# National conference funding strengthens AOD sector

Seven organisations and 21 individuals from across Australia are the recipients of a national conference funding program designed to strengthen the alcohol and other drugs (AOD) sector in Australia. Funded by the Australian Government Department of Health, and now in its second year, the Conference Funding Program provides both conference sponsorship funding up to the value of $10,000 to provide limited financial assistance to support conferences and events in related areas as well as individual scholarships to attend conferences, to the value of $2,000. The program aims to promote the understanding of national issues in prevention, service improvement and early intervention in AOD misuse, promote debate on AOD issues and support the delivery of conferences with an AOD focus. The program is managed by the Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education (FARE) on behalf of the Department of Health. FARE Chief Executive Michael Thorn congratulated the successful applicants and recognised the Department’s efforts in providing valuable funding to the Sector. “The Alcohol and Other Drugs Conference Funding Program is important because it both acknowledges the valuable work being carried out throughout this country by sector researchers and workers and also provides opportunities to debate important issues and to share knowledge and expertise,” Mr Thorn said. The Alcohol and Other Drugs Conference Program is supported by funding from the Australian Government under the ‘Substance Misuse Prevention and Service Improvement Grants Funds’ and is managed by the Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education