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2023

Three-year Plan on  
Drug Treatment and  
Rehabilitation Services  
in Hong Kong

Narcotics Division,  
Security Bureau  
March 2021

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## Chapter 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### (A) Anti-drug Work in Hong Kong

- 1.1 The Government adopts a multi-pronged anti-drug strategy, comprising preventive education and publicity (PE&P), treatment and rehabilitation (T&R), legislation and law enforcement, external cooperation and research.
- 1.2 PE&P is the first line of defence against drug abuse. Anti-drug education and publicity activities raise public awareness of the harmful effects of drug abuse and the importance of staying away from drugs. To ensure that PE&P initiatives could respond swiftly and effectively to the latest drug scene, the Narcotics Division (ND) reviews and formulates strategic directions and work plan for PE&P initiatives in consultation with the Action Committee Against Narcotics (ACAN) on an annual basis.
- 1.3 Drug T&R services help those who have fallen prey to drug abuse to quit drugs, achieve abstinence and reintegrate into society. A variety of T&R services are available to drug abusers with different backgrounds and different treatment needs. Details on the multi-modality approach to T&R services in Hong Kong are set out in this Three-year Plan.
- 1.4 As regards research work which help support evidence-based anti-drug initiatives, the Beat Drugs Fund (BDF), ND and ACAN have from time to time commissioned or supported various research projects or conducted drug related surveys<sup>1</sup>. The research findings are put on ND's website to facilitate public access with the T&R related research findings proactively shared with anti-drug T&R sector. More information on research work is given in this Three-year Plan.
- 1.5 On the fronts of legislation, law enforcement and external cooperation, the Government monitors the changing drug scene closely and review and amend the laws regularly to address any emerging threats. Law

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<sup>1</sup> A full list of research projects funded or conducted by the BDF, ND or ACAN can be found on [https://www.nd.gov.hk/en/research\\_reports.htm](https://www.nd.gov.hk/en/research_reports.htm).

enforcement agencies combat drug supply at source through stemming illegal import and export of dangerous drugs, strengthening patrol of black spots and conducting online patrol, etc. Liaison and intelligence exchange with regional and international counterparts are also maintained to combat drug trafficking.

- 1.6 The fight against drugs is a long-term haul requiring continuous and concerted efforts under the multi-pronged approach to respond to the latest drug trend. To keep the public abreast of the drug situation and the Government's anti-drug work, ND reports on the annual drug situation in Hong Kong and the Government's anti-drug efforts to the Legislative Council Panel on Security every year<sup>2</sup>.

**(B) Three-year Plan on Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Services**

- 1.7 Since 1997, ND has worked with stakeholders in the anti-drug sector in formulating Three-year Plans on Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Services in Hong Kong (Three-year Plans). A Three-year Plan aims to set out the priorities and strategies for T&R services as a reference for service providers to review and develop their plans and programmes in light of the latest drug scene.

- 1.8 The objectives of this Three-year Plan are –

- (a) to evaluate the effectiveness of existing T&R programmes in Hong Kong in responding to the characteristics and needs of current drug abusers;
- (b) to identify areas for adjustment and enhancement of existing T&R services; and
- (c) to advise on the strategic directions to which T&R should take between 2021 and 2023.

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<sup>2</sup> In 2020, ND reported the drug situation in Hong Kong in 2019 to the Legislative Council Panel on Security on 7 July 2020. The paper and minutes of the panel meeting can be found on <https://www.legco.gov.hk/yr19-20/english/panels/se/papers/se20200707cb2-1286-2-e.pdf> and <https://www.legco.gov.hk/yr19-20/english/panels/se/minutes/se20200707.pdf> respectively.

- 1.9 Three-year Plans were issued in 1997, 2000, 2003, 2006, 2009, 2012, 2015 and 2018. This is the ninth Three-year Plan and it covers the period from 2021 to 2023.

**(C) Preparation of Three-year Plan for 2021-2023**

- 1.10 The formulation of the Three-year Plan is a consensus building process among stakeholders in the anti-drug sector, and ND has engaged different parties, solicited their views and co-ordinated inputs. Dr Ben CHEUNG, the then Chairman of ACAN for the period of 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2020, led a Working Group (WG) comprising members from T&R agencies, counselling centres, the medical sector and relevant government parties to advise on the formulation of the Plan. The membership list and terms of reference of the WG are at **Annex A**.
- 1.11 Between May and September 2020, ND representatives met with representatives of more than 70 parties, including counselling centres for psychotropic substance abusers, centres for drug counselling, drug treatment and rehabilitation centres, substance abuse clinics of the Hospital Authority (HA), youth outreaching teams and overnight outreaching services for young night drifters, grantees of BDF and relevant government departments, to listen to their frontline experience and exchange views on areas of focus.
- 1.12 The consultation framework as well as the draft of the Three-year Plan were discussed and reviewed by ACAN, its T&R Sub-committee and the Drug Liaison Committee (DLC).

**(D) Implementation and Follow-up**

- 1.13 The Three-year Plans serve as useful references for the anti-drug sector to plan and adjust their services from time to time. As in the last exercise, ND will widely promulgate this Three-year Plan to stakeholders, including relevant government bureaux and departments, HA and non-governmental organisations. The Three-year Plan will also be put on ND's website for public access. Views received during the consultation that have gone beyond the scope of drug T&R services will be conveyed to relevant parties

through the established mechanism for consideration and follow-up as appropriate.

- 1.14 ND will maintain close liaison with the stakeholders to follow up on the implementation of the recommended strategic directions, and report progress to ACAN, its T&R Sub-committee and DLC as necessary.

## Chapter 2

### EXISTING TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION SERVICES AND PROGRESS MADE SINCE THE LAST THREE-YEAR PLAN

- 2.1 Chapter 2 provides an overview of the existing treatment and rehabilitation (T&R) services available in Hong Kong as well as highlights key progress achieved on various fronts since the issue of the eighth Three-year Plan for 2018 to 2020.
- 2.2 It should be noted that various T&R services in 2020 have been tremendously affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. For instance, physical outreach visits and group activities have been reduced under social distancing requirement, whereas the intake rates of some drug treatment and rehabilitation centres (DTRCs) have dropped because of the longer time required before admission under the quarantine arrangement. Also, some drug abusers were reluctant to attend medical consultations in Substance Abuse Clinics (SACs) or hospitals for fear of being infected with COVID-19.

#### **(A) Existing T&R Services**

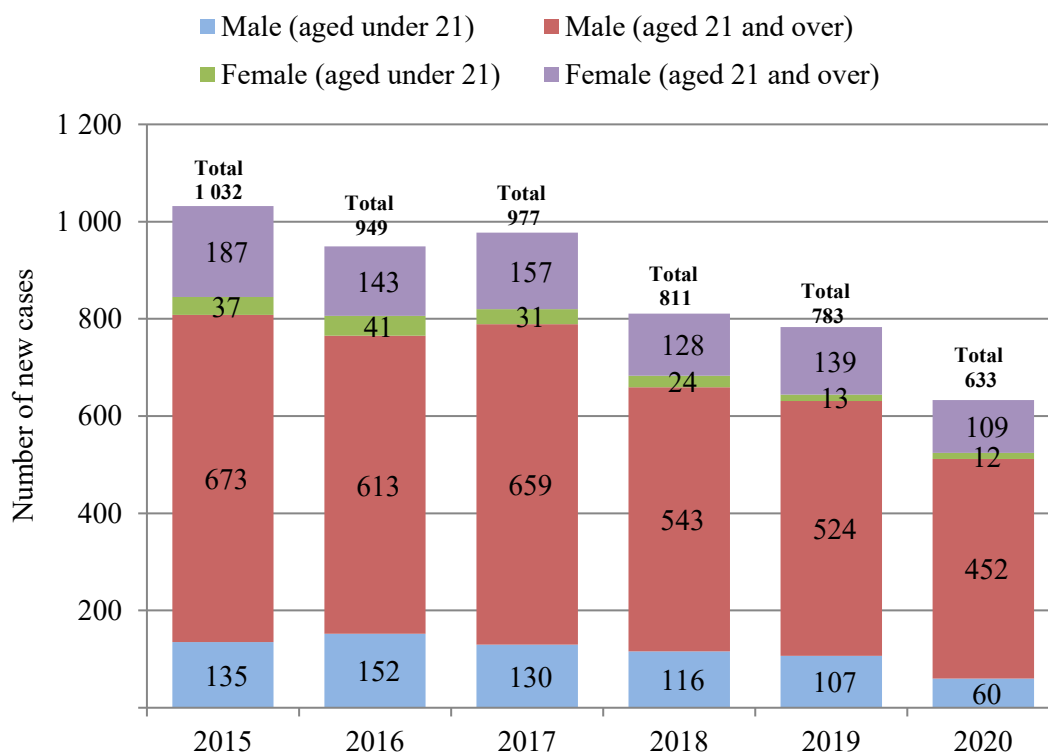
- 2.3 Hong Kong adopts a multi-modality approach in providing drug T&R services for abusers of varying backgrounds, with a view to helping them quit drugs and achieve abstinence, and reintegrate into society.
- 2.4 There are various types of drug T&R services in Hong Kong involving different service providers, such as Government departments, Hospital Authority (HA), non-governmental organisations (NGOs) as well as private practitioners. There are residential-based or community-based T&R services, some with religious background and some without; some are operated or subvented by the Government while some are self-financing. Most of the T&R services are provided on a voluntary basis and people with drug abuse problem may choose the services that most suit their needs. On the other hand, convicted drug-dependent persons may be ordered by the court for admission to Drug Addiction Treatment Centres (DATCs) operated by the Correctional Services Department (CSD) on a compulsory

basis or receive services in other drug T&R residential or community based units under court or probation orders.

(i) Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres

2.5 DTRCs, operated by NGOs, offer detoxification and T&R programmes to drug abusers in a residential environment away from drugs. Other support services (e.g. vocational and/or life skill training) are also available to facilitate rehabilitees to reintegrate into society. For young drug abusers, some DTRCs provide educational programmes having regard to their personal growth stage, learning diversity and interests. DTRCs also offer varying types of aftercare services for rehabilitees such as continuous structured or informal monitoring, counselling and mutual support groups to help them maintain abstinence from drugs upon completion of the residential drug treatment programmes. Currently, there are 37 DTRCs run by 16 NGOs, 19 of which are subvented by the Department of Health (DH) or the Social Welfare Department (SWD) while 18 are self-financed.

Figure 1: Number of new admissions to DTRCs



Remark: The figures for 2020 should be viewed with caution as they might have been affected by the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic.



*Table 1: Number of persons under treatment in DTRCs or on aftercare by DTRCs as at 31 December of each respective year*

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
Age under 21	385	412	410	340	315	272
All ages	2 539	2 409	2 591	2 549	2 523	2 422

2.6 The Drug Dependent Persons Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres (Licensing) Ordinance (Cap. 566) (the Ordinance) came into operation in April 2002 for the protection of well-being of drug dependent persons undergoing residential T&R programmes. Currently, 26 out of 37 DTRCs have already been licensed under the Ordinance. The remaining 11 centres, which had been in operation before the implementation of the Ordinance, are operating on certificates of exemption issued under the Ordinance. To fully meet the licensing requirements, these 11 DTRCs would need to carry out in-situ upgrading (e.g. removal of unauthorised building structures) or redevelopment on other sites which are suitable for long-term operation, etc. The Narcotics Division (ND), SWD and relevant Government departments have been rendering support to DTRCs concerned in taking forward their in-situ redevelopment, upgrading or non in-situ reprovisioning works for obtaining the required licences under the Ordinance. Assistance rendered includes identifying potential sites for reprovisioning of DTRCs, and facilitating DTRCs in making necessary funding applications for related works, etc.

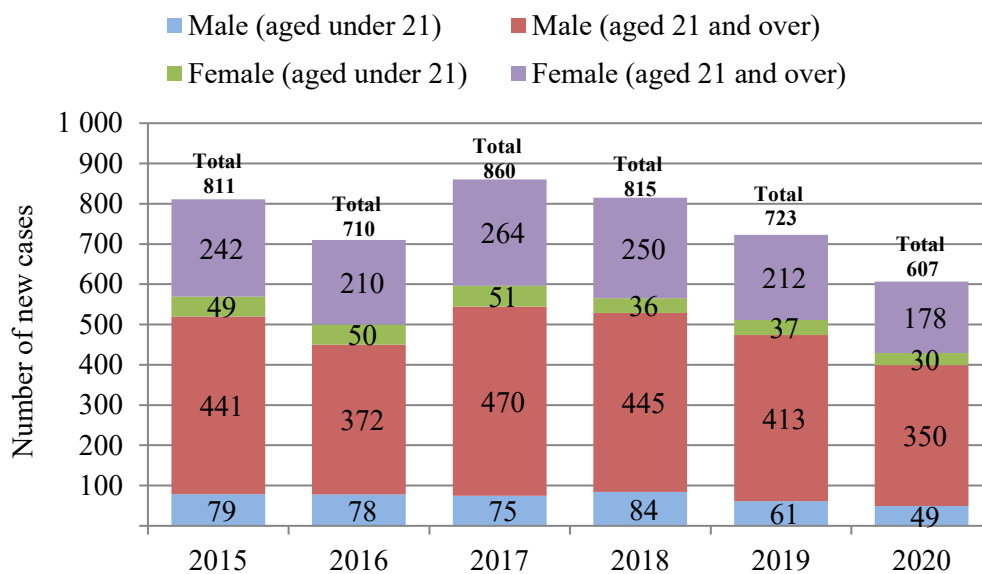
(ii) Counselling Centres for Psychotropic Substance Abusers (CCPSAs)

2.7 CCPSAs offer community-based T&R counselling services and support to psychotropic substance abusers (PSAs). To enable timely and early medical intervention to drug abusers, CCPSAs provide on-site medical support service such as body checks and drug tests, and also motivational interviews and drug-related consultation to PSAs. Where appropriate, CCPSAs will refer cases in need of more intensive medical care to SACs and other medical specialists. They also provide aftercare services for needy dischargees from DTRCs, ex-probationers, and inmates released from correctional facilities managed by CSD for rehabilitation of their drug abuse problems. Counselling and support services for family members of drug abusers are provided as well.

2.8 CCPSAs also conduct anti-drug preventive education and publicity (PE&P) programmes in the community, secondary schools, post-secondary education institutions as well as workplaces to enhance knowledge and awareness of drug abuse problems. For professionals who may come across PSAs in the course of their work, such as teachers, medical and health professionals, police and social workers, CCPSAs offer professional training to them at district level via talks and seminars, group activities, etc. with a view to enriching their knowledge and capacity to render assistance to PSAs.

2.9 There are currently 11 district-based CCPSAs subvented by SWD.

Figure 2: Number of new cases of CCPSAs



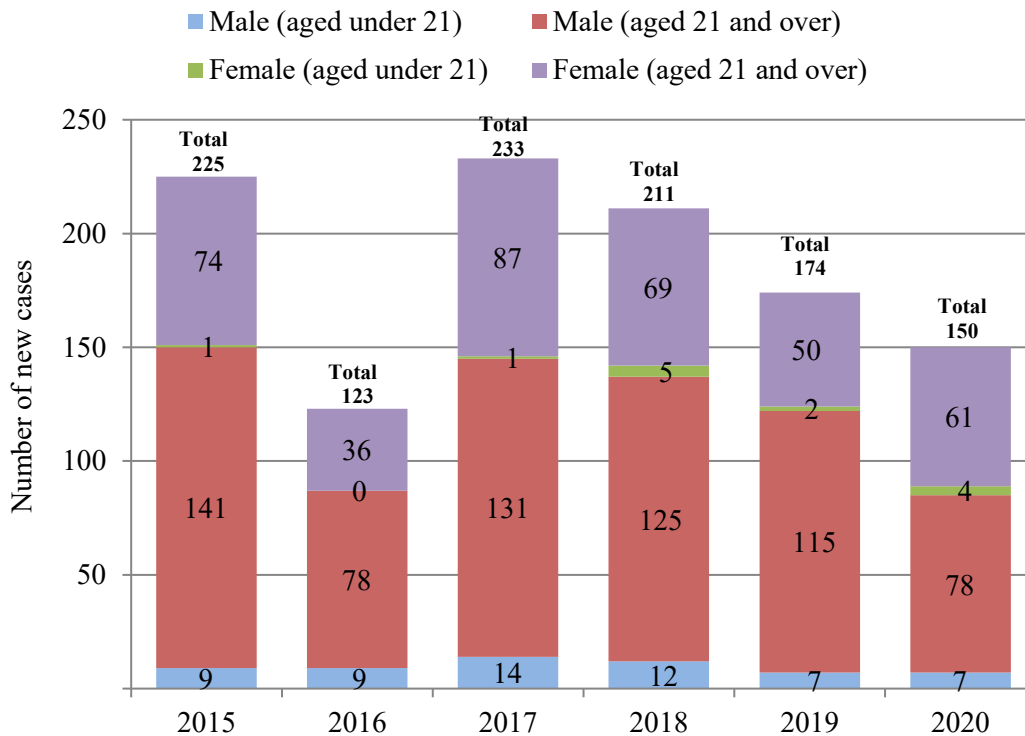
Remark: The figures for 2020 should be viewed with caution as they might have been affected by the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic.

(iii) Centres for Drug Counselling (CDCs)

2.10 CDCs target to provide community-based T&R services to help drug abusers, especially adult drug abusers, abstain from drug abuse, and assist drug rehabilitees maintain abstinence. When first established in the 1960s, CDCs mainly rendered services for heroin abusers. In view of the changing drug trend over the past decades, CDCs have broadened their focus to also cover PSAs and their family members.

2.11 CDCs provide individual counselling, group activities and support for drug abusers and their family members as well as on-site medical support service to early identify and motivate drug abusers to seek T&R services. PE&P programmes for various target groups are also conducted, including post-secondary education institutions, vocational training organisations and industries with more at-risk practitioners. At present, there are two CDCs subvented by SWD to serve the whole territory.

