.

#### Special Responsibilities

During the year Tim served on the Small Grants Committee. (retired November 2011)



Jim O'Shea
Company Secretary
and Chief Finance Officer
RRFA CPA

Jim has held corporate appointments in the banking, legal and logistics sectors. He is past President of a number of community-based organisations and presently serves on a committee of the Mental Health Council of Australia and the Audit and Risk Committees of a variety of not-for-profit organisations.

# **OUR STAFF**

## **Chief Executive Michael Thorn**

Michael is responsible for leading the Foundation's efforts to reduce alcohol-related harms in Australia. He sets the direction of and provides leadership to our team of dedicated staff.

# Chief Finance Officer/ **Company Secretary** Jim O'Shea

Jim is responsible for the financial and fiscal management of our operations. As Company Secretary, Jim also provides administrative support to the Board and Chief Executive Officer.

# Manager, Policy and Research **Caterina Giorgi**

Cat is responsible for managing the policy and research activities of the Foundation.

## Senior Policy Officer **Katherine McLachlan**

Katherine works with the projects and policy teams to develop FARE's research program and project resources.

#### Senior Policy Officer **Rebecca Mathews**

Rebecca works with the policy team to develop policy positions and advocacy strategies on a range of alcohol-related issues.

#### Senior Policy Officer Sarah Ward

Sarah works with the policy team to develop policy positions and advocacy strategies on a range of alcohol-related issues. Sarah also contributes to the development of our policy priorities.

# Senior Policy Officer **Amy Ferguson**

Amy works with the policy team to develop policy positions and advocacy strategies on a range of alcohol-related issues. Amy also contributes to the development of our policy priorities.

# Communications Manager **Joanna Allebone**

Jo is responsible for managing our strategic communications activities; this includes digital communications, brand management, and marketing.

# Media Relations Manager **Jeremy Henderson**

Jeremy is responsible for building and managing our relationship with the media and ensuring that FARE's comprehensive efforts towards reducing alcohol harms receives maximum media attention and exposure.

# Information and Communication Technology Manager **Peyman Jeyhani**

Peyman is responsible for the administration, management, and maintenance of our ICT infrastructure.

# Administration Officer **Glenis Thomas**

Glenis provides administration support to the FARE team, including office management, and coordinating special events.

# Administration Officer **Sarah Maloney**

Sarah provides administrative support to the FARE team, including travel management and finance administration.

# Senior Project Officer **Rosemary White**

As our Senior Project Coordinator, Rosemary oversees our national grants program and project team. She is also responsible for the management of our research projects.

# Project Officer Nick O'Shea

Nick administers and manages a selection of our grant projects, and oversees the administration of our resource library.

# **FINANCIAL POSITION AND PERFORMANCE**

# **Results at a glance**

	2012 \$M	2011 \$M	2010 \$M
Income			
Funding development	0.034	0.058	0.057
Finance revenue	0.434	3.835	3.766
Grant funding	0.725	0.976	0.190
Total income	1.193	4.869	4.013
Disbursements			
Project payments	1.596	2.631	4.398
Occupancy/ Administration/Other	0.524	0.571	0.533
Staff/Directors	1.579	1.380	1.268
Total disbursements	3.699	4.582	6.199
Surplus/(Deficit)	(2.506)	0.287	(2.186)

2012

# **Review of operations**

The Foundation continued to deliver and sustain a strong financial position and sound management to support its activities.

Income decreased by approximately 75 per cent over 2012 to \$1.193M.

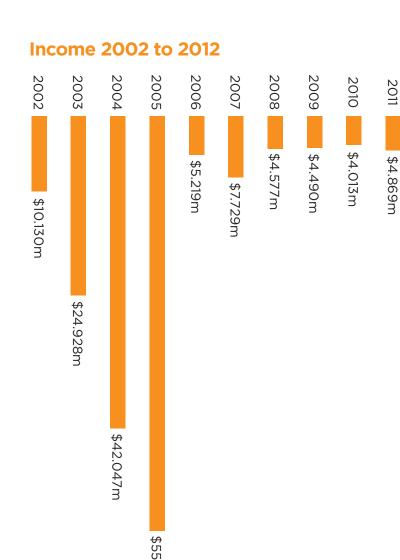
There was an aggregate decrease in expenditure of \$0.883M. The total expenditure for the year was \$3.699M.

# **Ensuring donated** funds are used appropriately

We are committed to accountable and transparent financial management and follow strict procedures to ensure funds are used as intended, including quarterly internal and annual external audits.

In addition to a rigorous internal audit system, the Foundation's accounts are audited by the Australian National Audit Office. Our audited statutory accounts are lodged with ASIC and are available on our website.

Funds donated to the Foundation are only used for the purposes for which they were raised.



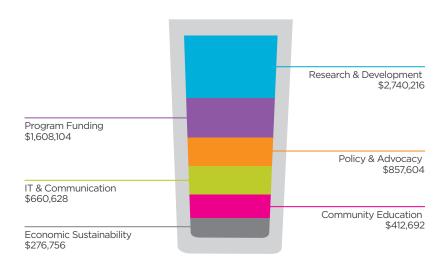
# **Committed funding**

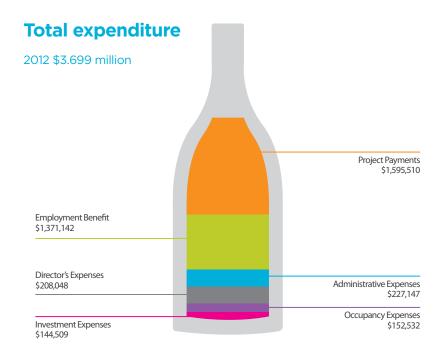
Beyond 2012-\$6.556 million

# Financial risk and audit

The Foundation is committed to accountable and transparent business and financial management.

