

community mental health drug and alcohol research network

**RESEARCH NETWORK**

**CMHDA**



## **Building Your Evidence Base:** *Lessons from the Field*

November 19th, 2013

## Session 2

# CMHDARN Research Seeding Grants Outcomes and Challenges

Deb Tipper

Project officer, CMHDARN

# *CMHDARN Research Seeding Grants Overview*

- Maximum of \$10,000 per grant
- 20 organisation applied for 24 projects
- Applications assessed by a subcommittee of the CMHDARN Project Reference group
- 16 successful projects funded

# Purpose of Grants

- To explore issues or questions behind the actual research.
- Identify the research question/s and appropriate methodologies.
- Ascertain an effective way to engage consumers in your future research program.

*“The learning and knowledge that we have, is, at the most, but little compared with that of which we are ignorant.”*

[Plato](#)

# *What has happened this year?*

**March 2013:** Special purpose Research Forum - brought together most organisations in receipt of grants.

**Sept 2013:** Fifteen projects are completed and final project reports submitted.

**Oct- Dec 2013:** External evaluation of Seeding Grants Program occurring.

# Outcomes

*“Sharing knowledge is not about giving people something, or getting something from them.*

*That is only valid for information sharing.*

*Sharing knowledge occurs when people are genuinely interested in helping one another develop new capacities for action; it is about creating learning processes.”*

Peter Senge,

(An American scientist and director of the Center for Organizational Learning at the MIT Sloan School of Management).

# *Summary of Outcomes - 1*

## Capacity building

- research skills and knowledge

## Improved relationships

- with academic researchers
- with other agencies & stakeholders
- with consumers/ clients

## Dissemination of results

- journal articles, conference presentations

# *Summary of Outcomes - 2*

## Change in Practice

- nature of data collected
- service delivery
- engagement with consumers
- mentorship for staff

## Increased awareness of coexisting issues

- for staff and partner organisations



# Challenges

*If you're trying to achieve, there will be roadblocks. I've had them; everybody has had them. But obstacles don't have to stop you. If you run into a wall, don't turn around and give up. Figure out how to climb it, go through it, or work around it.*

[Michael Jordan](#)

# Summary of Challenges

## Time constraints

- for project;

## Organisational issues

- staff changes, funding, restructure, workload;

## Establishing research culture

- resistance to research project;

## Ethics approval process