



Media Release September 3, 2014

UnitingCare ReGen and Odyssey House Victoria commence delivery of new alcohol and other drugs treatment services for Diamond Valley

This week has seen the commencement of a new alcohol and other drugs (AOD) treatment system in Victoria. These changes mark the next stage of the Victorian Government's reform of community based alcohol and other drugs sectors.

The reform process will make it easier for people in Diamond Valley to get help they need.

Changes to the system include how treatment programs are organised, who is providing them and how members of the community can gain access to treatment and support. They mean that there will be some service providers will be working in new areas and others will no longer be providing AOD treatment.

In Melbourne's north and west region, UnitingCare ReGen (ReGen) and Odyssey House Victoria (Odyssey) will be working in partnership with a range of local service providers to co-ordinate and deliver the new treatment services.

As of September 1, ReGen, Odyssey and partner services will be operating in Thomastown, Reservoir, Greensborough, Eltham, West Heidelberg & Preston. Additional service locations will be established in the coming months.

Odyssey and ReGen are longstanding specialist providers of alcohol and other drugs treatment services in Victoria. Both agencies have an established record in the development of high-quality, innovative services that respond to established and emerging community needs. Both agencies are sector leaders in the development of dual-diagnosis AOD practice and family-inclusive treatment services and the provision of integrated care in partnership with a wide range of complementary health and welfare services.

ReGen Acting CEO Donna Ribton-Turner said,

This is a terrific opportunity to increase the accessibility of treatment services in Victoria. The impacts of alcohol and other drug use are felt throughout our communities. Whether it's parents with young children, young people, adults or the elderly, there's a tremendous need out there.

Some people need a little help. Some people need a lot. We'll be working with local service networks to make sure that people get the help they need.



I encourage anyone with questions about how alcohol or other drugs are affecting their lives to check the information on our website (www.regen.org.au) or to call our central Intake team on 1800 700 514.

Community members with enquiries about the new services can get more information at <http://www.regen.org.au/treatment-support/north-and-west-aod-service>. Anyone seeking treatment or support can call our central Intake team on **1800 700 514 (freecall)**.

More detail about the alcohol and other drugs treatment reform process can be found on the Department of Health website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/aod/reform/index.htm>. Information developed specifically for consumers by VAADA, APSU and HRV can be found at: <http://vicaodsector.org.au/>.

For further information please contact:

Donna Ribton-Turner

Acting CEO, Uniting Care ReGen
dribton-turner@regen.org.au
03 9384 8830

Dr Stefan Gruenert

CEO, Odyssey House Victoria
sgruenert@odyssey.org.au
03 9420 7600

Paul Aiken

Media Contact, UnitingCare ReGen
paiken@regen.org.au
0435 875 818