

# The Building Trades Group

## Drug and Alcohol Program

### THE PROBLEM

- Responsible for 20% to 25% of all industrial accidents
- 62% of abusers in full time employment
- 16% of males in Sydney detox centres are from the construction industry

### WORKPLACE PROBLEMS

- Safety
- Health
- Personal
- Absenteeism
- Poor performance
- Industrial

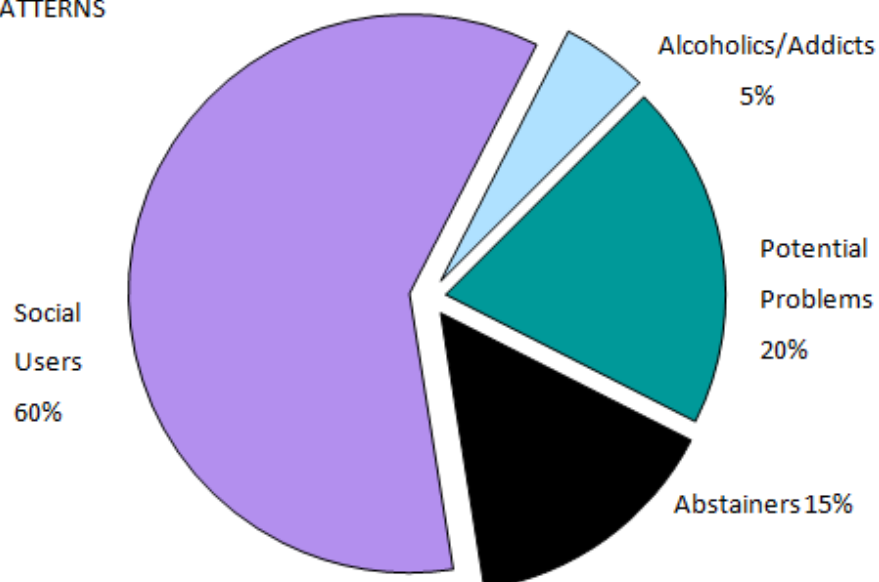
### BACKGROUND OF THE BTG PROGRAM

- WORKPLACE PROGRAM FOCUSED ON SAFETY
- Run by a dedicated body established 1989
- Developed by target group
- Education
- Peer intervention
- Harm reduction
- Nationally accepted & institutionalised policy