Figure 3: Number of new cases of CDCs



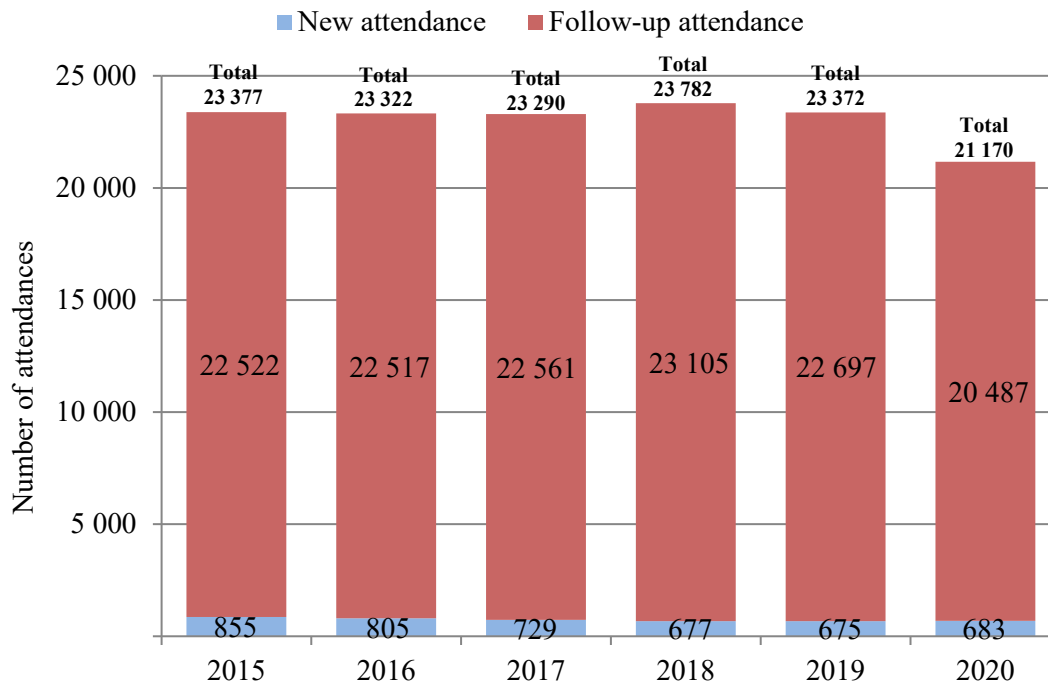
Remark: The figures for 2020 should be viewed with caution as they might have been affected by the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic.

(iv) Substance Abuse Clinics

2.12 SACs, operated by HA, offer outpatient medical consultation and treatment by psychiatrists to drug abusers with psychiatric problems, and provide other supporting services by occupational therapists and clinical psychologists. SACs accept referrals from T&R service units, relevant NGOs and medical practitioners. Apart from striving to offer first consultation sessions to new cases within four weeks, SACs exercise flexibility in advancing medical appointments, arranging consultation sessions in shorter intervals and/or offering immediate preliminary

assessments by psychiatric nurses to address the needs of individual patients having regard to their medical conditions. There are currently nine SACs under the seven hospital clusters operated by HA.

Figure 4: Number of new and follow-up attendances at SACs



Remark: The figures for 2020 should be viewed with caution as they might have been affected by the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic.

2.13 Apart from specialist outpatient services offered by SACs, public hospitals also offer inpatient psychiatric treatment to stabilise the mental conditions of patients where necessary. Psychiatric Day Hospitals provide multi-disciplinary assessment, continued care and rehabilitation services to psychiatric patients (including those drug-taking patients). At the community level, Community Psychiatric Services provided by all hospital clusters of HA and its “Mental Health Direct” hotline also offer support and advice to psychiatric patients including those drug-taking ones, their carers and relevant stakeholders.

(v) District Youth Outreaching Social Work Teams (YOT) and Overnight Outreaching Service for Young Night Drifters (YND) Teams

2.14 Subvented by SWD, YOT/YND teams seek out and engage young people aged 24 or below, who do not normally participate in conventional social

activities and are vulnerable to negative influence including drug abuse. Through on-the-spot contacts and immediate intervention, social workers establish trustful relationship with youngsters through rapport building, which is conducive to cultivating and maintaining motivation to quit and stay away from drugs. Other services such as drug counselling and rehabilitation are also offered as appropriate, and cases may be referred to appropriate service units for follow-up. At present, there are 19 YOT teams and 18 YND teams.

(vi) Methadone Treatment Programme (MTP)

2.15 MTP as administered by DH in methadone clinics offer both maintenance and detoxification programmes for abusers of opiate drugs. Under the maintenance programme, patients take daily prescribed dose of methadone to reduce or cease their craving for opioids. The detoxification programme aims to help patients taper off drugs by gradually reducing their daily dosage of methadone until they are completely drug-free over a period of time. To support the psychological needs of methadone clinic users, counselling services and group programmes are also provided at the clinics by the NGO commissioned by DH. Aftercare services are also offered to patients who have completed the detoxification programme for prevention of relapse. Currently, there are 19 methadone clinics serving various districts.

*Table 2: Utilisation of MTP*

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
Newly/Re-admitted cases*	4 171	3 892	3 696	3 758	3 100	3 109
Attendance rate:						
Effective registration	6 677	6 236	5 826	5 782	5 247	5 298
Daily attendance	4 994	4 629	4 323	4 383	3 876	4 077
Average daily attendance rate	74.8%	74.2%	74.2%	75.8%	73.9%	77.0%

\* *Re-admitted cases refer to patients who had not attended methadone clinics for consecutive 28 days or more and subsequently came back to use the services during the reporting period.*

(vii) Drug Addiction Treatment Centres

- 2.16 Operated by CSD, DATCs admit drug dependent persons aged 14 or above who are convicted of relevant offences, not necessarily drug-related, and are considered by the courts suitable for treatment under the programme. The treatment programme of DATCs aims to prepare inmates for reintegration into society and maintain abstinence from drugs. DATCs also provide structured and market-oriented vocational training programmes for inmates to help them attain recognised qualifications and equip themselves with employment skills for self-reliance.
- 2.17 To provide continued care and guidance, a 12-month statutory supervision is provided for inmates upon release from DATCs. CSD's rehabilitation staff on supervision duties, with the support of families of the discharges, establish rapport with the discharges and prepare them to face the challenges on their return to the community through regular meetings and also visits to their homes or workplaces. Drug tests are also arranged to ensure the discharges remain drug-free.
- 2.18 There are currently four DATCs, namely Hei Ling Chau Addiction Treatment Centre, Lai Sun Correctional Institution, Nai Kwu Correctional Institution and Lai King Correctional Institution.

Figure 5: Number of admissions to DATCs

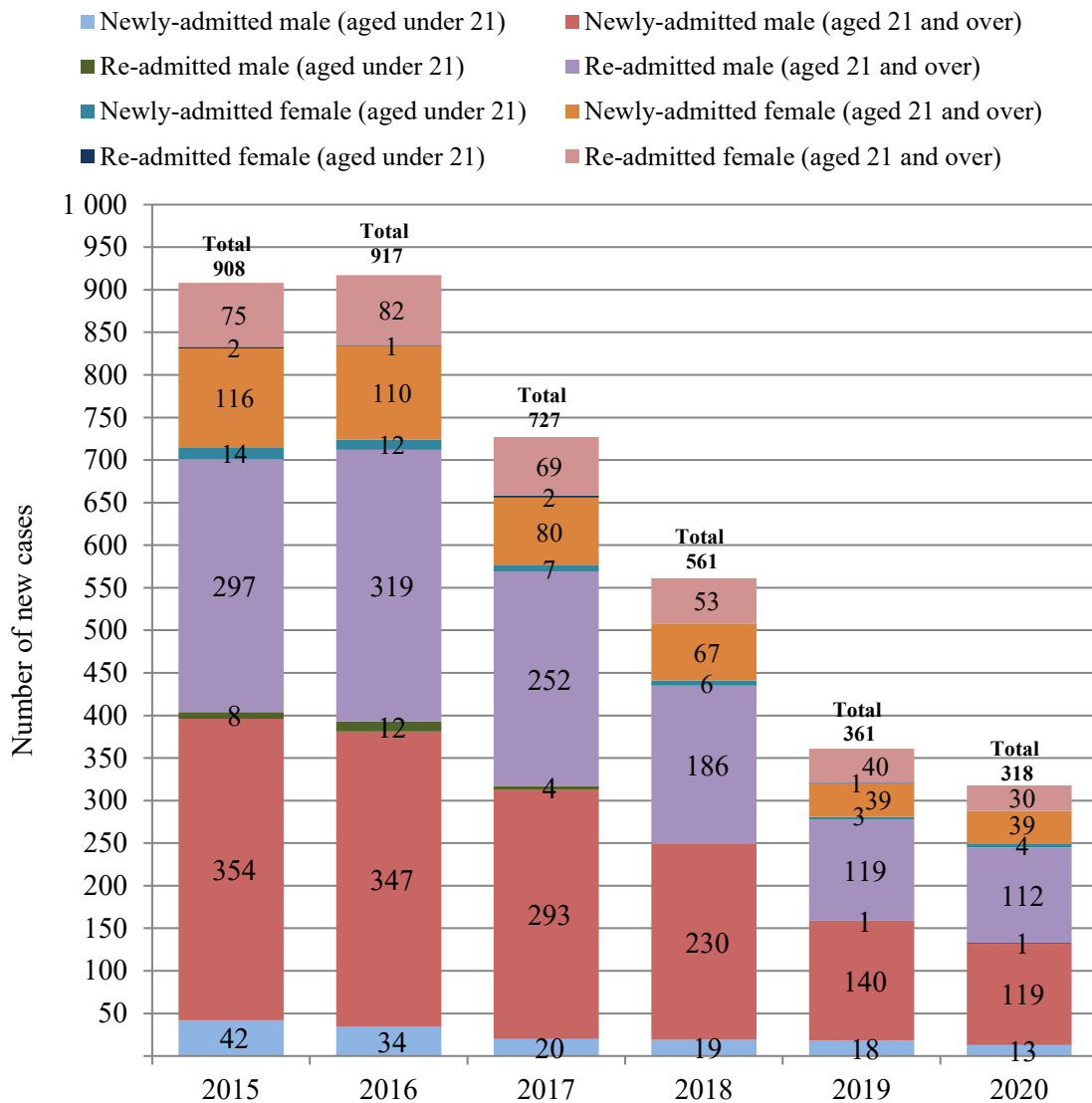


Table 3: Number of discharges and number of persons under treatment and supervision in DATCs as at 31 December of each respective year

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Dischargees*	967	831	838	610	506	242
Treatment <sup>#</sup>	580	668	539	413	201	272
Supervision <sup>#</sup>	887	754	708	551	511	199

\* The numbers represent the total number of discharges for the whole year but exclude those transferred to other correctional programmes.

<sup>#</sup> The numbers represent the people under treatment/supervision as at 31 December of the respective years.

(viii) Enhanced Probation Service (EPS)

- 2.19 Illicit possession and consumption of dangerous drugs constitute offences under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance (Cap. 134). Subject to consideration of the courts, offenders of drug-related crimes may receive probation supervision among a range of sentencing options including custodial sentence. Under a probation order, a probationer with drug-related problems is normally required to undertake anti-drug counselling and treatment under a probation officer (PO)'s statutory supervision.
- 2.20 For young offenders aged below 21 convicted of drug-related offences, SWD has since 2009 operated EPS to provide more focused, structured and intensive treatment programme for these young people. Under EPS, supervising POs conduct more frequent and intensive interview sessions with probationers and their family members; pay surprise home visits and checks to assist probationers in keeping themselves on the right track; conduct more frequent and random urine tests for ascertaining that probationers remain drug-free; and arrange structured thematic therapeutic programmes and training to meet the rehabilitation needs of individual probationers. EPS has been proved effective in preventing relapse to drugs and lowering reconviction rates of young offenders during the probation supervision period.

*Table 4: Number of probationers placed under EPS*

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
No. of new cases	54	50	29	41	30	38
No. of completed cases	45	68	55	38	39	33

(ix) T&R and Drug-related Research Projects Funded by Beat Drugs Fund (BDF)

- 2.21 Established by the Government and governed by the Beat Drugs Fund Association (BDFA), BDF has a capital base of \$3.35 billion and has been providing funding support to worthwhile anti-drug projects. Projects funded include those providing T&R services to people with drug problems, organising PE&P programmes targeting the general public and/or specific groups, conducting researches on drug abuse problem, or a combination of the above components. BDFA, taking into account the drug situation and the advice of the Action Committee Against Narcotics (ACAN), specifies priority areas in the annual BDF Regular Funding Scheme (RFS) to



encourage interested applicants to plan suitable anti-drug projects that can respond to the latest drug problems.

- 2.22 On research side, ND has been encouraging interested parties to submit RFS applications for conducting drug-related researches. Findings of completed researches are publicised on ND's website and shared with the anti-drug sector. The research findings provide solid foundation for service providers to refine their services, and enable an evidence-based approach in the formulation of anti-drug policies and programmes.

**(B) Highlights of Key Progress Achieved since Publication of the Last Three-year Plan for 2018 to 2020**

- 2.23 The evolving drug scene presents new challenges to the anti-drug work. In the eighth Three-year Plan for 2018 to 2020, service providers were encouraged to explore, develop and implement initiatives in the following strategic areas to respond to the major challenges identified: (i) treatment of people with "Ice" abuse problems; (ii) early identification of hidden drug abusers; (iii) services for young adult drug abusers; and (iv) support to specific groups of drug abusers.

- 2.24 Since the last Three-year Plan for 2018 to 2020, various drug T&R measures and initiatives have been put in place with the concerted efforts of the Government and the anti-drug sector. The following paragraphs highlight some key progress in the strategic areas.

Treatment of People with "Ice" Abuse Problems

- 2.25 The prevalence of "Ice" abuse among drug abusers and the comorbidity of drug-induced psychiatric symptoms among many "Ice" abusers have called for joint efforts in the anti-drug sector to combat the problem. HA, being one of the major service providers, has continued to provide diversified inpatient and outpatient mental health services for drug abusers. In respect of outpatient services provided by SACs, the overall median waiting time for first attendances was about three weeks in the 2019-20 financial year, which is shorter than the normal 4-week waiting time.

- 2.26 Serving as a useful reference for resource planning and T&R programme design, a BDF research project titled "Identifying Hidden Psychotropic

Substance Abusers among Patients Attending the Accident & Emergency Departments in Hong Kong” was completed in 2018. The findings show that the number of hidden PSAs that could be found among patients attending Accident & Emergency Departments (A&ED) was low due to various reasons. As such, non-targeted screening at A&ED would probably not be cost-effective. Instead of providing non-targeted services, HA has enhanced the psychiatric nursing manpower so as to provide strengthened support for the psychiatric consultation liaison service at A&ED of public hospitals.

- 2.27 Medical service units under HA have also collaborated with T&R service units to provide joint services to “Ice” abusers. In particular, SACs have worked with CCPSAs to arrange for joint intake interviews with service users, regular case conferences, and joint home visits to drug abusers. With funding support from BDF, a social service unit has collaborated with a public hospital for the latter to provide outpatient occupational therapy services for drug abusers with low motivation to quit drugs. Under the programme, drug abusers were given medical and cognitive function assessments to enable them to better understand the harmful effects of drug abuse on their health and in turn strengthen their drug-quitting motivation. “Ice” abusers who were found to have mental health problems have also been referred to SAC for further follow-up.
- 2.28 As regards capacity building, HA and SWD have continued to provide diverse training courses for relevant personnel. For medical professionals, HA arranged for experienced psychiatrists at SACs to provide drug-related training to case managers of HA’s Community Psychiatric Services who may come across patients with drug abuse problems. ND has also been invited to brief nursing staff of HA on the Government’s anti-drug policy and available T&R services as part of the post-registration certificate course in substance abuse nursing. For the social service sector, SWD has arranged training courses for social workers to enhance the understanding of the impacts of drug abuse on health and mental conditions, and the capacity to addressing the multi-faceted needs of drug abusers.

#### Early Identification of Hidden Drug Abusers

- 2.29 The problem of hidden drug abusers remains a concern as more abusers tend to take drugs at home or friends’ homes, instead of in more prominent public places. Many service providers have launched different projects aiming at

early identification of drug abusers. Multi-disciplinary outreaching teams comprising social workers, psychiatric nurses and peer counsellors have been formed. Different means have been deployed to engage drug abusers, including physical outreaching visits to high-risk places, online outreaching through social media platforms, and reaching out to high-risk youth and hidden drug abusers through peer snowballing, etc. Some CCPSAs have also cooperated with outreaching teams to conduct joint outreaching, with a view to engaging hidden drug abusers and encouraging them to seek help.

- 2.30 Peer counsellors are best placed to connect with hidden abusers. To better equip peer counsellors, a social service unit has organised a Foundation Certificate in Peer Counsellor Training Course to provide structured training to drug rehabilitees who are interested in taking up the role of peer counsellors. The Course is recognised by the Employees Retraining Board with the fifth round organised in 2019.
- 2.31 Additional resource has been given to CCPSAs and CDC since October 2020 to add two peer support workers (PSWs) for each centre. Through emotional and empathetic support and various activities such as interviews, visits, escorts, groups as well as PE&P programmes, PSWs have strengthened the capability of CCPSAs and CDC in early identification, engagement, treatment and rehabilitation and support for drug abusers, especially hidden ones, and their family members.
- 2.32 Some service units have also organised drug-related training and activities for different stakeholders in the community, including parents, teachers, community leaders, property management staff, security guards of residential estates, wardens of student hostels in tertiary education institutions, and university medical students, to enhance their awareness of drug harms and symptoms of drug abuse; which also enable them to be more alert in the early identification of hidden drug abusers.
- 2.33 ND has continued to encourage and promote help-seeking of drug abusers. The “186 186” telephone hotline service and the “98 186 186” instant messaging service via WhatsApp and WeChat (the Hotline Services) offer easily accessible professional support and assistance to people with drug problems and their families and friends, especially hidden drug abusers. The NGO operator of the Hotline Services also makes use of its anti-drug Smart Truck to carry out outreaching work to schools and housing estates.

