

Speakers Bio- Looking through the other lens (people and substance use)

Thursday, 05 and 13 October 2022, from 12.00pm to 1.00pm

Rhonda Roberston



Rhonda's introduction to systemic advocacy begun, as a member of a consumer group back in mid 1990s. The consumer group was inclusive of family, experts and allies, collective action, it was both validating and empowering, and an orientation to the alcohol and other drug sector. Rhonda's perspective is in her experiences of problematic opioid use and accessing services through specialist and shared-care arrangements.

Rhonda started working in the disability sector in the late 1980s and first employed into dedicated lived experience role in 2003 that lead to working across both non-government organisations and DHB addiction services. This was followed by national lived experience role within the addiction treatment workforce development programme (Matua Raki) and more recently as part of the Te Pou lived experience

team leading the consumer, peer support and lived experience programme of work. Through the Matua Raki consumer leadership group, Rhonda contributed to the Addiction Nurses Competency Framework and is an advocate for building and strengthening addiction expertise and includes co-presenting addiction content from a lived experience perspective in the University of Auckland's New Entry to Specialist Practice Mental Health and Addiction Nursing.

Rhonda's first and most recent qualifications sat within nursing schools, Christchurch Polytechnic in 1990-91 and then most recently at the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Practice at Victoria University in Wellington.

Richard Jeffcoat

I am as Psychiatric Nurse with a scope of practice specialising in mental health and addictions. Over the last five years I have been employed in the CADS (Community Alcohol Drugs Services) team in Hamilton. Over many years and many positions in the sector I was amazed, impressed, and embarrassed at the expertise and knowledge of the CADS team. Amazed because it has a depth of knowledge, amazed by the models such as harm reduction and motivational interviewing, and embarrassed that as a Psychiatric Nurse my knowledge about working with people and substance use was naïve if not typical of non-health professionals. It is my ambition to be present in the sector I call "People and substances" for many years respectful of the privilege of being alongside people in better ways than I have before.

Daryle Deering RNPhD ONZM

I am an RN who specialised in the areas of addiction and youth and family mental health. In my career I have been involved in service development, professional nursing leadership, clinical practice and board governance. I had a joint clinical - research and teaching position at the National Addiction Centre, University of Otago until the end of 2017. I facilitated a nursing group who developed the NZ Addiction Speciality Nursing Competency Framework. More recently I have had a small private practice inclusive of the provision of professional supervision. My particular interests have been in the areas of opioid substitution treatment, consumer experience of addiction treatment, treatment outcome, women with substance use issues, young people with substance use issues and supporting professional and career development for nurses working in the addiction field. I am a fellow of the College, a past president and am currently a member of the Addiction Nursing Branch.

Jacqui Hampton RN MHSc

Project Lead Te Pou and Blueprint for learning since July 2021, with a focus on Skills matter and Ara Poutama Primary health care nursing MH&A programme of learning.

My nursing career began in 1994 in Ōtautahi. In 1996 I began working in addiction in the UK. On return to Aotearoa in 2000, I began working for CADS Tāmaki Makaurau for the following 17 years. I loved the variety of roles I had within the service, however the majority of my mahi was supporting young people who experienced addiction and co existing challenges.

After leaving CADS in 2017 I moved into youth development practitioner education and for 2 years managed and facilitated the Tāmaki Makaurau Primary health care nurse MH&A credentialing programme under Te Ao Māramatanga.

Louise Leonard Nurse Practitioner



Tena koutou katoa
Ko Louise Leonard taku ingoa
Ko Nga Puhi nui te iwi
He Maatanga Tapuhi
E mahi ana ahau ke Te Whatu Ora, Waikato

I began my career in addiction nursing 25 years ago, initially in Australia before relocating home to New Zealand in 2004 where I commenced work at the Community Alcohol and Drug Service in Hamilton. I was proudly endorsed as the first Nurse Practitioner (NP) with Addictions as my area of practice in 2012. Later I broadened my scope to include Mental Health. In addition, I work for the University of Auckland in the Nurse Practitioner Training Program and, more recently, with the University of Waikato Post Graduate School of Nursing, developing the RN Prescribing and Nurse Practitioner pathways. Alongside of this, I have been Board Chair for the Midlands Needle Exchange and Vice Chair for the national board for about 7 years now.

I am passionate about the work we do as addiction nurses and our ability to make a difference in the lives of those who suffer from substance related harm. We are able to intervene across the spectrum, from disease prevention and health promotion, to screening, brief assessment, and intervention and right through to working with those with serious physical and mental co-morbid health issues related to long term substance use and the complications caused by it.

I was the Inaugural President of the Addiction Nursing Branch of the College and am currently a member.