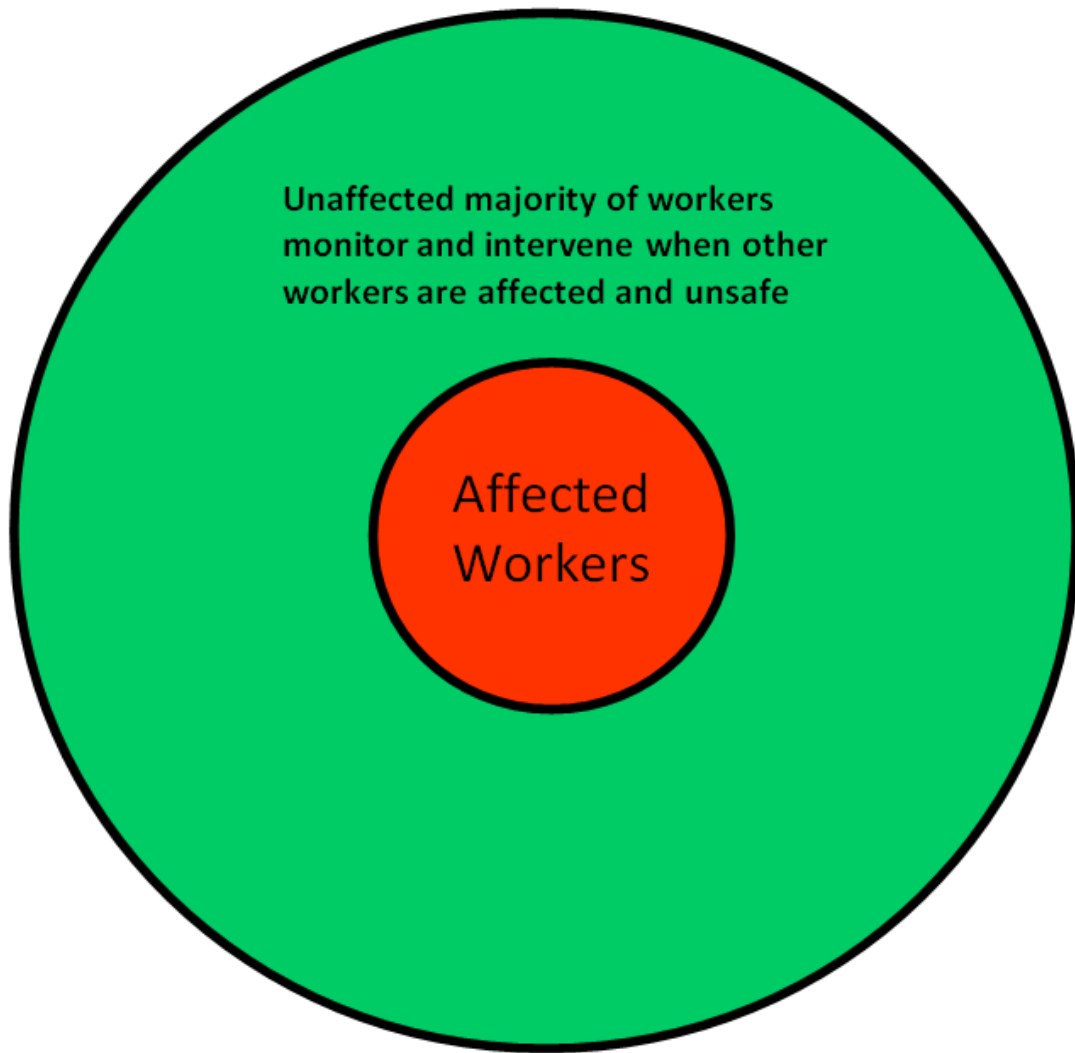
### A SIMPLE PHILOSOPHY

- If you choose to use drugs or alcohol, that's your business
- If you choose to do it in the workplace, that's our business
- If you want to stop drinking or using, maybe we can help

### USING PATTERNS



OUR TARGET GROUP



**Incapable of behaving/acting responsibly**



**Capable of behaving/acting responsibly**

#### PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- Increase awareness of workplace D & A issues
- Promote BTG program
- Encourage intervention by workers
- Provide training
- Increase numbers of workers in treatment

#### PROGRAM PRINCIPLES

- Safety
- Harm reduction
- Peer intervention
- Taking responsibility
- Education
- Changing attitudes
- Referral for treatment where necessary

#### PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- On site awareness sessions
- Safety Committee training
- Apprentice training courses
- HIV/AIDS awareness & syringe disposal training
- Rehabilitation & treatment services for D & A and gambling

#### REACH AND RESULTS

All figures for New South Wales only

- 1,430 awareness sessions to 137,000 workers (NSW)
- 340 training courses for 3,540 key industry workers
- 2,620 apprentice training courses for 29,100 apprentices

#### ADDITIONAL HEALTH RELATED ACTIVITIES

- Policy on safe removal of syringes found in the workplace
- Safe drinking & drug use guidelines
- Developed guidelines for responsible serving and use of alcohol at social or industry functions
- HIV/AIDS education & awareness campaign
- Presentation of Life Care Skills education for apprentices

## ACHIEVEMENTS AND RECOGNITION

- United Nations
- “Not at Work Mate” Video
- Consultancy services
  - BHP BIPD
  - Boral Timber
  - Fonterra Group
  - New Zealand Post
  - Shell Oil Refinery
  - Streets Ice Cream
  - Various Councils
- Established CIDAF & “Foundation House”
  - Located in Rozelle
  - Opened in 2000
  - Staffed 24 hours 7 days
  - Provides D & A and gambling
  - Residential & outpatient services

## FOUNDATION HOUSE

### Services Provided

- Assessment
- Counselling
- Referral to detoxification
- 28 day residential program
- Outpatient counselling
- Family groups and counselling
- Relapse prevention
- Gambling services

### STRENGTHS OF PROGRAM

- Unique & original
- At the coalface
- Developed & implemented by target group
- Run by a dedicated entity
- Appeals to all stakeholders
- Demonstrated success
- Ongoing & sustainable

### SUMMARY

- Workers, unions and employers can combine to play an effective role in the provision of safety and health promotion programs
- Utilising existing resources and structures gives maximum results for minimum investment
- Effectiveness of peer based safety / education programs
- Health / social projects and the workplace can be compatible partners

**THE BUILDING TRADES GROUP  
DRUG & ALCOHOL PROGRAM**

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