## Services for Young Adult Drug Abusers

- 2.34 With collaboration being set as one of the strategic directions in the eighth Three-year Plan for 2018 to 2020, different service units have substantially enhanced collaborative work among themselves to provide holistic support to cater for the multi-faceted needs of young adult drug abusers. In 2019, ND and anti-drug service units attended respective district co-ordination meetings on services for families and young people conducted by the 11 SWD's District Social Welfare Offices to share the latest drug-related information and exchange views with other welfare service units and community stakeholders to forge collaboration. Within the anti-drug sector, CCPSAs, CDCs and DTRCs have maintained regular contacts to update one another on newly launched programmes and discuss further collaboration on T&R services for young adults.
- 2.35 To facilitate collaboration for strengthening aftercare services, SWD has adjusted the Funding and Service Agreement (FSA) with CCPSAs from 1 October 2019 to allow them to extend their services to cover inmates released from correctional facilities and ex-probationers upon expiry of statutory supervision, as well as discharges of subvented (in addition to self-financing) DTRCs upon expiry of aftercare service provided by respective DTRCs. A continuous aftercare support would help drug rehabilitees, in particular young adult abusers, to reintegrate into society. To further encourage CCPSA's collaboration with different sectors (including family services, medical services and community mental health services) in case handling, the performance output level of FSA regarding the number of cases involving stakeholders has been increased by 10% from 100 to 110 cases per year for each CCPSA starting from October 2019.
- 2.36 For residential T&R services, DH has approved the applications made by two DTRCs receiving DH's recurrent subvention for raising the age limit of their service users from "aged below 30" to "aged 35 or below".
- 2.37 A number of DTRCs have also implemented short-term programmes, ranging from 14 days to about four weeks, to address the needs of young adults who could only afford a short break from their routine.
- 2.38 Many anti-drug service units have, based on either their recurrent resources or BDF funding, provided preventive education and outreaching work in tertiary education institutions and workplaces, targeting young adults.

## Support to Specific Groups of Drug Abusers

- 2.39 In response to the recommended strategic directions set in the eighth Three-year Plan for 2018 to 2020, the anti-drug sector has continued to put great efforts to cater for the needs of specific groups of drug abusers, and progress has been achieved. More ethnic minority social workers and peer counsellors have been employed by anti-drug service providers to better understand and address the needs of ethnic minority drug abusers. Tailor-made outreaching and engagement programmes to high-risk ethnic minorities are also provided. Apart from ethnic minorities, targeted preventive education and T&R programmes for sexual minorities, funded by BDF, have also been implemented.
- 2.40 In respect of pregnant drug abusers and drug-abusing mothers, CCPSAs have built closer liaison with medical service units of HA and DH as well as SWD's family service units to facilitate mutual case referral and handling cases on a co-work basis. Noting that different professionals may sometimes face difficulties in sharing their respective assessments on the parenting capacity of carers with drug abuse history, SWD has arranged seminars to facilitate relevant professionals to use the Parenting Capacity Assessment Framework for children aged three or below. Also, in the revised "Procedural Guide for Handling Child Abuse Cases" which was renamed as "Protecting Children from Maltreatment – Procedural Guide for Multi-disciplinary Co-operation", anti-drug and other social service units are recommended to conduct welfare meetings, case meetings or pre-birth conferences for cases involving pregnant drug abusers and drug-abusing parents so as to ensure early collaborative intervention for child protection.
- 2.41 In addition, there has been closer collaboration among service units, including HA, CCPSAs, DTRCs, Integrated Family Service Centres, Family and Child Protective Services Unit, and Maternal and Child Health Centres, under the platform of the Comprehensive Child Development Service, for the provision of T&R and other support services to strengthen the motivation of service users to quit drugs.

## Beat Drugs Fund Projects

- 2.42 As mentioned in paragraph 2.21 above, specific priority areas for the BDF RFS exercise are drawn up annually by BDFA taking into account the drug situation and the advice of ACAN, to encourage interested applicants to

plan suitable anti-drug projects that can respond to the latest drug problems. In 2018 to 2020, the priority areas for T&R projects in the RFS exercises have reflected the strategic directions set out in the last Plan, thus serving as catalysts to encourage more projects to deliver services along those strategic directions. More than 100 T&R and mixed-type (with T&R elements) projects were approved in 2018 to 2020. For example, some projects provided enhanced T&R and targeted preventive education programmes for specific groups of drug abusers, such as young adult drug abusers, female drug abusers including pregnant women/mothers and drug abusers of ethnic minorities and sexual minorities. Some projects sought to strengthen collaboration among various sectors and service modes to help the increasingly complex PSA cases. Some aimed at early identification of hidden drug abusers, provision of a continuum of T&R services for drug abusers and relapse prevention through various measures. Training courses or workshops to enhance the capacity of relevant personnel in handling drug abuser cases were also provided under various projects.

- 2.43 During the same period, BDF also approved 20 research projects or mixed-type projects with research elements, covering a variety of topics including drug harms, T&R approaches and the problem of hidden drug abuse. To facilitate exchange and sharing of experiences on the implementation of BDF projects with a view to enhancing the T&R services provided to drug abusers, BDF grantees were invited to present their projects and share their findings with the anti-drug sector through various platforms such as ACAN, its T&R Sub-committee and the Drug Liaison Committee.
- 2.44 A list of these T&R, research and mixed-type projects approved in the 2018 to 2020 RFS exercises is at **Annex B**.

Table 5: BDF RFS Projects

	<b>2018 RFS</b>	<b>2019 RFS</b>	<b>2020 RFS</b>
Total approved grant amount (\$ million)	\$123.7	\$135.7	\$142.2
Grant amount for T&R projects (\$ million) (% of total approved grant amount)	\$25.2 (20.3%)	\$60.3 (44.4%)	\$35.9 (25.2%)
Grant amount for research projects (\$ million) (% of total approved grant amount)	\$18.6 (15.0%)	\$5.5 (4.1%)	\$4.5 (3.2%)
Grant amount for mixed-type projects with T&R and/or research elements (\$ million) (% of total approved grant amount)	\$54.3 (43.9%)	\$51.0 (37.6%)	\$74.7 (52.5%)
Total number of approved projects	61	54	60
Total number of approved T&R projects, research projects and mixed-type projects with T&R and/or research elements	40	40	41

*Note: For 2018 RFS and 2019 RFS, audit fees approved and accepted by grantees are included. For 2020 RFS, audit fees approved are included.*

## Chapter 3

### LATEST DRUG SCENE AND DRUG TREND

- 3.1 Chapter 3 sets out an overview of the drug scene and drug trend in Hong Kong in recent years based on the statistics of the Central Registry of Drug Abuse (CRDA) as well as the views collated from the Working Group on the Three-year Plan for 2021 to 2023 and stakeholders during the consultation process of this Three-year Plan. The major findings, including the overall drug situation, the common types of drugs being abused and specific groups of drug abusers etc. are outlined in this chapter.
- 3.2 CRDA is a voluntary reporting system. It records information of drug abusers who have come into contact with and been reported by its reporting agencies, including law enforcement agencies, treatment and welfare units, tertiary institutions, hospitals and clinics. Compiled statistics of CRDA are reported to the Action Committee Against Narcotics and released to the public on a quarterly basis.
- 3.3 Although by nature CRDA does not measure the exact size of the drug-abusing population in Hong Kong at any particular time, statistics derived therefrom serve as indicators of the trends of drug abuse over time, allowing the anti-drug sector and interested parties to keep in view the latest local drug scene and drug trend as well as supporting an evidence-based approach to the formulation of anti-drug policy and measures.

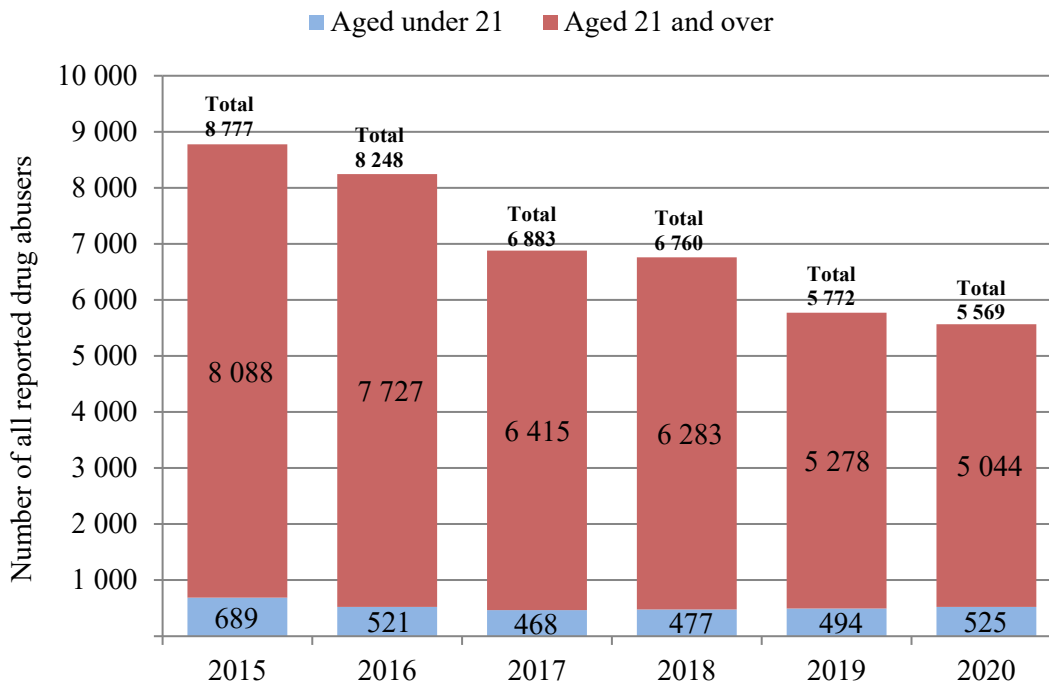
#### **(A) Overall Downward Trend, but Increase in Young Drug Abusers**

- 3.4 The last Three-year Plan issued in March 2018 reported a continued downward trend of the total number of all reported drug abusers in Hong Kong from 2008 to 2017. According to the latest figures of CRDA, the declining trend continued from 2018 to 2020. The total number of all reported drug abusers declined by 18%, from 6 760 in 2018 to 5 569 in 2020. The number of newly reported drug abusers in 2020 also decreased by 18% (from 1 734 to 1 423) as compared to 2018.



- 3.5 The statistics for 2020 should however be viewed with caution as the figures might have been affected by the local COVID-19 pandemic since its outbreak in early 2020. Reporting agencies might have come into contact with fewer drug abusers due to the pandemic, and might have taken more time to submit data of drug abusers to CRDA.
- 3.6 Notwithstanding the overall declining trend of total reported drug abusers, the number as well as the proportion of reported drug abusers aged under 21 have picked up again since 2018, from 468 (6.8%) in 2017 to 477 (7.1%) in 2018 and 494 (8.6%) in 2019 and further to 525 (9.4%) in 2020, representing an increase of 12% in the number over the past three years. Among all the reported young drug abusers aged under 21 in 2020, 35% were students.

Figure 6: Number of all reported drug abusers



- 3.7 In addition, the findings of the triennial Survey of Drug Use among Students (Students Survey) in 2017/18, a research project conducted by a research institute commissioned by the Narcotics Division, indicated that the number of students who claimed to have taken drugs had increased by 23% (from 14 500 to 17 800) as compared to the number recorded in the 2014/15 Students Survey. The prevalence rate of drug-taking students in different education levels were 0.9% for upper primary, 2.6% for secondary and 3.9% for post-secondary. The corresponding rates recorded in the 2014/15

Students Survey were 0.8% for upper primary, 2.3% for secondary and 2.5% for post-secondary. Furthermore, over 80% of drug-taking students indicated that they had never sought help from others as they mostly did not consider themselves addicted to drugs.

- 3.8 A new round of triennial Students Survey for 2020/21 is underway to get hold of the latest drug situation among students. The results are expected to be available in 2022.

**(B) Prevalence of “Ice” Abuse**

- 3.9 The prevalence of reported abuse of “Ice” over ketamine has been recorded since 2015. Latest statistics of CRDA suggested that “Ice” continues to be the most common type of psychotropic substance abused. In 2020, there was still 36% of reported psychotropic substance abusers claiming to have taken “Ice” though the percentage showed a downward trend as compared to 39% in 2018.

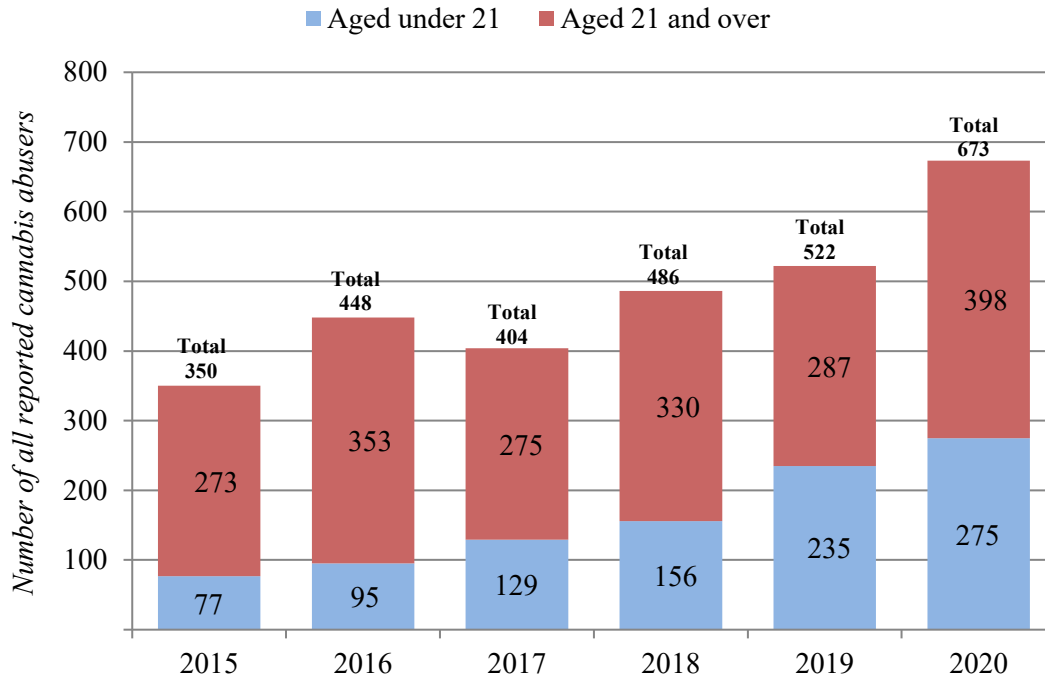
- 3.10 Anti-drug service providers have also reflected that most of the drug abusers admitted to or came across by various treatment and rehabilitation (T&R) service units were “Ice” abusers, and many of them suffer from drug-induced psychiatric problems, unstable mental health conditions and/or fluctuating emotions, which adversely affect their retention in treatment and motivation to quit drugs. The management of these drug-induced psychiatric issues poses great challenges to T&R service units, in particular drug treatment and rehabilitation centres.

**(C) Prevalence of Cannabis Abuse**

- 3.11 Since 2018, there has been an increase in the total number of cannabis abusers as recorded by CRDA. The total number of all reported drug abusers taking cannabis increased from 404 (5.9%) in 2017 to 486 (7.3%) in 2018 and 522 (9.2%) in 2019, and further to 673 (12.2%) in 2020. It is particularly worth noting that the percentage of all reported young drug abusers aged under 21 taking cannabis has substantially increased from 33.6% in 2018 to 49.1% in 2019 and 52.7% in 2020. These reported young cannabis abusers were mostly newly reported abusers. Cannabis is the most

commonly abused drug among reported drug abusers aged under 21 since 2019.

Figure 7: Number of all reported cannabis abusers

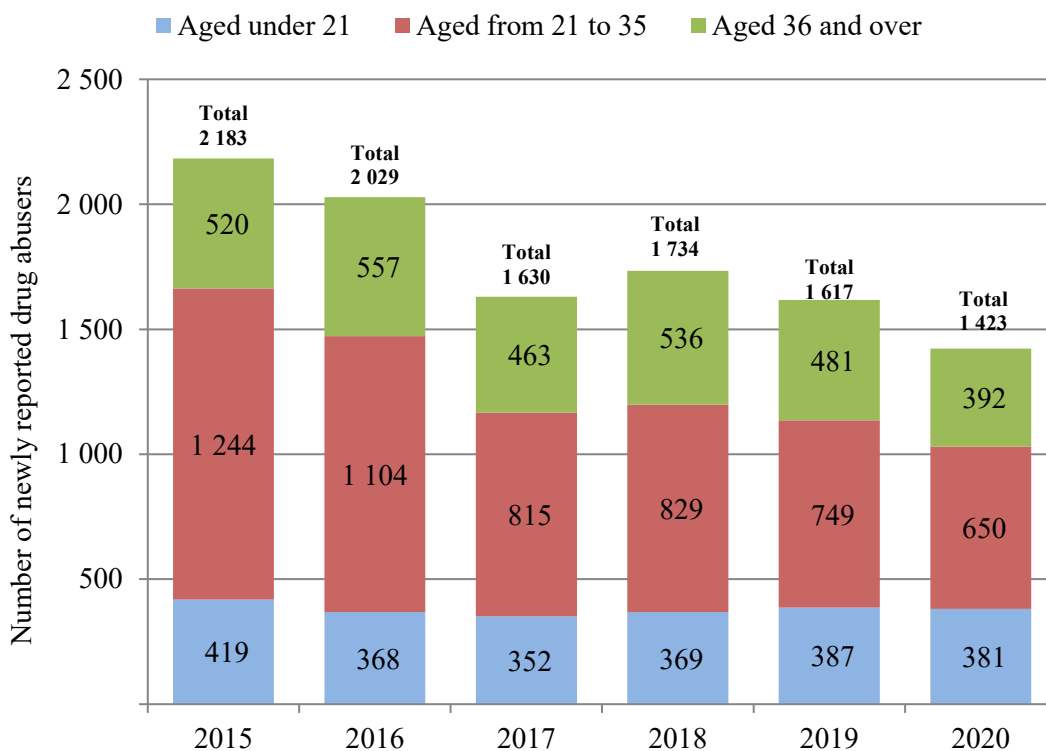


- 3.12 According to the 2017/18 Students Survey, cannabis was the most common type of drug taken by both secondary students and post-secondary students. The total number of students who claimed to have taken cannabis has increased from 8 600 (59.1%) in the 2014/15 Students Survey to 13 600 (76.5%) in the 2017/18 Students Survey.
- 3.13 Despite the prevalence of cannabis abuse, T&R service units have not reported a significant increase in the number of service users who abused cannabis. This discrepancy may be caused by the common misconception of cannabis abusers that cannabis is not harmful, and hence their reluctance to seek drug treatment. Given that many cannabis abusers may not experience immediate and severe health problems arising from their cannabis-taking habits, they also do not tend to seek medical assistance from Substance Abuse Clinics (SACs). It is therefore possible that cannabis abuser cases are not fully reflected in CRDA.

