



ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG
**Transitional Care
Program**

CatholicCare Hunter-Manning's Transitional Care Program provides twelve weeks of psychosocial support, specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are leaving corrections and residential rehab facilities. This program aims to assist these individuals to transition back into the community successfully.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are exiting from custodial or residential treatment facilities have some of the highest rates of relapse. The Transitional Care Program assists people by supporting them through the change and reintegration process.

This program provides pre-release and community-based drug and alcohol care coordination support to people in the program. The service engages participants in a respectful, culturally appropriate manner to assist them with their treatment at varying stages, whether it be abstaining from drugs and/or alcohol, managing mental health, or taking care of their wellbeing.

How to access this service

Referrals can be made by Corrective or Residential Treatment Services by calling (02) 6539 5900 between the hours of 8.30am–4.30pm Monday to Friday.

**For more information, please email:
AODTCC@catholiccare.org.au**

Eligibility Criteria

The Transitional Care Package Program is targeted at individuals who have a drug and alcohol dependence with or without associated or complex comorbidities, with a focus on:

- ▶ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their families including the following eligibility:
- ▶ People living in rural and remote areas where applicable;
- ▶ People with low income;
- ▶ People with a recent suicide attempt or suicidal behaviour/ideation; and
- ▶ People with complex physical and psycho-social comorbidities including but not limited to: substance misuse; chronic disease; family/relationship instability; poverty; forensic issues; and chronic pain.

The Transitional Care Coordinator will determine which people are eligible for services under the Transitional Care Package Program, however, to be eligible, the client must:

- ▶ be aged 18-65 years and who are experiencing any of the following:
- ▶ have been diagnosed with a substance use disorder as per the criteria defined in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Health Disorders – Fifth Edition (DSM5);
- ▶ be experiencing significant disruption to their social, personal and/or work life, as a result of their drug and alcohol dependence or risk factors;
- ▶ be at risk of needing hospitalisation, residential rehab or corrective services in the future if appropriate treatment and care is not provided;
- ▶ reside or work within the Hunter New England and Central Coast Primary Health Network catchment;
- ▶ be reachable by telephone or there must be a documented process in place for reasonable contact.

To be eligible for this Program, people must also report a combination of the following:

- ▶ multiple support needs such as accommodation, drug and alcohol, employment, physical health care and community support services;
- ▶ require ongoing support to maintain and enhance their personal, vocational or occupational development;
- ▶ have limited or no family and natural support networks;
- ▶ be at higher risk of relapse if complex care needs are not addressed.

The following Exclusion Criteria apply:

- ▶ If a client is seen as a risk to the safety of the Transitional Care Coordinator or is facing sentencing through the judicial system from an existing case;
- ▶ A diagnosis of an eating disorder;
- ▶ A primary diagnosis of cancer (this applies during the initial development phase of the Program until such time as a well consolidated model of care is running sustainably);
- ▶ Enrolment in the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) or Continuity of Service (CoS) program.

