

My Submission to

[Health Impacts of Drug and Alcohol Use in Australia.](#)

Hi my name is John and I am in recovery from substance use of 33 years, I have been substance free for over 12 years and now work in the AOD/Mental Health sector.

I would love to see more funding going into helping the person effected by drugs especially in the way of housing people in recovery into drug free environments.

I came out of a 7 day detox (for the 6th time), I had no choice but to go to a rooming house (full of drugs) or go back to where I was living (which was with my old drug associates), luckily I had the support of a 12 step fellowship which helped me stay drug free but this is not the case for all people.

At 3 years clean I ran a privately funded recovery house and for the next 4 years saw many people come and go from this house (some of them still clean to this day), there was great demand for rooms at this house.

I have lobbied many politicians on many issues around AOD and would love the chance to explain the many hurdles faced by people trying to get support in so many ways.

I have recently had a heart attack and have now made it a mission to try to implement change in policies and more understanding of the many barriers faced by so many, I implore EVERY politician to show compassion and understanding for fellow mankind, I know that if given the right support many people who have substance use disorder can go on to live productive lives which benefits themselves, family, health system, centerlink, work and community in general.

I am open to discussing with ANYBODY my views and ideas for a better future for all.

Thank you for this opportunity to express my feelings.