**(D) Relatively High Proportion of Newly Reported Drug Abusers Being Young Adults**

3.14 According to the figures of CRDA, among the newly reported drug abusers, the percentage of those aged under 21 were 21.3%, 23.9%, and 26.8% in 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively. While the proportion of this age group has increased gradually over the past three years, the proportion of newly reported drug abusers being young adults aged 21 to 35 remained to be relatively high, i.e. 47.8% in 2018, 46.3% in 2019 and 45.7% in 2020.

Figure 8: Number of newly reported drug abusers

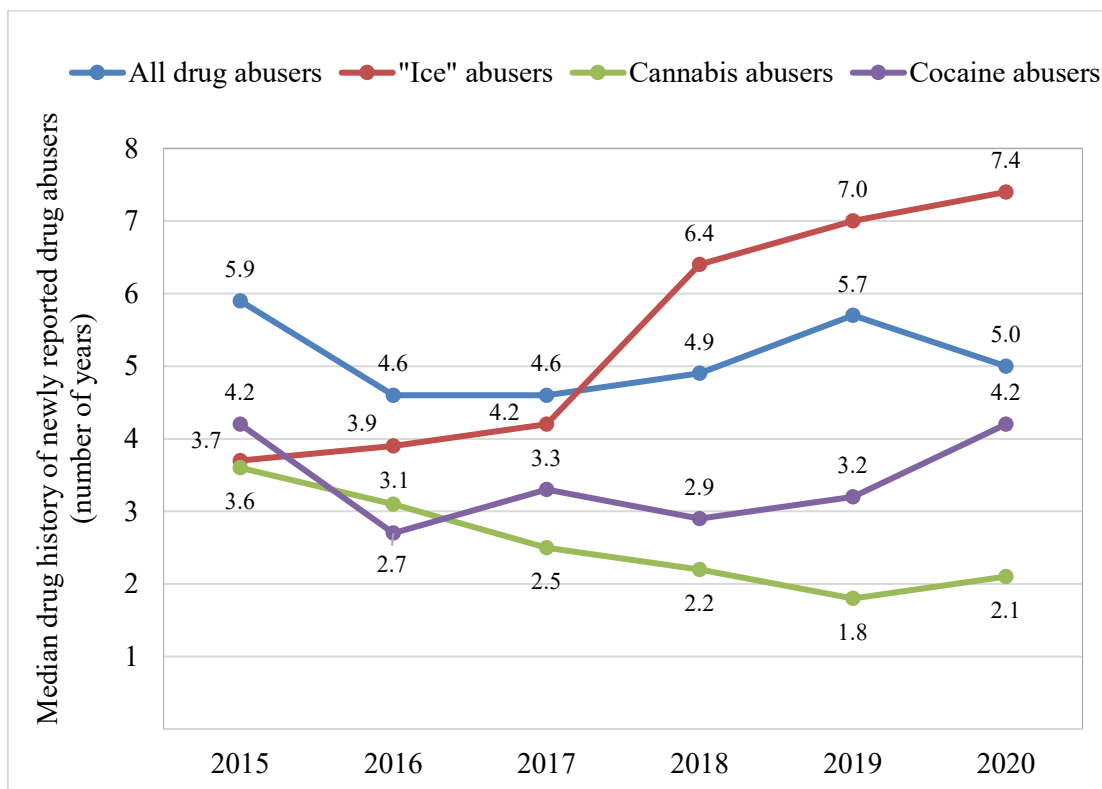


3.15 Stakeholders have reflected that young adult drug abusers include tertiary students, working adults, professionals and the non-engaged. According to CRDA, 34.3% of all reported drug abusers aged 21 to 35 were full-time workers, 16.4% were casual/part-time workers while 40.1% were unemployed in 2020. Many young adult drug abusers may encounter multi-faceted problems, making their cases more complicated.

**(E) Persistent Problem of Hidden Drug Abuse**

3.16 The latest CRDA figures revealed that the median history of drug abuse of newly reported abusers (i.e. the time for abusers to be reported to CRDA by reporting agencies from their first drug abuse) was 5.0 years in 2020, compared to 5.7 years in 2019. This indicates that the problem of hidden drug abuse still warrants attention.

*Figure 9: Median drug history of newly reported drug abusers*



3.17 Regarding the locality of drug abuse, the 2020 CRDA figures showed that 56.2% of all reported drug abusers took drugs at home or friend's home only, which has increased from 54.5% in 2019. This is in line with our observation on the worsening problem of hidden drug abuse.

3.18 Frontline social workers have expressed concerns that the local outbreak of COVID-19 since early 2020 may have further aggravated the problem as some people may resort to take drugs to relieve stress or depression while staying mostly at home. Seeking stress relief is one of the most common reasons for drug-taking.

## **(F) Specific Groups of Drug Abusers**

3.19 Many T&R service units and stakeholders have agreed that the following specific groups of drug abusers should be given continued attention –

- ethnic minority drug abusers;
- pregnant drug abusers and drug-abusing parents; and
- men who have sex with men (MSM) with drug abuse problem.

### Ethnic Minority Drug Abusers

3.20 The proportion of ethnic minority drug abusers has remained stable in recent years. It accounted for about 10% of the total number of reported drug abusers in Hong Kong from 2018 to 2020 as reflected by CRDA data. They were mainly Nepalis, Indians, Pakistanis, Bangladeshis and Sri Lankans while some were Vietnamese and Filipinos.

### Pregnant Drug Abusers and Drug-abusing Parents

3.21 The proportion of females among the total number of all reported drug abusers was 19.6% in 2018, 20.3% in 2019 and 20.8% in 2020, indicating a slight upward trend. As revealed by the 2020 statistics of CRDA, among the total number of all reported male and female drug abusers, those who were married/cohabiting were 28.9% and 31.4% respectively. Some of them may have become parents and face difficulties in their family relationships or parental role and duties.

### MSM with Drug Abuse Problem

3.22 Based on the “HARiS - HIV and AIDS Response Indicator Survey 2018 for Men who have Sex with Men” issued by the Department of Health (DH) in May 2019<sup>3</sup>, among all the 2,051 respondents who are MSM, 7.3% reported to have taken drugs before or during sex in the last six months. The most common drugs used is poppers<sup>4</sup> (59.7%), drugs for erectile dysfunction

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<sup>3</sup> The factsheet of “HARiS - HIV and AIDS Response Indicator Survey 2018 for Men who have Sex with Men” issued by DH in May 2019 is available for download at [https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/oth\\_rep2019\\_msm\\_e.pdf](https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/oth_rep2019_msm_e.pdf).

<sup>4</sup> “Popper” is a slang term given broadly to drugs of the chemical class called alkyl nitrites that are inhaled.

(41.6%) and Ice (35.6%). In a similar survey for 2016<sup>5</sup>, 10.7% of the 1 989 respondents reported to have taken drugs respectively before or during sex in the last six months. The most common drugs used were the same as the survey in 2018.

- 3.23 Some T&R service units have also observed that drug abuse problem, in particular the participation in “Chem-sex” or “Chem-fun”, among MSM has persisted. At the same time, SACs have not noticed much change in the number of patients who are MSM.

**(G) Observations**

- 3.24 The general decline in the total number of all reported drug abusers in the past few years reflects the effectiveness of the anti-drug work of various sectors of society. However, we should pay heed to the complexity of drug abuse cases, and the noticeable rise of reported drug abuse cases involving young adults and young people aged under 21.

- 3.25 Attention should also be given to the challenges posed by the abuse of psychotropic substances such as ‘Ice’ and cannabis. T&R services need to be adjusted continuously and promptly to respond to the changing drug scene and drug trend, as well as the varying characteristics and needs of drug abusers.

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<sup>5</sup> The factsheet of “HARiS - HIV and AIDS Response Indicator Survey 2016 for Men who have Sex with Men” issued by DH in May 2017 is available for download at [https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/oth\\_rep2017\\_msm\\_e.pdf](https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/oth_rep2017_msm_e.pdf).

## Chapter 4

### SUMMARY OF VIEWS COLLECTED

- 4.1 To facilitate the formulation of the Three-year Plan, the Narcotics Division conducted an extensive consultation exercise with about 70 service units and stakeholders in the anti-drug sector, relevant Government departments and Hospital Authority (HA) between May and September 2020. The consultation was conducted based on the draft framework for discussion as agreed by the Working Group on the Three-year Plan for 2021 to 2023, covering treatment of “Ice” abusers and cannabis abusers; early identification of hidden drug abusers; target services to meet treatment and rehabilitation (T&R) needs of young adult drug abusers; support for specific groups of drug abusers; and other areas.
- 4.2 During the consultation meetings, representatives from the anti-drug service units and various stakeholders have actively shared their frontline observations on the latest drug scene and the varying T&R needs of drug abusers. They have also put forward suggestions on the possible directions of T&R services in the upcoming three years taking into account their practical experience. The views collected in the consultation exercise are summarised in the ensuing paragraphs. These views and suggestions form the basis for setting the recommended strategic directions of T&R services for 2021 to 2023 in Chapter 5.

#### **(A) Treatment of “Ice” Abusers and Cannabis Abusers**

##### “Ice” Abusers

- 4.3 While the number of “Ice” abusers as reported to the Central Registry of Drug Abuse (CRDA) has been on the decline in the past three years, “Ice” remains to be the most commonly abused psychotropic substance. T&R service units have also indicated that most of their service users are “Ice” abusers, many of them exhibit drug-induced psychiatric symptoms and some even experience a decline in self-care ability, which adversely affect their retention in treatment and motivation to quit drugs. Particularly, operators of drug treatment and rehabilitation centres (DTRCs) have shared



that they have faced enormous difficulties in handling drug abusers with extreme emotional fluctuation or even breakdown induced by psychoactive drugs.

- 4.4 To facilitate effective delivery of T&R services, it is essential to provide this group of drug abusers with early medical intervention and treatment to stabilise their psychiatric conditions. Collaboration among medical service units and T&R service units operated by non-governmental organisations (NGOs) is hence important. In this regard, many service units have commended that collaboration among hospital/medical service units and T&R service units operated by NGOs has been strengthened since the last Three-year Plan for 2018 to 2020. At present, collaborative arrangements such as mutual case referral, joint-intake interviews of cases, multi-disciplinary case conferences and group activities are being practised to varying extents in different districts.
- 4.5 Currently, inpatient drug detoxification treatment is provided on a limited scale in departments of psychiatry in public hospitals and mainly to drug abusers who have strong determination to quit drugs. It is considered desirable if inpatient drug detoxification treatment can be provided to more drug abusers by HA. It is also considered necessary to continue to provide occupational therapy and training at day hospitals to drug abusers as necessary to support their rehabilitation.
- 4.6 T&R service units have observed that some drug abusers are reluctant to receive medical treatment and services at Substance Abuse Clinics (SACs) or hospitals due to concerns over perceived negative labelling. SACs have also noted that some patients have resisted attending medical consultation at hospitals for fear of the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, some suggested exploring the enhanced provision of psychiatric and other medical/health support through outreaching mode. For example, some have raised the possibility of holding medical consultation through online video conferencing with due regard to privacy concerns and other technical constraints.

#### Cannabis Abusers

- 4.7 The number and proportion of drug abusers being cannabis abusers as reported to CRDA, in particular among those aged under 21, have been on the rise since 2017. Yet, T&R service units have not reported a significant

increase in the number of cannabis abusers among their service users, most probably because of the common misconception of cannabis abusers that cannabis is not harmful and hence their reluctance to seek drug treatment.

- 4.8 Many T&R service units have shared the observation that quite some cannabis abusers regard cannabis as a party drug which is easily accessible at an affordable price for consumption in social gatherings, while some see cannabis use as a life style; or a means to relieve pressure. The decriminalisation and even legalisation of recreational use of cannabis in some overseas jurisdictions in recent years has further affirmed the mistaken belief of some cannabis abusers that cannabis is not harmful.
- 4.9 With different misconceptions in mind, coupled with less obvious and immediate health harms, cannabis abusers tend to have a relaxed attitude towards their cannabis-taking behaviours and do not have a strong motivation to quit cannabis or seek help. Unlike those who take other drugs, cannabis abusers tend to display more resistance when frontline workers explain to them the harms of cannabis. It is therefore challenging for T&R service units to reach out to and engage cannabis abusers, and also to motivate them to quit drugs, especially during initial contacts. On the other hand, some cannabis abusers, especially those with a longer and/or more frequent cannabis-taking pattern, do experience more serious health damages including impaired memory and concentration, mood fluctuations, hallucination and sleeping problems, etc.
- 4.10 At present, T&R service units are trying different counselling techniques including motivational interviewing, cognitive behavioural therapy and narrative therapy, etc. in the engagement and treatment process having regard to the needs of individual cannabis abusers. For more effective engagement of cannabis abusers who generally have relatively relaxed attitude towards cannabis abuse, it is considered that frontline practitioners have to be sensitive to the subculture of cannabis abuse and also be conversant with the harms of cannabis. New treatment models that take into account the unique characteristics of cannabis abusers may be explored.
- 4.11 Noting the rising trend of cannabis abuse, many T&R service units have been implementing targeted projects and programmes to raise community awareness of the harms of cannabis. They have also suggested that primary intervention through strengthened preventive education and publicity (PE&P) against cannabis targeting students, young people, teachers, parents

and the general public should be further promoted to correct the mistaken concepts. In addition, research results on the harms of cannabis abuse in local contexts should be further promulgated to raise public awareness.

- 4.12 Some anti-drug service providers reminded that the trend of emerging drugs other than “Ice” and cannabis should also be closely monitored.

**(B) Early Identification of Hidden Drug Abusers**

- 4.13 Stakeholders generally agree that the problem of hidden drug abuse warrants continuous attention. Specifically, a large proportion of drug abusers take drugs at home or friends’ homes only, making them difficult to be identified or reached out by T&R service units. There are also concerns that the local outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic may have further aggravated the problem as some people may resort to take drugs to relieve stress arising from unemployment, boredom and/or conflicts with family members.

- 4.14 Stakeholders unanimously agree that family members, especially parents, play an important role in identifying family members with drug abuse problems, encouraging them to seek help and providing support in the T&R process. Home visits and support to families with drug abusers as currently provided by many T&R service units can help enhance family members’ involvement and participation in the drug abusers’ T&R process.

- 4.15 Many stakeholders also consider it important to equip parents and teachers with the necessary skills in identifying family members or students who may have drug abuse problems or deviant behaviours, as well as the skills to motivate drug-abusing family members or students to seek help.

- 4.16 Apart from the conventional engagement methods such as peer snowballing and physical outreach, some T&R service units have attempted to use new methods to reach out to hidden drug abusers and high-risk groups such as conducting online outreaching and posting pop-up advertisements on online search engine. There are suggestions that new social media platforms and innovative approaches, such as utilising big data analytics should be more widely adopted to facilitate identification and engagement work.

Collaboration between T&R service units and Cyber Youth Support Teams<sup>6</sup> subvented by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) for online outreaching work and case referral should also be strengthened.

- 4.17 While the help-seeking hotline “186 186” and instant message service “98 186 186” have been widely publicised for years, many stakeholders consider it important to continue the promotion of the hotline as well as the availability of different T&R services in order to encourage early help-seeking by hidden drug abusers.
- 4.18 Some stakeholders have shared that drug abusers may sometimes encounter crises, which could in fact serve as opportunities for them to reflect upon how their lives have been affected by drugs. It may therefore be useful if drug abusers are able to stay in respite centres to take a break from drugs or weather crises so as to allow them to prepare themselves for seeking drug treatment.

**(C) Target Services to Meet Treatment and Rehabilitation Needs of Young Adult Drug Abusers**

- 4.19 According to CRDA figures in 2020, nearly half of the newly reported drug abusers were young adults aged 21 to 35. Young adult drug abusers include tertiary students, working adults, professionals as well as the non-engaged. These drug abusers are early in their lives and coupled with multifarious problems they often face, there is therefore a strong need for aftercare services for them to return to a normal life and sustain complete abstinence upon completion of treatment. In this regard, some T&R service units have implemented suitable programmes including family relationship rebuilding, vocational training, job placement, job counselling and mentorship programme etc. to facilitate their rehabilitation and reintegration into society taking into account the specific characteristics and needs of young adults.
- 4.20 There are suggestions that T&R service units may explore partnership or collaboration with the private sector, and provide employment subsidy to

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<sup>6</sup> SWD has provided subvention to NGOs for setting up five Cyber Youth Support Teams since 1 December 2018 over the territory to reach out to at-risk and hidden youths, aged six to 24, who have emotional or behavioural problems and are manifesting or engaging in various at-risk behaviours on the Internet for early intervention and support.

incentivise employers to employ drug rehabilitees. In addition, some T&R service units have considered or are considering to set up social enterprises to create job opportunities for drug rehabilitees.

