



Northern Regional DAO training

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Background

- The training and standardization of the role of the DAO, has become one of the focuses of the Mental health workforce programme, in New Zealand.
- This programme was launched in Wellington 2003, commissioned by the Ministry of Health, who recognized that improvements in mental health services, as a priority can only be achieved by developing the workforce.
- In Northland, in the workforce charter, representatives of each of the services, West, South, Central, North Auckland, met and in unison, supported the development of a standardized training package and criteria for the role of the DAO.
- From this meeting there has been the development of a project group. Representatives from each of the above services are currently developing and standardizing the training and related criteria for review and launch in 2006



What was the problem?

- Inconsistent training, or lack of training for DAO's
- After 13 years of neglect
- Variations in the interpretation of the Act by clinicians
- In consistent responses to Consumers' and family regarding the application of the Act



What did we do in 2006

- Project group put together a regional training package for trial

- Our brief:

To present and develop key areas of:

- Eligibility criteria
- Application process
- Job description
- Initial training content
- Competency assessment
- Preceptorship
- Credentialing
- Ongoing supervision



What has happened

- Formal training x2 year shared around the 4 DHB's
- Coordinator- fte(.2) funded by Northern DHB support agency – NDSA
- Trainer numbers slowly growing



Positives

- Consistency of knowledge acquisition around the application of the Act
- Networking
- Sharing
- Teaching package only gets better..
- Visibility of this role



Challenges to date

- DHB - inconsistency around DAO eligibility, practice, warranting – challenges integrity of training
- Trainers
- Coordination and DHB coordinators
- Training day reduction
- Interested parties - ownership of this process
- Updates



Future

- Regional updates
- Coordinators established in all DHB's
- training records standardised – updates and currency of warrant
- Research
- National standardisation of training
- DAO website – issues of section 92d
- All DHB - computer logging of DAO activities' – research, accountability
- National DAO forum- representatives of all DHB's
- DAO conference