The Foundation Board is responsible for ensuring that risks, and also opportunities, are identified on a timely basis and that the objectives of the Foundation are aligned with the risks and opportunities identified by the Board.





# **Summarised** financial report

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Statement of financial position	36
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These reports are represented in Australian dollars. The Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education Ltd is a public company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

Detailed notes to the Financial Statements are included in our **Annual Statement and Accounts** filed with the Australian Securities and Investment Commission and available on our website.





# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

#### To the members of the Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education Limited

I have audited the accompanying financial report of the Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education Limited, which comprises the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2012, the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, Notes comprising a Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and other explanatory information, and the Directors' Declaration.

#### Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The directors of the Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education Limited are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Corporations Act 2001 and for such internal control as is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

## Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on my audit.

I have conducted my audit in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relation to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the company's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

## Independence

In conducting my audit, I have complied with the independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001. I Confirm that the independence declaration required by the Corporations Act 2001, provided to the directors of the Foundation For Alcohol Research and Education Limited, would be in the same terms if provided to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

#### **Opinion**

In my opinion the financial report of the Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education Limited is in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education Limited's financial position as at 30 June 2012 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Corporations Regulation 2001.

Australian National Audit Office

Kristian Gage Audit Principal

Delegate of the Auditor-General

Canberra 13 November 2012

# **Statement of comprehensive income**

For the financial year ended 30 JUNE 2012

	Note	2012 \$	2011 \$
Income			
Consultancy services	2(a)	3,972	3,400
Finance revenue	2(b)	433,688	3,834,758
Funding development activities	2(c)	30,511	54,627
Government funding	2(d)	395,000	41,427
Grant funding	2(e)	330,032	935,481
Total Income		1,193,203	4,869,693
Expenses			
Project payments	15	1,595,510	2,631,898
Occupancy expenses		139,255	158,415
Administrative expenses		202,434	232,168
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	3(a)	24,713	20,076
Employee benefits expenses	3(b)	1,371,142	1,136,711
Directors' expenses	3(c)	208,048	244,366
Finance costs	3(d)	13,277	11,376
Other expenses	3(e)	144,509	147,224
Total Expenses		3,698,888	4,582,234
Operating Surplus (Deficit) for the year before income tax		(2,505,685)	287,459
Income tax expense	1(j)	-	-
Net Profit/(Deficit) for the year		(2,505,685)	287,459
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the Company		(2,505,685)	287,459

# **Statement of financial position**

As at 30 June 2012

	Note	2012 \$	2011 \$
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	18,097,796	15,807,529
Trade and other receivables	6	712,668	204,920
Accrued revenue	7	2,231	3,221
Other assets	8	494,797	869,620
Total Current Assets		19,307,492	16,885,290
Non-Current Assets			
Financial assets	9	15,330,329	20,088,241
Property, plant and equipment	10	55,781	32,696
Intangible assets	11	624	4,493
Total Non-Current Assets		15,386,734	20,125,430
Total Assets		34,694,226	37,010,720
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	12	206,300	70,602
Interest-bearing liabilities	13	8,487	12,762
Provisions	14	57,329	29,567
Total Current Liabilities		272,116	112,931
Non-Current Liabilities			
Provisions	14	69,558	39,552
Total Non-Current Liabilities		69,558	39,552
Total Liabilities		341,674	152,483
Net Assets		34,352,552	36,858,237
Equity			
Reserves			
Capital Fund	15	23,465,964	23,812,020
Project Fund	15	7,294,802	8,130,797
Total Reserves		30,760,766	31,942,817
Retained Surpluses			
Operating Fund	16	3,591,786	4,915,420
Total Retained Surpluses		3,591,786	4,915,420
TOTAL EQUITY		34,352,552	36,858,237

# **Statement of changes in equity**

For the financial year ended 30 June 2012

	Note	2012 \$	2011
Reserves			
Capital Fund			
Movements during the year			
Opening balance		23,812,020	20,780,201
Transfer to/from Retained Surpluses		(346,056)	3,031,819
Capital Fund closing balance	15	23,465,964	23,812,020
Project Fund			
Movements during the year			
Opening balance		8,130,797	9,769,187
Transfer to/from Retained Surpluses		(835,995)	(1,638,390)
Project Fund closing balance	15	7,294,802	8,130,797
Total General Reserve		30,760,766	31,942,817
Retained Surpluses			
Balance at start of year		4,915,420	6,021,390
Operating (Deficit) for the year		(2,505,685)	287,459
Transfer to Reserves		1,182,051	(1,393,429)
Retained Surpluses balance at end of year	16	3,591,786	4,915,420
TOTAL EQUITY		34,352,552	36,858,237

# **DIRECTORS' DECLARATION**

# **Declaration by Directors**

The directors of FARE declare that:

- 1. The financial statements and notes are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001:
  - a. comply with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001; and
  - b. give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2012 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of FARE.
- 2. In the directors' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that FARE will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

The directors make this declaration having received declarations from the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Finance Officer that:

- the financial records of FARE for the financial year have been properly maintained in accordance with section 286 of the Corporations Act 2001;
- the financial statements, and the notes comply with the Australian accounting standards;
- the financial statements, and notes give a true and fair view; and
- other matters prescribed by the regulations in relation to the financial statements, and the notes for the financial year are satisfied.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

Director

O Bas

Chairman

Audit and Risk Committee Chairman

Dated this 13th day of November 2012







Foundation for Alcohol Research & Education

Level 1 40 Thesiger Court Deakin ACT 2600

PO Box 19 Deakin West ACT 2600

www.fare.org.au