- 4.21 As regards residential T&R programmes, while a number of DTRCs are providing short-term programmes, the majority view of DTRC operators is that residential T&R programmes lasting one year or more will bring more effective results. That said, noting that some young adult drug abusers cannot quit their jobs or leave their young families to join long-term residential programmes, there are suggestions that short-term residential programmes may be re-positioned as an intervention point for drug abusers to reflect upon how their lives could be benefitted if drug free, albeit for a short period. Drug abusers may also make use of short-term residential programmes to enhance their understanding of the treatment as well as the environment of treatment centres, thus reducing their resistance to seek full-term residential treatment programmes.
- 4.22 Considering the strong interplay between drug abuse and family relation and that family support can be a protective factor strengthening a person's resolve to maintain abstinence, T&R service units have attempted to involve drug abusers' family members in the T&R process. Some also suggest that such approach should be widely adopted.
- 4.23 Some stakeholders have mentioned that the Enhanced Probation Service for young drug offenders aged 10 to below 21 years old operated by SWD since 2009 is effective in helping young drug offenders to maintain drug-free and return to the right track. It is considered that such kind of intensive and structured drug treatment programme will also be beneficial to young adult drug offenders aged 21 and above.

**(D) Support for Specific Groups of Drug Abusers**

- 4.24 Stakeholders in general agree that attention should continue to be given to the following specific groups of drug abusers –
- (i) ethnic minority drug abusers;
  - (ii) pregnant drug abusers and drug-abusing parents; and
  - (iii) men who have sex with men (MSM) with drug abuse problem.

## Ethnic Minority Drug Abusers

- 4.25 Stakeholders have observed that some ethnic minority drug abusers take drugs to relieve stress because of the poor upward social mobility while some do so under peer influence and as a way to maintain social connection with their peers. However, T&R service units have found it challenging to reach out to, engage and treat ethnic minority drug abusers given the differences in languages, religions, cultures, and perceptions on taking drugs and the related legal control. On the other hand, many ethnic minorities have little knowledge of and accessibility to information on social services, including drug T&R services, available in Hong Kong. To strengthen the welfare support to ethnic minorities, since March 2020, SWD has commissioned three NGOs to set up three outreaching teams for ethnic minorities employing ethnic minority staff to proactively reach out to and connect those ethnic minorities in need with mainstream welfare services.
- 4.26 It is considered essential to continue strengthening PE&P for ethnic minorities to raise their awareness of drug harms, the gravity of drug offences, and availability of drug T&R services as well as other social services in Hong Kong. In respect of drug T&R, peer snowballing, engagement of ethnic minority drug rehabilitees as peer counsellors as well as collaboration with NGOs serving ethnic minority communities etc. can assist in the delivery of services and thus should be further encouraged.
- 4.27 Given the close bonding among members in the ethnic minority communities, it is desirable to promote mutual support group and healthy social network for drug rehabilitees of their communities so as to reinforce their resolve to stay away from drugs when they return to their communities.

## Pregnant Drug Abusers and Drug-abusing Parents

- 4.28 Many T&R service units opine that cases involving pregnant drug abusers/drug-abusing parents are generally more complex as these abusers not only have to face their drug abuse problems, but also deal with the stress from family relationship and/or parental role. They therefore consider it important to strengthen the parenting capacity of pregnant drug abusers/drug-abusing parents so as to reduce their risk of reliance on drugs for stress relief and also avoid bringing negative impacts on their children, thus preventing inter-generational drug abuse problems. There are suggestions to add more items to the CRDA data collection sheet so as to

gather more information about this group of drug abusers. However, noting CRDA is a voluntary reporting system, there are also concerns that requesting additional information may affect the willingness of drug abusers to provide response, and hence undermining the reliability of CRDA. Other readily available sources to complement CRDA may need to be explored.

- 4.29 To better address the multi-faceted needs of pregnant drug abusers/drug-abusing parents, T&R service units have maintained close collaboration with medical service units such as SACs, Pediatrics Departments, Obstetrics & Gynecology Departments as well as other social service units such as Integrated Family Service Centres, Family and Child Protective Services Units, etc. at the district level, in particular through the platform of Comprehensive Child Development Service. It is agreed that such kind of collaboration should continue to be strengthened with a view to providing comprehensive support to this group of drug abusers and their families.
- 4.30 Quite a number of T&R service units have been implementing Beat Drug Funds (BDF) projects to provide enhanced support for pregnant drug abusers/drug-abusing parents. To meet the service needs, they consider that recurrent resources should be provided by the Government to sustain the provision of relevant services. A few T&R service units have also suggested providing one-stop services covering drug T&R, parenting skills, childcare support and family counselling etc. by community-based service units.
- 4.31 Regarding the idea of setting up DTRC(s) housing drug-abusing mothers together with their young children, quite a number of stakeholders (including social service, medical and education sectors) have expressed concerns from child protection and development angles. While some suggest that the motivation of the drug-abusing mothers to quit drugs may be enhanced, some are worried that the drug-abusing mothers will be heavily engaged in or even distracted by their parental duties, rendering them unable to focus on various training programmes and daily routines with therapeutic value. Many stakeholders also cast doubts on the applicability of related overseas practice in the local context. Alternatively, some stakeholders suggest strengthening the collaboration among DTRCs and community-based T&R service units for provision of complementary support for drug-abusing mothers and their young children.

## MSM with Drug Abuse Problem

- 4.32 Some T&R service units have observed that drug abuse problems of this specific group of drug abusers continue to persist. In particular, some of the abusers are not ready to quit drugs due to the enhanced sexual experiences by taking drugs in “Chem-fun” or “Chem-sex”. However, SACs have not noticed a surge in the number of patients who are MSM.
- 4.33 As the MSM community has its own unique characteristics and culture (e.g. using certain specific mobile Apps for networking), engagement of MSM drug abusers through online outreaching, peer snowballing as well as provision of targeted T&R services as currently implemented by some T&R service units are considered essential and effective.
- 4.34 In respect of residential T&R services, while frontline practitioners of DTRCs remain sensitive to the specific needs of MSM drug abusers, they are inclined not to offer separate programmes for MSM drug abusers to avoid labelling effect.
- 4.35 Some stakeholders have pointed out that frontline practitioners working in the field of HIV services can help identify MSM drug abusers, offer initial intervention and refer them to appropriate drug treatment as necessary. To facilitate early identification and subsequent case referral of MSM drug abusers, there may be a need to equip frontline practitioners working in the HIV services field with drug-related knowledge. Capacity building for frontline practitioners of T&R service units and also related researches are also suggested to deepen the understanding of the specific needs of MSM drug abusers.

## **(E) Other Areas**

### Aftercare Services for Drug Rehabilitees

- 4.36 Stakeholders agree that maintaining abstinence after completing the detoxification and treatment programmes is no easy task for drug rehabilitees. Aftercare services aiming to help drug rehabilitees rebuild their lives in various aspects are essential for relapse prevention, and hence should be continued and further strengthened as part of the objectives of T&R services.



- 4.37 Vocational training has long been arranged by different T&R service units, with the support of BDF or other community resources, as a means to facilitate drug rehabilitees reintegrate into society by enhancing their employability. Some T&R service units suggest that tailor-made vocational training or vocational subsidy for drug rehabilitees should be considered according to their ages and interests and taking into account the career prospect of a particular job/trade in order to enhance not only their job skills but also competitiveness in the job market. Some T&R service units also encourage NGOs to explore setting up social enterprises or strengthening collaboration with private enterprises so as to create or widen job opportunities for drug rehabilitees.
- 4.38 Based on their experience and feedback from service users, many T&R service units consider that occupational therapy and training at day hospital are useful in helping drug rehabilitees understand their own capabilities and rebuild normal life pattern. Collaboration with occupational therapists, both under HA or in private practice, is therefore further encouraged.
- 4.39 CCPSAs and CDCs have been collaborating with DTRCs on case referral for drug rehabilitees to receive further rehabilitation and aftercare services upon discharge from DTRCs. Meanwhile, both community-based T&R service units and DTRCs consider it desirable to arrange activities such as mutual support groups, parenting skills training and regular social gatherings with the participation of family members, so as to engage and connect drug rehabilitees for a longer period of time.
- 4.40 Some T&R service units opine that drug rehabilitees may be vulnerable to relapse to drug use if they return to their original communities and reconnect with their drug-abusing peers, and raise concerns over their temporary or long-term housing needs.

#### Cross-disciplinary Collaboration and Co-ordination

- 4.41 Many stakeholders appreciate the strengthened cross-disciplinary collaboration among different T&R service units, medical service units including SACs, Occupational Therapy Departments, Pediatrics Departments, Obstetrics & Gynecology Departments, and social service units including Integrated Family Service Centres and Family and Child Protective Services Units over the past years. Stakeholders suggest that

cross-disciplinary collaboration and co-ordination among different service units, professionals and organisations should continue to be promoted to facilitate the anti-drug work on various fronts, such as mutual case referral, delivery of comprehensive treatment and support, provision of aftercare services, creation of job opportunities, and dissemination of anti-drug education targeting specific high-risk groups. There is also a suggestion that information on T&R services could further be shared with the legal sector and the Judiciary to facilitate cross-sector collaboration.

#### Capacity Building for Personnel in Various Disciplines

- 4.42 SWD provides various drug-related training to social workers in the anti-drug sector and also their close counterparts in other social service units such as various family service, youth service and correctional service units. Given the evolving drug scene and changing needs of drug abusers, stakeholders consider that relevant training (e.g. information on new drugs and drug harms, crisis management, engagement and intervention skills, treatment for cannabis abusers) should be provided to frontline personnel of relevant disciplines, especially social workers, social work students and peer counsellors to strengthen their capacity in handling drug abuse cases and engaging hidden drug abusers. In particular, some suggest providing more structured training to peer counsellors and evaluating their role in supporting anti-drug work.
- 4.43 HA arranges regular training to medical professionals and allied health professionals, covering topics in relation to substance abuse. For example, substance abuse has been included as a regular topic in the Central Academic Course for psychiatric trainees in both lectures and clinical skills training. For case managers of Community Psychiatric Services including nurses and allied health professionals, the training courses for them also comprise substance abuse as a regular element.
- 4.44 Sharing of good practices among different service units can also help enhance capacity of relevant personnel. With the experience of conducting and participating in meetings and webinars through online communication softwares during the COVID-19 pandemic, some stakeholders suggest that the anti-drug sector may exchange via online means the latest developments and knowledge on intervention skills among themselves as well as with overseas anti-drug experts.

## Programmes in Drug Addiction Treatment Centres (DATCs)

- 4.45 DATCs operated by the Correctional Services Department (CSD) offer rehabilitation programmes and structured training to offenders who are addicted to drugs and convicted of offences punishable with imprisonment. Ex-offenders released from DATCs are also subject to 12-month statutory supervision for continuous care and guidance. CSD has been using an integrated risks and needs evaluation protocol to arrange suitable programmes for inmates. To further enhance the programmes run by DATCs, CSD has commissioned a tertiary institution to review the programmes and is considering ways to refine the programmes and strengthen staff training taking into account the review results.
- 4.46 Some T&R service units mention that collaboration between CCPSAs/CDCs and CSD may be forged to facilitate the former in engaging inmates of DATCs for aftercare services upon discharge or completion of the statutory supervision.

## Preventive Education and Publicity

- 4.47 PE&P, as primary intervention, is an essential component of the anti-drug work. Stakeholders agree that PE&P efforts, especially those targeting students, young people, high-risk youths and young adults, have been stepped up over the past years. They generally agree that such efforts should be continued to convey a clear message on the harms of drug abuse, in particular those relating to cannabis. While anti-drug elements are already available in existing curriculum of some primary and secondary school subjects, some suggest further enhancing the depth and scope of anti-drug curriculum in formal education, to be complemented by other school-based PE&P efforts.
- 4.48 Many stakeholders also consider it necessary to continue PE&P efforts targeting parents, teachers and key school personnel to increase their awareness of drug abuse problems and enhance their skills in identifying and motivating drug abusers to seek early help.
- 4.49 Noting the changing social environment and trends, some stakeholders encourage a wider use of online means and online marketing strategies such as posting pop-up advertisements on online search engine and online social media for the delivery of PE&P messages and the promotion of T&R

services.

- 4.50 It is also important to continue promoting community acceptance of drug rehabilitees, as well as T&R services and facilities. Publicising the positive images of T&R services can also motivate hidden drug abusers to approach service providers for help.

#### Drug-related Research (including Research Areas and Sharing of Research Findings)

- 4.51 Research is pivotal in facilitating the formulation of evidence-based T&R services and programmes. In response to the rising trend of cannabis abuse and the general misconceptions on cannabis, many stakeholders suggest that research on cannabis (e.g. harms of cannabis abuse from medical perspective adopting a longitudinal approach) should be encouraged and that research results should be widely shared and disseminated.
- 4.52 There are also suggestions that qualitative research on the pattern and characteristics of drug abuse and also research using big data analytics may be conducted from time to time to help identify protective factors and risk factors for development of appropriate anti-drug strategies. Studies on drug prevention practices adopted overseas may also help the anti-drug sector identify strategies that are applicable in the local context.

#### Licensing of Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres

- 4.53 The Drug Dependent Persons Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres (Licensing) Ordinance (Cap. 566) (the Ordinance) has commenced since April 2002 to protect the well-being of drug dependent persons undergoing residential T&R programmes. At present, 26 out of 37 DTRCs have already been licensed under the Ordinance. The remaining 11 DTRCs, which had been in operation before commencement of the Ordinance, are issued with certificates of exemption for their continued operation while they are at various stages to strive to comply with the statutory licensing requirements.
- 4.54 Some of these DTRCs have commenced preparatory work or technical feasibility study for proposed in-situ redevelopment or reprovisioning projects whereas some are still searching for suitable sites for reprovisioning. DTRC operators concerned show appreciation to the continuous assistance provided by the Government to DTRCs in the process.

## Harm Reduction

- 4.55 A few T&R service units have raised the discussion on whether harm reduction may be considered as an end for drug T&R process and services for chronic drug abusers who face real challenges in quitting drugs completely. Some have also mentioned the possibility of drug abusers to live a functional life while still relying on relatively small and the so-called “safe” doses of drugs.
- 4.56 Nevertheless, considering the serious harms of drugs, some of which are irreversible, to abusers, their families and the community at large, the majority of the anti-drug sector agree that the goal of drug T&R services should be helping drug abusers attain total abstinence from drugs. Many stakeholders also raise concerns over the misguided effects of some harm reduction measures (e.g. distribution of safer smoking kit) which could be perceived as facilitating continued drug-taking behaviours, thereby giving out a wrong message that occasional drug abuse can be tolerated and that drugs can be taken in a “safer” way.
- 4.57 Yet, T&R service units generally agree that it is a pragmatic approach to adopt different means and strategies (including but not limited to harm reduction approach) to engage and support drug abusers before the drug abusers agree to the treatment plans for achieving complete abstinence having regard to the individual needs and difficulties of drug abusers.

## Support of Beat Drugs Fund

- 4.58 Stakeholders appreciate the provision of funding from BDF to support the implementation of a vast array of targeted projects and programmes by different T&R service units, NGOs and community stakeholders. Some raise that for projects which are effective in filling service gaps or bringing significant results, the provision of recurrent resources through government subvention may be explored to support the implementation of the services on a long-term basis. Some also suggest providing more facilitating measures, e.g. manpower deployment, to further support BDF projects.

## Chapter 5

### STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS FOR 2021-2023

5.1 Chapter 4 provides a summary of the views and ideas collected from stakeholders, relevant Government departments and Hospital Authority (HA) during the consultation exercise of the Three-year Plan, encompassing the frontline observations and experience of the anti-drug sector in tackling the prevailing drug problems.

5.2 Having regard to the views and ideas received, the Three-year Plan for 2021 to 2023 recommends the following strategic directions to guide the treatment and rehabilitation (T&R) work in the coming few years along seven aspects, namely (i) collaboration, (ii) prompt response to changing drug scene and social environment, (iii) early medical intervention and support, (iv) targeted services for different groups of drug abusers, (v) aftercare services, (vi) capacity building of relevant personnel, and (vii) others.

#### **(A) Collaboration**

5.3 Collaboration is a vital approach to achieving effective delivery of T&R services. To cater for the different backgrounds and varying T&R needs of drug abusers, we will continue to encourage collaborations among different sectors and disciplines as well as at various levels to help identify and engage drug abusers and help them quit drugs.

##### *(i) Multi-disciplinary and Cross-sectoral Collaboration*

5.4 Over the past years there have been closer collaboration between the anti-drug social services and medical sectors, such as between Counselling Centres for Psychotropic Substance Abusers (CCPSAs) and Substance Abuse Clinics (SACs), and between Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres (DTRCs) and SACs, in attending to the health issues arising from psychotropic substance abusers (PSAs). Multi-disciplinary and cross-sectoral collaboration among various sectors in society, among the anti-drug sector as well as with non-drug social service and community units and the

private sector are called for, and should continue to be pursued and solidified.

5.5 **Concerted efforts from various sectors and disciplines are necessary to help drug abusers develop commitment throughout the process, from identifying drug-taking persons, motivating them to seek help and treatment, to supporting them undergo treatment programmes and stay away from drug in the long run.**

(ii) *Cooperation and Co-ordination at District Level*

5.6 To facilitate mutual case referral and provision of comprehensive support to address the diverse needs of drug abusers and their families, **collaboration and co-ordination of drug treatment services among T&R service units, social service units and medical service units should be further encouraged through various co-ordinating fora at the district level including the platform of Comprehensive Child Development Service.**

(B) **Prompt Response to Changing Drug Scene and Social Environment**

5.7 The evolving drug scene and social environment have presented new challenges to the anti-drug work from time to time, from emerging new drugs to the need for a wider use of technology. The outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic has also adversely affected the reach and delivery of T&R services, especially during the initial period of the outbreak when service units were exploring different ways to adjust their services to overcome the constraints under social distancing requirements. The anti-drug sector will need to continue to stay vigilant and provide prompt response to changing drug scene and social environment.

