

NEWS – April 2010

Sammy D Foundation

2010 has been moving along so fast. It's about time that we caught you all up on our activities. We are still battling Canberra bureaucracy in order to get our tax deductibility approved but will let you all know as soon as this happens. Thank you for all of the support you have given us with our fundraising and program activities to this time. We have been successful in obtaining some federal and state grants in order to help us fund some of our programs and will continue to pursue these as appropriate.

Current Grant Funding

Crime Prevention and Community Safety Grant (SA AGD) - Purchase of Audio Visual equipment and costs supporting Impact presentations.

Community Voices Grant (Office for Volunteers) – The production of a TV campaign by Flinders University Screen and Media students will support recruitment of volunteers.

Volunteer Grant (FAHCSIA) – Funding to purchase volunteer catering equipment and volunteer packs.

National Youth Week (City of Onkaparinga) – Funding to assist the production of an event aimed at celebrating youth achievement in the local area.

We have been involved in the planning and implementation of the Onkaparinga City Council Launch of Youth Week along with some fantastic organizations including Mission Australia, Workskil and of course the council. The launch was held on Saturday April 10th at Ramsay place. We used beer goggles to simulate what alcohol can do to your ability to drive safely by providing free Daytona rides to be used when wearing the goggles. We also asked about 50 young people a number of questions about parties and the issues associated with them. This pilot survey will assist us with the development of our Party Wise program.

Our volunteers were also involved with other youth organizations in the preparation of their Youth Week Launch activities. A group headed down to Southern Youth Exchange on Friday 9th April to assist with preparation for the Mission Australia Cooking With Culture stand. Our volunteers learnt many new skills and had a great day.

National Youth Week Activities



SAMMY D IMPACT

We have been presenting at a number of venues, including Cavan Training Centre to some high risk young people who have found themselves on the wrong side of the law. We have some excellent results from surveys and will be putting the graphs up on the website! Let us know if you want us to present at your school, sporting or community group.

The primary aim of this program is to raise awareness of harm causing behaviours and highlight the ways in which to avoid the tragic consequences.

SAMMY D CONNECT

We have appointed a qualified teacher on a 3 month contract to assist with the roll out of this amazing project. Happy Valley, Christies Beach and Pt. Noarlunga Football clubs are all going to directly benefit from this program. We are training our volunteers and recruiting more to assist with mentoring young people not only in these sporting clubs but as part of an exciting range of engaging programs.

We have confirmed our commitment to assisting disadvantaged young members of the community. Next month we will commence working with Families SA in their Extreme Choices Program.

If you are interested in becoming a youth mentor for the foundation please contact us.

The primary aim of this program is to engage young people who are disengaged or at risk of disengaging in positive activities which will assist in the prevention of harm in the community.

PARTYWISE

Reynella East High School drama students have been working extremely hard on our interactive play. A workshop dress rehearsal was held during Youth Week, supported by the Onkaparinga City Council, and was attended by young people in youth programs. They assisted us by providing feedback about the messages we were sending about safe parties and ways we could improve production. The project is being supported by some amazing volunteers including members of Venture Theatre Christies Beach.

While we are working on a logo and slogan for Party Wise our Community Voices media campaign has a theme which supports this program while helping to recruit volunteers so stay tuned for both of these projects!

An important part of the process in setting up this program is conducting research that will provide us with data to support the program. Your assistance with this research is vital. Please take a moment to complete this short survey – it will only take five minutes. Just follow the link below:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/6LC7W2K>

The primary aim of this program is to assist the community to make safe choices when it comes to the holding of parties for young people.

WEBSITE

Our online calendar is up and running. Well done Neil! You can now click on our calendar page and keep track of our activities and important meetings that relate directly to our harm prevention activities.

We will soon have a full description of our programs on the website along with some feedback results from our programs. It is hard work keeping the pages up to date with activities and photographs!

Let us know what you think.

Looking Ahead!

As we continue to develop our networks in the youth sector we are planning to expand our programs. ICANs is a state government initiative which works with young people who are disengaged or at risk of disengaging from school. The foundation believes strongly that supporting young people to complete their education in creative and interesting ways will work a long way toward the prevention of harm from

physical, emotional and other forms of abuse. We are building programs that will assist these young people on their journey toward a safe and positive future. Our primary goal with everything we do is to prevent anyone from having to go through what we went through.

EVENTS

Mad March was a busy month with two of our main annual events Reminisce – a Rox On event, and the Comedy Gala being held on the same weekend. Both events were a huge success and we would like to thank all of our volunteers who worked hard to pull them together.



The foundation would like to say a big thank you also to all the DJs and Comedians who gave their time so generously to support the Foundation. Please support these wonderful people if you get the opportunity. If you couldn't make it then you missed two fantastic events – hope we see you there next year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 4th – It will be 2 years since Sam was taken from not just us but from our entire community. We will be walking the Pt. Noarlunga Jetty and releasing balloons @ 4.30 pm as a symbol of our desire to stop violence in the community. Please join us on the walk and take a stand against violence.

Remember violence has no heroes and tragedy is only one poor decision away.

October 1st – Corporate Golf Day @ Thaxted Park. Last year's event hosted by Darren Lehmann was amazing and this year won't be any different. Contact us for details and to reserve a place for your team.

Huggzzzzz
Nat and Neil