(i) *Enhanced Focus on Cannabis Abuse and Other Emerging Drugs*

5.8 In view of the increased prevalence of cannabis abuse, in particular among the young people, **targeted and thematic training on the abuse of cannabis and other emerging drugs for frontline staff of the anti-drug sector and school personnel should be provided.** For example, training to enhance the sensitivity of frontline staff to the subculture of cannabis use and knowledge of its harms, as well as strengthen their capacity in

promoting T&R services to cannabis abusers should be provided.

5.9 **Seminars/workshops on cannabis targeting frontline practitioners should be considered** for sharing experiences of and deliberating on preventive education and publicity (PE&P) and T&R approaches to tackle the problem of cannabis abuse. Exchanges on existing platforms will also be enhanced.

5.10 Considering the unique characteristics of cannabis abusers, the conventional drug T&R models may not be effective in engaging and treating cannabis abusers. **Targeted treatment programmes to suit the unique characteristics of cannabis abusers should be worked out.** For example, cannabis abusers could be invited to review negative changes in their lives after taking cannabis.

5.11 To keep up with the evolving drug scene, **non-governmental organisations (NGOs) should also stay vigilant to the emergence of new drug types other than cannabis and provide suitable T&R services to abusers as appropriate.**

(ii) *Wider Use of Technology*

5.12 Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, some drug abusers are hesitant to attend appointments at SACs and CCPSAs for fear of possible infection, and hence the progress and effectiveness of T&R programmes of the abusers may be undermined. To promptly respond to unexpected circumstances including public health hazards in future, **innovative means to deliver drug T&R services should be explored and adopted for engaging, reaching out to and providing counselling services for drug abusers, such as online medical/counselling consultation, tele-care or tele-rehabilitation.**

(iii) *Positioning of Short-term Residential Programmes*

5.13 While full-term residential treatment is considered effective to achieve treatment effect, some drug abusers are hesitant or unable to set aside a longer period of time to join full-term programmes. In this regard, a few DTRCs are providing short-term residential programmes to cater for the needs of these drug abusers. **Short-term residential programmes could continue to be developed and re-positioned as an entry point for drug abusers to experience drug-free environment and receive various**



**supporting services provided by the service units.** The resulting experience would be instrumental in reducing the hurdles and resistance of drug abusers and their family members for further enrolment in full-term residential programmes to achieve abstinence when the time is ripe.

**(C) Early Medical Intervention and Support**

5.14 Early medical intervention and treatment are essential and complementary to the T&R of drug abusers. This is particularly important for PSAs who display strong mood fluctuation or psychiatric symptoms induced by drugs, as social workers would have difficulties in engaging this group of drug abusers before those symptoms are put under control with the help of medical professionals.

*(i) Support from Medical Sector*

5.15 Various types of medical services are currently available to attend to drug-induced psychiatric symptoms of drug abusers, in particular PSAs. Apart from outpatient medical services such as SACs and community psychiatric services, **HA is to examine the possibility of strengthening inpatient services for drug abusers by offering them detoxification treatment so as to manage withdrawal symptoms and stabilise mental condition of drug abusers before they are admitted to DTRCs.**

5.16 In respect of opiate drug abusers, the Department of Health (DH) has been administering the methadone treatment programme, being mainly a maintenance programme with well-recognised effectiveness. **DH is to review the programme regularly and continue to keep abreast of new developments in the provision of alternative treatment to opiate drug abusers.**

5.17 **Outreaching medical support to DTRCs should be explored and encouraged** so as to render stronger medical support to drug abusers under residential treatment programmes, especially those who suffer from psychiatric problems.

(ii) *Beat Drug Fund (BDF) Regular Funding Scheme (RFS) Projects*

5.18 Under BDF RFS, grants approved by the Fund for one single project will not normally exceed \$6 million. To encourage projects in enhancing medical support and allied health services to drug abusers, **consideration is to be given to raise the funding ceiling for T&R projects implemented by medical or allied health service units under HA funded by BDF.**

(D) **Targeted Services for Different Groups of Drug Abusers**

5.19 The needs of specific groups of drug abusers are unique and warrant continued attention in order to bring about effective T&R treatment.

(i) *Ethnic Minority Drug Abusers*

5.20 Given the specific cultural characteristics including language, customs and religion of ethnic minority members, **capacity building to enhance the sensitivity, skill sets and knowledge relating to ethnic minorities for social workers should continue to be strengthened so as to facilitate their outreaching to and engaging ethnic minority drug abusers and their family members.** NGOs are encouraged to collaborate with the three outreaching teams for ethnic minorities commissioned by the Social Welfare Department (SWD), which have employed ethnic minority staff, to run training for their social workers and related staff to facilitate their engagement with ethnic minorities and understanding of their needs.

5.21 Apart from outreach work, the design of drug T&R programmes should be culturally sensitive. **Tailor-made T&R programmes for ethnic minority drug abusers should be provided. Engagement of drug rehabilitees and their family members as peer counsellors in different ethnicities is encouraged,** so as to help bridge the cultural and language gaps, and encourage help-seeking and motivate participation of ethnic minority drug abusers in T&R programmes.

(ii) *Pregnant Drug Abusers/Drug-abusing Parents*

5.22 Various T&R service units have been providing dedicated support through BDF projects to pregnant drug abusers and drug-abusing parents to help strengthen their determination to quit drugs and retain in drug treatment as

well as reduce their risks of relapse. Provision of such services has been well proven to be beneficial to the drug T&R process of this specific group of drug abusers whose drug problems are compounded by family, parental, financial and/or health issues. **SWD is to explore providing recurrent resources to support pregnant drug abusers and drug-abusing parents**, by considering various factors including the multifarious needs and difficulties faced by this target group and the evaluation of the effectiveness of the BDF projects, etc.

*(iii) Men who Have Sex with Men (MSM) with Drug Abuse Problem*

5.23 Frontline workers, including those working in the field of HIV services, should continue to be sensitive to the unique culture and characteristics of the MSM community; and **targeted treatment programmes should be offered to MSM with drug abuse problem.**

*(iv) Drug Abusers with Offence History*

5.24 Different types of drug treatment programmes, such as programmes run in Drug Addiction Treatment Centres (DATCs) and the Enhanced Probation Service (EPS) for young drug offenders, are currently in place to help drug abusers with offence history not only to become responsible and law-abiding persons, but also to quit drugs and develop a healthy lifestyle.

5.25 To further enhance the effectiveness of the compulsory DATC programmes under the Correctional Services Department (CSD), **CSD is to implement the recommendations identified in the recent review of the T&R programmes at DATCs as appropriate.** CSD will also continue the collaboration with NGOs in addressing the needs of inmates and those released from DATCs.

5.26 EPS, operated by SWD and currently covering young offenders aged between 10 and 20, has been effective in minimising relapse to drugs and reconviction of drug-related offences of the young offenders under the Scheme. It also has the general support from the social service sector. To benefit young adult drug abusers aged 21 and above, **SWD is to consider expanding the coverage of EPS by raising its age limit.**

## (E) Aftercare Services

5.27 Quitting addictive drugs is seldom plain sailing, both for abusers and T&R service providers. One challenge constantly faced by service providers is the relapse of drug abusers after treatment process. To sustain the treatment efforts and prevent relapse, it is important to provide suitable aftercare services to help abusers stay away from drugs and reintegrate into society.

### (i) Training and Employment

5.28 **Service providers should develop aftercare plans for drug rehabilitees**, having regard to the multi-faceted issues straddling work, finance, relationship with family members, etc. that drug rehabilitees may face in their rehabilitation process.

5.29 Vocational training may help drug abusers develop positive values, improve job skills and acquire stable jobs, rendering them more likely to sustain abstinence from drugs. **Apart from making use of the BDF resources, various community resources for vocational training (e.g. Employees Retraining Board and Vocational Training Council) should also be gainfully employed.** To enhance their employability, **vocational training for drug abusers should suit the capability, market needs and job trend.** Collaboration with social enterprises is also encouraged in offering job opportunities to drug rehabilitees.

5.30 **Occupational therapy and life planning are also useful in helping drug rehabilitees review their own capabilities, set realistic life and career goals and rebuild normal life pattern.** Collaboration between NGOs and occupational therapists both in HA or private practice should be pursued or strengthened.

5.31 Peer counsellors are often employed in T&R projects funded by BDF to offer support in outreaching and PE&P work. They also assist in counselling and group activities to provide emotional support to drug abusers who are receiving drug treatment. Through contributing to the anti-drug work and helping drug abusers, peer counsellors are able to gain job experience and also build up their own confidence and strengthen their resolve to continue to stay away from drugs. **To promote the offer of job opportunities to drug rehabilitees, where employment of peer counsellors are proposed under BDF-funded projects, drug rehabilitees**

**themselves, rather than their family members, would be employed unless the service targets of a BDF project are family members of drug rehabilitees.**

*(ii) Support to Family*

5.32 Relationship between drug abusers/rehabilitees and their family members could be vulnerable with mistrust fueled by conflicts arising from drug addiction behaviours. On the other hand, family members could play a pivotal role in motivating drug abusers to quit drug and strengthening the drug rehabilitees' resolve to maintain abstinence. **Family members should therefore be encouraged to actively participate in the drug T&R programmes and other family support activities such as mutual support groups** so as to rebuild family relationship and also render emotional support to drug abusers/rehabilitees in the lengthy and challenging T&R process.

*(iii) Temporary Shelters during Crisis*

5.33 Drug abusers and rehabilitees in the face of crisis may need to seek urgent temporary stay to allow them some room to tackle the problem and address their own emotions. With respect to the provision of temporary shelters or respite centres, **SWD is to discuss with NGOs the need of drug abusers and rehabilitees for respite services.**

**(F) Capacity Building of Relevant Personnel**

5.34 In the journey to abstinence, drug abusers are in want of support from different parties, including social workers, medical professions, teachers, peers and their own family members. One direction for effective T&R treatment is to enhance the skills and knowledge of the parties involved through incorporating and strengthening substance abuse related topics in relevant professional training.

5.35 While NGOs will provide suitable training for their staff, SWD is currently arranging an array of training to social workers covering different topics, including substance abuse. **SWD is to explore expanding the coverage of training topics offered to social workers, such as those in relation to therapeutic approaches on drug treatment, in light of the changing**

**drug scene and feedback from NGOs.**

- 5.36 As regards HA's medical professionals and allied health professionals, **HA will continue to provide regular substance abuse related training for the medical professionals and allied health professionals with a view to enhancing their capacity in identifying and handling drug-taking cases.**
- 5.37 Peer counsellors are becoming more important in the fight against drugs as their personal experience resonate with the difficulties faced by drug abusers and hence could gain their trust. **More structured and advanced training to peer counsellors may be explored** in order to deepen their understanding of relevant professional knowledge and skills, as well as to enhance their capacity to be involved and engaged in anti-drug work.
- 5.38 Parents and teachers play an important role in the fight against the drug problem. **Parents and teachers should continue to be equipped with knowledge and understanding for identifying hidden drug abusers and motivating them to seek help.**

**(G) Others**

- 5.39 There are a number of other related areas which would also require setting a clear strategic direction to guide the T&R work in the upcoming three years.

*(i) Drug-related Research*

- 5.40 The Central Registry of Drug Abuse (CRDA) keeps statistics of drug abusers, and reflects the general trends of drug abuse in Hong Kong over the years. Since the existing statistics of CRDA are in quantitative terms, **qualitative research complementing the quantitative data should continue to be encouraged.** This will allow a more comprehensive picture of the local drug situation.
- 5.41 The multi-modality approach to drug T&R has been adopted for years. It would be useful to **explore consolidating the good T&R practices or protocol for sharing among the service units. Researches on different drug-related topics** such as drug harms, drug-taking subculture, secondary analysis of drug-related research data, etc. **should continue to be**

**encouraged. Findings of the drug-related researches should be more widely disseminated among anti-drug stakeholders** to facilitate the development of evidence-based T&R services as well to enable the anti-drug sector to have a better understanding of the latest development in drug treatment.

(ii) *Harm Reduction*

5.42 Harm reduction is not a clearly delineated concept and is subject to wide and loose interpretation. Overseas practices also may not be applicable to the local context. Some harm reduction measures may be perceived as encouraging continued drug-taking behaviours or giving a wrong message that drug-taking could be safe.

5.43 There is no doubt that drug abuse brings substantial harms to drug abusers, their families and the community at large. Recognising that some drug abusers may not be ready or may have difficulties in quitting drugs immediately, harm reduction approach has been used by some service providers in individual cases as one of the means to engage drug abusers initially. Nonetheless, **harm reduction on its own should not be an ultimate aim of T&R services in view of the dire, and at times irreversible, consequences of drug abuse on individuals and society, as well as the physical and psychological harms inflicted on drug users and their families due to continual use of drugs. The Government's anti-drug and T&R policy is to help drug abusers quit drugs and remain drug free.**

(iii) *Preventive Education and Publicity*

5.44 As mentioned in Chapter 1, PE&P complements the work of T&R and is an essential component of our anti-drug policy. To ensure PE&P initiatives respond effectively to the latest drug scene, the Narcotics Division's (ND) PE&P strategic directions and initiatives are reviewed and drawn up on an annual basis in consultation with the Action Committee Against Narcotics (ACAN) and its Sub-committee on PE&P. Priority areas for BDF RFS PE&P projects are also reviewed on an annual basis so that prompt and responsive publicity and education work could be rolled out to address the community needs. **The annual PE&P plan of ND and the BDF RFS projects, including those with major PE&P components, would continue to be disseminated among stakeholders in the anti-drug sector**

**to create synergy.**

*(iv) Licensing of Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres*

- 5.45 At present, 11 out of 37 DTRCs have yet to obtain licences under the Drug Dependent Persons Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres (Licensing) Ordinance (Cap. 566) and are operating on certificates of exemption. **Continued assistance and co-ordination efforts for enhancing the facilities and physical environment of DTRCs would be provided with a view to helping DTRCs obtain a licence or enhance their service capacity and quality.**

### **Concluding Remarks**

- 5.46 The changing drug scene and emergence of new drug types in both overseas and local environments have always presented challenges to the anti-drug work in Hong Kong. In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has brought about further difficulties to society as a whole as well as the drug T&R sector. We are heartened to witness our anti-drug partners demonstrating commendable efforts in providing drug T&R services to drug abusers and rehabilitees during the difficult time. Their prompt responses to the pandemic and painstaking attempts to adjust their services to meet the needs of their service recipients are much appreciated.
- 5.47 The preparation of the 2021-23 Three-year Plan has provided a further platform to engage the anti-drug sector for in-depth sharing of views and experience, constituting a consensus-building process to the strategic directions of the T&R services in the coming three years. We would like to express our gratitude to all parties for candidly sharing their observations, experience and views during the consultation amid the pandemic.
- 5.48 ND, in partnership with relevant government departments, public bodies and NGOs, will continue to oversee and co-ordinate efforts as appropriate in pursuing T&R initiatives in accordance with the strategic directions. ND will suitably report progress to ACAN, its T&R Sub-committee and Drug Liaison Committee. We look forward to continuous close collaboration with our anti-drug partners in future.



**Membership and Terms of Reference of the Working Group  
on the Three-year Plan  
on Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Services in Hong Kong  
(2021-2023)**

**(A) Membership**

**Chairman:** Dr Ben CHEUNG Kin-leung  
Chairman of the Action Committee Against Narcotics  
(for the period of 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2020)

**Members:** Dr Christian Shaunlyn CHAN  
Department of Psychology,  
University of Hong Kong

Mr Wilson CHAN Man-ho  
Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups

Dr Alman CHAN Siu-cheuk  
Christian Zheng Sheng Association

Mr CHAN Wai-leung  
Caritas – Hong Kong Social Work Services Division

Prof CHEUNG Yuet-wah  
Chairman of Action Committee Against Narcotics  
Sub-committee on Treatment and Rehabilitation

Mr Sunny FUNG To-sun  
Christian New Being Fellowship

Ms Wendy HON Siu-wan  
Hong Kong Christian Service

Ms Emma LEUNG Yin-chun  
Barnabas Charitable Service Association

Ms Agnes LEUNG Yuk-kuen  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Social Service –  
Hong Kong

Mr Moses MUI Wai-keung  
The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

Ms Angelique TAM Chi-wah  
Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers

Prof TANG Wai-kwong  
Department of Psychiatry,  
Chinese University of Hong Kong

**Ex-officio** Mr CHIU Siu-tsz  
**Members:** Correctional Services Department

Dr Sammy NG Ping-sum  
Department of Health

Ms Jacqueline CHU Po-yee  
Education Bureau

Mr Nelson NG Kwok-cheung  
Hong Kong Police Force

Dr CHAN Fu  
Hospital Authority

Mrs Fanny CHEUNG LAI Man-wai  
Social Welfare Department

Ms Ivy LAW Chui-mei  
Narcotics Division, Security Bureau

**Secretary:** Miss Crystal KWOK Tsz-wai  
Narcotics Division, Security Bureau

## **(B) Terms of Reference**

1. To assess the existing drug treatment and rehabilitation programmes in Hong Kong and see whether the services provided align with the distribution of drug abusers' characteristics and needs;
2. To identify room for adjustment and enhancement of the existing treatment and rehabilitation services in Hong Kong; and
3. To advise on the strategic direction to which drug treatment and rehabilitation services should take in the three-year period from 2021 to 2023.

**Beat Drugs Fund Projects Approved in  
2018, 2019 and 2020 Regular Funding Exercises  
(covering treatment and rehabilitation projects, research projects  
and mixed-type projects with treatment and rehabilitation  
and/or research elements)**

Grantee	Project Title and Description
<b>2018 Funding Exercise</b>	
Centre on Behavioral Health, The University of Hong Kong	<p><u>From Addiction to Creation: Project on Using Creative Arts for Drug Use Prevention and Young Adult Drug Users Empowerment (Project “CAPE”)</u></p> <p>The project aims at enhancing frontline staff’s knowledge and skills in delivering creative arts drug rehabilitation, improving psychosocial well-being of young adults through creative arts drug rehabilitation programme, improving public’s awareness (especially among young adults) on drug problems and cultivating empathetic understanding of the public towards young adults struggling with drug problems. Project elements include creative art competition on drug use prevention, multimedia website, artwork exhibition, press conference, training workshops and supervision sessions for front-line staff from drug rehabilitation programmes, creative arts-inspired drug rehabilitation programme for young adult drug users and a randomised controlled programme evaluation study, with in-depth interviews with participants and staff to assess the effectiveness of creative arts drug rehabilitation programme.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups	<p data-bbox="504 239 1351 315"><u>「 Project SEToff II 」 – Anti-Drug Program for Working Youth and Hidden Drug Abusers</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 360 1351 835">The project aims at identifying high-risk/hidden drug-abusing youths aged 16 to 35, providing treatments and facilitating drug abusers to reintegrate into the society. Project elements include production of anti-drug videos in collaboration with YouTubers, establishment of social media platform for promotion of positive lifestyle, launching of “caring workplace” campaign, provision of physical check-up, mental health assessment, brief solution-focused therapeutic intervention, relapse prevention psycho-therapy, positive life-development cum career counselling for high-risk/hidden drug-abusing youths, as well as short-term family counselling services for family members of drug abusers.</p>
The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups	<p data-bbox="504 875 1351 952"><u>「 Healthy transition 」 – Preventive and educational program for substance abuser with mental health issues</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 996 1351 1832">This project aims at reducing the risk of drug use and deterioration of mental health problems, enhancing awareness of mental health and attitude towards healthy living, improving emotional management, independence and resilience and supporting family members of young drug abusers with psychiatric disorders. Project elements include outreach service, development of a mental health and drug abuse behavioural risk assessment tool in collaboration with the Department of Social Work and Social Administration of The University of Hong Kong to screen youth diagnosed of substance abuse and mental health issues, psychological education, Strength-based Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (SB-CBT), career training, positive life development and mental and physical health treatment for drug abusers/high-risk youths/youths with mental health issues/drug abusers with mental health issues, as well as family-based counselling for family members, professional training and group supervision for social workers, and research on the development of SB-CBT Model for dual diagnosis of substance abuse and psychiatric disorders for the Chinese culture.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups	<p><u>Project CHOICE – Community-based Healthy Life Style Online and Offline Interactive Comprehensive Educational Project</u></p> <p>This project aims at reducing the use of cannabis or other drugs through online and offline multi-media education and counselling service. Project elements include production of educational videos by key opinion leaders (KOLs), dissemination of anti-cannabis messages, community and school-based promotion, anti-cannabis treatment in the forms of casework or groups, cognitive behavioural therapy and motivational interviewing counselling and professional training cum sharing.</p>
Rotary Club of Admiralty Limited	<p><u>Say No to Drugs – Path Builders for Youth Project – Sparkling Angel</u></p> <p>This project aims at providing rehabilitation service and mentoring programme for drug abusers under the age of 40 and promoting community acceptance of T&amp;R service. Project elements include individual counselling, career counselling and personal development programme for drug abusers/rehabilitees, support counselling and mentorship training on drug knowledge, communication skills and counselling skills for mentors, mentoring activities and family counselling and programmes for family members of drug abusers/rehabilitees.</p>
Christian New Life Association Limited	<p><u>「基督精兵」尋羊運動 (No English title)</u></p> <p>This project aims at identifying drug abusers at early stage by peer-led outreaching service. Project elements include training workshops for outreaching skills and counselling theories and skills for rehabilitees, forming of an outreaching team to identify drug abusers for treatment, organising engaging activities for drug abusers, anti-drug activities and sharing seminars to disseminate anti-drug messages to the general public and prisoners.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Hong Kong Christian Service	<p data-bbox="504 237 975 277"><u>“HERO+” MSM Support Service</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 315 1359 824">This project aims at providing holistic and gay-friendly drug rehabilitation treatment and programmes to men who have sex with men (MSM). Project elements include online outreach, counselling, healthy activity, supportive group, expressive art workshop, creative group, voluntary activity and narrative therapy for drug-abusing or high risk MSM. The project will also co-operate with Department of Social Work of The Hong Kong Baptist University to develop a specific intervention model for MSM drug users and apply narrative therapy in counselling and group work, with a sharing session for anti-drug workers on exploring narrative therapy as an effective means for case intervention to be conducted.</p>
The Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers	<p data-bbox="504 873 1359 987"><u>Provision of Steady Vocational Training in (1) Plumbing and Pipe-fitting; and (2) Painting and Decoration for Residents of Shek Kwu Chau Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1032 1359 1503">This project aims at providing structured vocational training to residents of Shek Kwu Chau Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre to enhance their employability and facilitate their reintegration into the community and enhancing self-efficacy of youths/students to refuse drugs through community education. Project elements include provision of plumbing and pipe fitting and painting and decoration courses for rehabilitees. Course graduates will be arranged to attend accreditations tests and attain Construction Industry Safety Training Certificate, provide community services and conduct anti-drug talks/sharing sessions at youth centres, secondary schools or non-governmental organisations.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
The Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers	<p data-bbox="504 239 1353 309"><u>Enlightening Hope – Strengthening Rehabilitation and Aftercare Services Programme</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 360 1353 790">This project aims at developing healthy lifestyle of drug rehabilitees, supporting family members and promoting anti-drug messages to the general public. Project elements include provision of education and career counselling, soft skills training, medical check-up and interest class for drug rehabilitees, volunteer services, dissemination of anti-drug messages to secondary school students and the general public through school talks, music activities and sports competition, as well as counselling service for family members of drug rehabilitees and dissemination of drug information to employers.</p>
Caritas – Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 831 1062 871"><u>Love Reborn – Family Renewal Project</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 913 1353 1503">This project aims at providing intervention to drug-abusing family members and facilitating family recovery and bonding among family members. Project elements include anti-drug education in hospitals, maternal and child health centres, Schools for Social Development (SSD) and residential homes for high-risk youths and their family members, online dissemination of knowledge on anti-drug, pregnancy and parenting, individual and family counselling for drug abusers and their family members, outreach support for drug-abusing fathers, one-to-one peer support services and parenting workshops for young drug-abusing mothers, vocational skill and learning skill training for young drug-abusing mothers, stress relieving activities for drug-abusing fathers, as well as couple communication skill training and family consolidation activities for families.</p>



<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Methodist Centre	<p data-bbox="504 239 1305 275"><u>Project 「1+N」 Youth Rehabilitation and Peers Scheme</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 322 1356 792">This project aims at enhancing anti-drug attitude of young offenders and their peers, the capability of families in identifying hidden drug abusers and providing support for young drug abusers. Project elements include visits to correctional institutions and rehabilitation centres for building up networks with young offenders and their peers, activities for rebuilding social network, counselling and treatment for drug-abusing youths and family members, as well as formation of a volunteer team composed of young working adults for disseminating anti-drug messages to young offenders in correctional institutions and rehabilitation centres.</p>
Tung Wah Group of Hospitals	<p data-bbox="504 837 1356 913"><u>CROSS Fitness 2.0 – A Community-Based Reintegrated Project for Young Adult with Drug Abuse</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 960 1356 1552">This project aims at encouraging drug abusers to live a healthier lifestyle and enhancing their motivation to quit drugs or maintaining drug-free through exercise-based intervention. Project elements include intake interview and assessment for drug abusers and their significant others and recruitment of voluntary mentors, provision of exercise training, fitness training, health-related activity, mentor support and individual counselling for drug abusers and their significant others, relapse prevention group for drug abusers and training on drugs knowledge for mentors, assigning trainees to provide voluntary service with sports elements to promote healthy lifestyle to high-risk youths and sports-related job training and working opportunities for trainees and a research study to evaluate the effectiveness of the programme.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
The Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention, Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 239 1351 315"><u>“Buddies &amp; Buddies” – Peer Support Service on Hidden Drug Users</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 356 1351 831">This project aims at identifying hidden drug abusers, facilitating drug rehabilitees to reintegrate into the society through mutual help group and promoting community acceptance of T&amp;R services. Project elements include outreaching service to identify hidden and resistant drug abusers through peer supporters and trained active drug abusers, empowering drug abusers by enabling them to plan and coordinate in organising prosocial recreation activities and meetings, mutual support groups and aftercare service for rehabilitees, and promotion campaign with video production and sharing by ex-drug abusers to enhance community’s acceptance.</p>
The Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention, Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 875 1351 987"><u>Project CARE PLUS – Community-based Treatment and Rehabilitation Support Service for Ethnic Minorities + Drug Mothers &amp; Drug Prevention</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1032 1351 1469">This project aims at providing community-based drug T&amp;R service for ethnic minorities. Project elements include outreaching service for at-risk ethnic minorities, working ethnic minority drug abusers and ex-drug abusers, on-going treatment support programme, rehabilitation strengthening programme, pre-vocational treatment training with life skills programme, hostel service, volunteer activities and lifestyle change programme provided to drug abusers, parenting-strengthening programme for drug abusers and ex-drug abusers, as well as family reconciliation programme for family members.</p>
Hong Kong Children & Youth Services – Tai Po District Youth Outreaching Social Work Team	<p data-bbox="504 1512 1351 1547"><u>Crisis Accommodation Personal Strength Building Program</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1592 1351 1984">This project aims at enhancing vocational skills of rehabilitees and their sense of self-efficacy, reducing relapse rates and facilitating reintegration into society through out-patient service and counselling. Project elements include a brief intervention for drug rehabilitation and vocational preparation programme for drug abusers, career and life planning with workplace-based training and experience, follow-up sessions and vocational development programme, as well as a graduation ceremony with family members of drug abusers and the general public.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
The Neighbourhood Advice-Action Council	<p><u>Discovery</u></p> <p>This project aims at reaching out and engaging high-risk youth and hidden drug abusers in the Hong Kong Island (in particular Wan Chai and Eastern Districts) with a view to identifying hidden drug abusers for medical services and referral ultimately. Project elements include outreaching services with drug prevention elements, online Chinese medical treatment enquiry, and off-line consultation and referral service, counselling sessions including narrative therapy and expressive arts therapy and Chinese medicine face-to-face consultation.</p>
Community Drug Advisory Council	<p><u>Photo Voice II</u></p> <p>This project aims at increasing public understanding towards rehabilitees and enhancing their self-esteem through narrative therapy, use of expressive art therapy and phototherapy. Project elements include expressive art and photography-aided therapy sessions, empowerment sessions conducted for rehabilitees, photos exhibitions, sharing sessions, anti-stigma community education activities including roadshows and photo voice exhibition.</p>
Community Drug Advisory Council	<p><u>Professional Training on Drug Abusing Parents Sensitivity</u></p> <p>This project aims at providing a series of training to frontline anti-drug personnel and tertiary school students in relevant fields with a view to enhancing their capability and knowledge in handling drug-abusing parents. Project elements include thematic seminars, sharing sessions on featured cases by ex-drug abusers, visits to local drug rehabilitation and service facilities, professional trainings organised for frontline anti-drug personnel and tertiary school students of related disciplines and anti-drug promotion activities for dissemination of anti-drug messages in tertiary institutions.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Occupational Therapy Department, Kwai Chung Hospital	<p><u>I Dare, I Want – Strength-based Project</u></p> <p>This project aims at enhancing the rehabilitation and life functioning of drug abusers through a continuum treatment provided by occupational therapists. Project elements include providing each participant with treatments in phases to enhance their motivation for treatment, reduce their drug abuse frequency and relapse risk, enhance mental wellbeing, establish proper life roles and improve their functioning.</p>
Glorious Praise Fellowship (Hong Kong) Limited	<p><u>有你同行 (No English title)</u></p> <p>This project aims at strengthening the support to drug abusers and their family members, encouraging drug abusers to live a healthier lifestyle, enhancing their motivation to quit drug and also enriching anti-drug knowledge of their family members. Project elements include physical outreach, leisure activities, court escort service and visits to hospital and prison for follow-up provided to drug abusers. Outreaching services including counselling, support groups and gatherings will also be arranged for family members of drug abusers.</p>
Mission Ark Limited	<p><u>轉化生命、盡情創造 (No English title)</u></p> <p>This project aims at providing training to peer counsellors on team-building and coaching skills, as well as to drug rehabilitees on positive thinking and resistance to adversity. Project elements include training workshops for outreaching skills and counselling theories and skills for drug rehabilitees, weekly supervision to provide support and facilitate personal growth, training on teambuilding and coaching to peer counsellors as life coaches, a sharing seminar to share the progress and outcome of this project with organisations from the anti-drug sector, and delivery of free home cleansing and repairing services for low-income families.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Wu Oi Christian Centre	<p><u>Vocational Training and Peer Aftercare Scheme</u></p> <p>This project aims at enhancing vocational skills of residents of Wu Oi Christian Long Ke Training Centre and their sense of self-efficacy, reducing relapse rates and facilitating their reintegration into the society. Project elements include vocational training and peer aftercare groups for drug rehabilitees.</p>
Wu Oi Christian Centre	<p><u>“A renewed tomorrow” – Renovation for Tai Mei Tuk Female Training Centre</u></p> <p>This project is for the renovation work for Tai Mei Tuk Female Training Centre so as to enhance residential rehabilitation services for female drug abusers.</p>
Tung Wah Group of Hospitals	<p><u>Certified Addiction Counsellor Training and Clinical Supervision</u></p> <p>This project aims at enhancing anti-drug professionals’ competency in delivery of addiction prevention, assessment and intervention through professional training and supervision. Project elements include a certified training course and clinical group supervision sessions for those who have successfully completed the certified training course.</p>
Wu Oi Christian Centre	<p><u>Equipping Families to Fight Drugs</u></p> <p>This project aims at strengthening support and providing training to family members of drug abusers/rehabilitees. Project elements include anti-drug and communication skills seminars and family support group sessions for family members of drug abusers/rehabilitees, as well as recruitment of reformed drug abusers as rehabilitation officers to share their life experience and provide motivational support to the participants.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Hong Kong Lutheran Social Service	<p data-bbox="504 239 1351 315"><u>Being A Mother: A Holistic Support Program for Drug-Abusing Parents and Caregiver</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 356 1351 869">This project aims at serving drug-abusing parents and parents-to-be in Tai Po and North Districts in collaboration with medical professionals of Comprehensive Child Development Service (CCDS) of New Territories East, social workers of Counselling Centre for Psychotropic Substance Abusers, post-natal care worker and volunteers of the community. Project elements include individual counselling and treatment services, treatment and support groups, one-stop medical support (community CCDS station), early education and trainings and community support groups organised for drug abusing parents or parents-to-be as well as their family members. Case conference will also be arranged for frontline workers and other health care professionals.</p>
Hong Kong Council of Social Service	<p data-bbox="504 913 1351 990"><u>Professional Exchange and Capacity Building in Drug Treatment Service</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1030 1351 1305">This project aims at creating a platform to exchange professional experience in enriching professional knowledge and facilitating service collaboration and referral among frontline workers in the anti-drug sector. Project elements include a symposium on drug prevention and treatment and a workshop with overseas experts and clinical practitioners be invited to be the speakers.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Tung Wah Group of Hospitals	<p data-bbox="504 239 1351 311"><u>Light Up Family – Moving Hidden Substance Abusers from Social Withdrawal towards Recovery</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 356 1351 1106">This project aims at enhancing family functioning of hidden drug abusers and their family members, and improving their mental health in anxiety, depression and stress level through home-based psychosocial and medical intervention. Project elements include (a) home-based psychosocial and mental health assessment to drug abusers and their family members; (b) home-based online mental health consultation, occupational therapy consultation, mental health supportive treatment, home-based life skills training and community volunteer service to hidden drug abusers; (c) individual interview and emotional treatment group to family members of hidden drug abusers; (d) family counselling with family therapy and multiple family therapeutic group to hidden drug abusers and their family members; (e) expressive art work exercise and art exhibition for hidden drug abusers; (f) training courses for frontline professionals working with hidden drug abusers; and (g) publication and distribution of a tool book on professional intervention for professionals in the anti-drug field.</p>
Tung Wah Group of Hospitals	<p data-bbox="504 1151 1351 1223"><u>Project Embrace – Mindfulness-based Intervention for Drug Abusers with Alcohol Problem</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1267 1351 1585">This project aims at providing assessment and addiction treatment programme to drug abusers with alcohol problem through Mindfulness-based Interventions (MBIs) approach. Project elements include individual counselling, MBIs and activities, brief intervention to drug abusers and their families and sharing workshops for social workers or healthcare professionals from drug or alcohol abuse treatment programmes.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church Social Service – Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 239 1351 311"><u>Change Lens · Change Life (Chinese Medication Support Programme)</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 356 1351 869">This project aims at supporting drug abusers and their family members by providing free medical treatments as well as counselling services through Medical and Social Comprehensive Treatment Model. Through engaging the family members of drug abusers, it aims at enhancing drug abusers' motivation to quit drugs. Project elements include (a) family support group services for family members of drug abusers; (b) vocational training or interest classes, free medical support service for drug users and their family members; (c) review camp or day camp for hidden drug abusers and (e) regular telephone contacts, mails, visits and aftercare follow-ups arranged for drug abusers and their family members by social workers or peer counsellors.</p>
Operation Dawn Ltd.	<p data-bbox="504 911 831 947"><u>Rainbow after the Rain</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 992 1351 1384">This project aims at providing outreaching and rehabilitation service for South Asian ethnic minority drug abusers. Project elements include outreaching service, pre-employment workshop, jobs skills and vocational training courses, outward bound training, individual and group counselling sessions and aftercare service organised for drug abusers. Relationship rebuilding and counselling support for family members of ethnic minority drug abusers and training and psychological support for ethnic minority peer counsellors will also be arranged.</p>
Operation Dawn Ltd.	<p data-bbox="504 1431 916 1467"><u>Enlightening Wonderful Life</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1512 1351 1780">This project aims at providing T&amp;R programmes and counselling to female rehabilitated drug abusers, their family members and graduates from sister hostels. Project elements include hobby and leisure classes, vocational training course, individual counselling and life education workshops, aftercare services, adventure training and parental support work.</p>



<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Centre for Clinical Research and Biostatistics, Jockey Club School of Public Health and Primary Care, Chinese University of Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 239 1351 353"><u>Development of Objective Measure of Psychotropic Substances Abuse using Automatic Retinal Image Analysis (ARIA)</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 398 1351 629">This project aims at studying the drug effects on the human brains and its medical consequences. It plans to develop a method for detecting psychotropic substances abuse using the ARIA technology, a well-established non-invasive screening approach for analysing retinal vascular architecture.</p>
Department of Psychiatry, The Chinese University of Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 714 1351 790"><u>Adverse Mental Health Effects of Cannabis Use: a Literature Review and a Prevalence Study in Local Cannabis Abusers</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 835 1351 1151">This project aims at studying the prevalence of psychiatric disorders in local cannabis users and to conduct a literature review on the harms of cannabis. Through a comprehensive literature review, the risk factors, frequency, symptoms, pathomechanism and treatment of cannabis-related psychiatric disorders will be identified. The psychiatric disorders will be assessed in a community setting using structured diagnostic interview in a cross-sectional study.</p>
Faculty of Medicine, Chinese University of Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 1189 1351 1308"><u>The Feasibility and Effects of Mindfulness Based Relapse Prevention (MBRP) on Reducing Craving and Addictive Behaviour in Local Adults with Substance Abuse Disorders</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1352 1351 1668">This project aims at assessing the feasibility and effects of MBRP intervention programme on reducing craving and addictive behaviour in local adults with substance abuse disorders by a randomised controlled trial. It examines the changes of craving, substance use, mood symptoms, self-efficacy, acceptance, level of mindfulness and quality of life between those who have enrolled in the MBRP as compared to those in the usual care control group.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Department of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care, Chinese University of Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 237 1351 353"><u>Effects of Ketamine and Cannabis on Antimicrobial Peptide Expression and Infection Susceptibility: An In Vitro and Animal Study</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 398 1351 589">This project aims at studying the effects of ketamine and cannabidiol on cell culture and mouse model, with a view to enriching the understanding on the effects on the innate immune system and may also facilitate the treatment for drug abuse-associated pneumonia.</p>
Department of Medicine, Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, University of Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 629 1351 701"><u>A Prospective Study to Evaluate the Change in Cognitive Function in Stimulant Users</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 745 1351 981">This project aims at studying the effect of methamphetamine (commonly known as “Ice”) and cocaine on the cognitive function of abusers. It compares the change in cognitive functions and frequency of stimulant use in stimulant users with different severities of substance use disorder and determines the association between these two aspects.</p>
Department of Psychiatry, Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, University of Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 1021 1351 1104"><u>Substance Misuse to Psychosis for Stimulants (SToP-S) – An Early Assertive Pharmacotherapy Intervention Study</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1149 1351 1339">This project aims at studying the effects of new medications (Aripiprazole and Paliperidone) on stimulant (especially “Ice” and cocaine) drug abusers who are presented with psychotic symptoms to stop developing into a more disabling dependence state.</p>
Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention, The University of Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 1379 1351 1462"><u>A Study on the Recovery Process of Inmates with History of Drug Abuse: Challenges and Opportunities</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1507 1351 1776">This project aims at identifying profiles and characteristics of inmates with drug-abusing behaviour, exploring rehabilitation process of the inmates with drug-abusing behaviour and identifying potential mechanisms to improve the rehabilitation outcomes and estimating the potential reduction in social costs relating to the potential improvements in the rehabilitation process.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Hong Kong Shue Yan University	<p data-bbox="507 237 1353 353"><u>Posttreatment Life Planning and Relapse Prevention: An Effectiveness Study of an Integrative Model of Vocational Life Design for Young Rehabilitated Drug Abusers</u></p> <p data-bbox="507 398 1353 555">This project aims at developing a life planning programme which can help to enhance the self-efficacy and prevent relapse of rehabilitees, and evaluating the effectiveness of the programme.</p>
<b>2019 Funding Exercise</b>	
Operation Dawn Ltd.	<p data-bbox="507 645 1200 680"><u>Dawn Life Education Programme: School of Life</u></p> <p data-bbox="507 725 1353 1039">The project aims at enhancing public awareness of drug harms and strengthening aftercare services for drug rehabilitees. Project elements include life education programme which consist of virtual reality (VR) simulation experience on drug effects, testimony sharing and planting activity. Drug rehabilitees will receive individual career counselling and training workshop to equip them with the skills to support the life education programme.</p>
The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="507 1086 1283 1122"><u>Project CIA 2.0 (Combating Intergeneration Addiction)</u></p> <p data-bbox="507 1167 1353 1480">The project aims at providing family-oriented services for high-risk and hidden drug abusing pregnant women and drug abusing parents and preventive education for general public. Project elements include support and counselling services for high-risk, hidden drug abusing, drug abusing parents and their children, counselling support for family members of drug abusers and rehabilitees, anti-drug public education and sharing of practices and knowledge.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Department of Surgery, The Chinese University of Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 237 1351 353"><u>Comprehensive Urological Treatment Programme for Psychotropic Substance Abusers in Hospital and Mobile Outreach Settings</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 398 1351 909">This project aims at providing urological treatment programme for psychotropic substance abusers (PSAs) in hospital and mobile outreach settings, reinforcement education/preventive education to drug rehabilitees and high-risk youths and up-to-date medical knowledge to healthcare providers. Project elements include providing fast-track and comprehensive urological care in a hospital setting to PSAs with urinary tract problems, outreach urological screening service and reinforcement education to rehabilitees at Drug Addiction Treatment Centre and/or Correctional Services, preventive education to high-risk students from SSD and/or Residential Homes, and up-to-date medical knowledge to healthcare providers.</p>
Hong Kong Children & Youth Services Sane Centre	<p data-bbox="504 952 1351 1025"><u>Paws Tree – Parent Education and Community-based Supporting Scheme</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1070 1351 1384">This project aims at improving family relationship and parenting skills of drug abusers so as to facilitate their drug rehabilitation and prevent inter-generational drug abuse behaviour in their families. Project elements include support for drug abusing pregnant women, female teenagers, parents and drug rehabilitees, support for families and children of drug abusers, job training and voluntary service and community promotion and project sharing.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Tung Wah Group of Hospitals	<p data-bbox="504 239 1351 309"><u>“Project EMpower” – Ethnic Minority Youth Enhancement Scheme</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 356 1351 826">This project aims at providing comprehensive and structural intervention to ethnic minority youths and ethnic minority drug abusers aged 12-24. Project elements include school talk or exhibition and outreach service with fitness elements for ethnic minority youths, photography exhibition for the general public, VR workshop, sports training, life education programme, volunteer service, career and life planning workshop, with brief counselling for at-risk ethnic minority youths, relapse prevention group (adventure-based training or art therapy) with Motivational Interviewing element for drug abusing ethnic minority youths, as well as referral made for those who require further counselling or medical support.</p>
Action for Reach Out	<p data-bbox="504 875 1351 987"><u>Embrace Life, Embrace Yourself – Integrated Anti-drug Service Scheme for Female and Transgender Female Sex Workers</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1034 1351 1505">This project aims at providing an integrated anti-drug service to enhance the knowledge of female and transgender female sex workers on the harm of drug use and cultivating a healthy lifestyle to lower their risk of drug abuse. Project elements include individual and outreach visits, group activities, hotline and online outreaching, group and centre-based activities, production of anti-drug booklets and souvenirs, provision of counselling, medical and referral services to female and transgender sex workers with drug abuse problems. Training workshops for frontline workers from medical, social service and education sectors and tertiary school students will also be organised.</p>
Hong Kong Lutheran Social Service	<p data-bbox="504 1554 1062 1588"><u>One Further Step. Stand Against Drugs</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1632 1351 1946">This project, launched in collaboration with the Federation of Parent Teacher Associations in Kwun Tong District Limited and Kwun Tong Schools Liaison Committee, aims at providing professional counselling services for hidden drug abusers and creating a supporting atmosphere for drug rehabilitation in the Kowloon East. Project elements include family intervention and counselling, community promotion and education, as well as professional training.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Caritas – Hong Kong	<p><u>ImPerfect</u></p> <p>This project aims at engaging potential young adult female drug abusers for treatment through art therapy and empowering family members, social workers and teachers in supporting drug abusers. Project elements include physical, online and peer driven outreach services, an offline and online drug awareness and education program, drug T&amp;R services, therapeutic group and art-based experiential workshop, time-out sessions and medical assessment/services, and vocational training cum job placement for drug abusers, community workshop for high-risk youths and community members will also be organised.</p>
Hong Kong Children & Youth Services Tai Po District Youth Outreaching Social Work Team	<p><u>No Weed Chill Out – Drug Prevention and Counselling Scheme</u></p> <p>This project aims at building up young people and general public’s awareness and knowledge on the harms of cannabis and providing comprehensive support to high-risk youths and young drug abusers. Project elements include VR anti-drug experience, real escape game, talks and group activities for tertiary students, physical outreach for high-risk youths, provision of assessment, story-telling counselling and Chinese medical referral for follow-up for high-risk youths and young drug abusers. Anti-drug talks and workshops on the harms of cannabis for family members of drug abusers will also be organised.</p>
The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups	<p><u>Project MAP – Meaning-Centered Approach Drug Education and Counselling Program</u></p> <p>This project aims at adopting “Meaning-Centered Approach (MCA)” with “Stepped Care Model” for early identification and intervention for high-risk youths and drug abusers with mental health issues using VR technology and activity-based programs. Project elements include anti-drug education and intervention program, anti-drug prevention group and experiential program, counselling and treatment program, professional training workshops and project-end experience sharing session for social workers for promotion of MCA and dissemination of project outcome, as well as evaluation on the effectiveness of MCA for drug education, prevention and counselling, and publication of MCA manual and handbook.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
The Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers	<p data-bbox="504 239 1054 275"><u>Happy and Healthy Family Scheme 2.0</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 320 1359 707">This project aims at enhancing parenting capacity of drug using/drug rehabilitee parents, as well as enhancing competence of social workers working with drug using parents. Project elements include reunion programme for drug using parents and their children, recovery programme and parent-child relationship enhancement programme for drug rehabilitee parents and their children, volunteer training programme for drug rehabilitee parents, professional training for social workers working with children of drug-using families.</p>
The Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers	<p data-bbox="504 754 1359 909"><u>A Drug Free Pluralistic and Harmonious Community – A Community Based Reaching Out Drug Prevention and Intervention for High-risk and Hidden Non-ethnic Chinese 2.0</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 954 1359 1588">This project aims at raising anti-drug awareness among ethnic minority communities and reach out to ethnic minority high risk individuals and families for early identification and referral of drug abusers. Project elements include public drug awareness workshops for ethnic minority community, outreaching to high risk ethnic minority hot spots and to provide on-the spot counselling and intervention to ethnic minority individuals and their families, follow-up counselling services for high risk individuals and their family members, referral of ethnic minority drug abusers and high-risk ethnic minority individuals to medical treatment and/or rehabilitation treatment, integrated internship programmes for ethnic minority high-risk individuals and drug abusers and skill development and leisure activities for general youths, high risk-targets and hidden drug abusers in the ethnic minority communities.</p>
The Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers	<p data-bbox="504 1632 1230 1668"><u>Mindful Break – Short Term Treatment Programme</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1713 1359 1989">This project aims at outreaching drug abusers from the community and provide intensive short-term residential treatment programme to them as well as counselling support to their family members. Project elements include outreaching and sharing, referral, early assessment and counselling services, short-term residential treatment and follow up services.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="507 237 1343 309"><u>MedPAC Hotline: A Medical Peer Addiction Counselling Hotline Service for Drug-abusing Youth and Young Adults</u></p> <p data-bbox="507 353 1343 786">This project aims at launching a Medical Peer Addiction Counselling (MedPAC) hotline service for young drug abusers. Project elements include (a) collaboration with secondary and tertiary schools, youth organisations and high-pressure industry to promote the hotline service; (b) training to undergraduates and master degree students from the medical school and nursing department of the University of Hong Kong to become telephone peer counsellor; and (c) launching the hotline for drug abusers or ex-drug abusers. Referral to drug treatment services will be available upon obtaining client's consent.</p>
Community Drug Advisory Council	<p data-bbox="507 835 1248 869"><u>Empowered to Moveforward – Professional Training</u></p> <p data-bbox="507 913 1343 1346">This project aims at providing a series of training to frontline anti-drug personnel and tertiary school students in relevant fields with a view to enhancing their capability and knowledge in handling drug-abusing ethnic minorities. Project elements include thematic seminars, sharing sessions by ex-drug abusers of ethnic minority, visits to local drug rehabilitation and service facilities, professional trainings organised for frontline anti-drug personnel and tertiary school students of related disciplines and student-led anti-drug promotion activities for dissemination of anti-drug messages in tertiary institutions.</p>
Community Health Organisation for Intervention, Care and Empowerment Limited	<p data-bbox="507 1395 970 1429"><u>Integrated Anti-Drug Service 3.0</u></p> <p data-bbox="507 1473 1343 1973">This project aims at enhancing the anti-drug knowledge of gay population and gay drug abusers' motivation to seek help and quit drugs. Project elements include preventive education to gay population including physical and internet outreaching services to disseminate anti-drug messages and recruitment of peer educators. Peer counsellors will produce an educational micro-movie and conduct further outreaching services. Individual assessment and referral to medical treatments will be provided for the needy. Chem Fun care programme will also be provided to encourage gay drug abusers to seek help and achieve better emotional control with physical exercises. In addition, professional training will be provided to social workers.</p>



<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Wu Oi Christian Centre	<p data-bbox="504 237 1110 277"><u>Vocational Training and Aftercare Scheme</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 315 1359 674">This project aims at enhancing the vocational skills of the residents of Wu Oi Christian Tai Mei Tuk Female Training Centre and their sense of self-efficacy as well as their social competency and facilitating their reintegration into society. Project elements include conducting four rounds of vocational training courses, i.e. dessert making cum baking, post-natal care work and nursing care services for participants, as well as having two peer counsellors to conduct aftercare group once a month for rehabilitees.</p>
Department of Social Work, The Chinese University of Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 712 1359 949"><u>Building Capacity among Practitioners and Students of Social Work and Healthcare Professions for Anti-Drug Work with Young Adults, Pregnant Women/Mothers, and Sexual Minorities: An Integrated Humanistic and Cognitive-Behavioural Training Program Augmented by an Online Learning Platform</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 987 1359 1861">This project aims at equipping social workers and healthcare professionals with knowledge and skills of an integrated humanistic and cognitive-behavioural therapy for working with specific groups of drug abusers. Project elements include Introductory Workshop on the latest development of the drug scenes in Hong Kong, counselling skills, initial assessment and level of cares for drug abusers, Advanced Course on the overview of an Integrated Humanistic and Cognitive-Behavioural Treatment, screening and assessment, engagement and building motivation to change, negotiating behavioural change, early relapse prevention, relapse prevention and management, treatment for families and social network members, anti-drug work with specific populations including young adults, pregnant women/mothers and sexual minorities, Clinical Supervision Course on principles of using integrated humanistic and cognitive-behavioural treatment, demonstration of counselling skills, monitoring and facilitating trainee's learning of anti-drug counselling skills etc. and an online learning platform including bilingual web-based audio-visual learning materials, live broadcast sessions of clinical supervision courses.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Hong Kong Lutheran Social Service	<p data-bbox="504 237 1351 311"><u>SOS: Psychotropic Substance Abusers Family Emergency Supporting Scheme II</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 356 1351 792">This project aims at providing support and treatment to the family of the PSAs and fostering the hidden PSAs to seek help and treatment. The project also aims at strengthening intervention knowledge and skills for social workers. Project elements include home visits for crisis intervention, assessment and motivation enhancement, therapeutic groups, group/individual counselling, on-site Chinese medical support, delivery of supportive information through hotline service and mobile apps and anti-drug training workshops for social workers, as well as an evaluation research and publication of research report.</p>
Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council Limited	<p data-bbox="504 831 1351 871"><u>We Born, Reborn 2.0 – Substance Abuse Counselling Project</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 916 1351 1263">This project aims at providing comprehensive services for drug abusing pregnant women or postnatal mothers, and their families in the New Territories East. Project elements include counselling and support services for drug abusers and postnatal mothers, activities to strengthen family bonding, psychotherapy and medical health care guidance services, training and case sharing for social workers and publication of a counselling manual as project deliverable for social welfare service units.</p>
North District Hospital, Tai Po Hospital and Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital	<p data-bbox="504 1310 1038 1350"><u>Extend Community Clinic Service 2.0</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1395 1351 1861">This project aims at facilitating the continuity of drug T&amp;R services by providing outreach social work and patient care service for substance abusers as well as for their family members or carers with emotional problems. Project elements include providing professional and comprehensive assessment, screening and problem/risk identification for substance abusers, outreach individual counselling for substance abusers and outreach support for carers and group sessions, e.g. psychoeducation, mental health education, stress and anger management, expressive art, group motivational interviewing and recreational activities for substance abusers and carers.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Yang Memorial Methodist Social Service	<p data-bbox="504 239 975 275"><u>No Drugs Home with More Love</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 320 1356 752">This project aims at strengthening the support to drug abusers and rehabilitees of ethnic minority origin, their family members and young teenage children, as well as enhancing the anti-drug knowledge of ethnic minority community members and strengthening drug abusers' motivation to seek help or quit drugs. Project elements include outreach and individual counselling, mutual help group, job skill training course, children play group and group activities, volunteer training and matching service, preliminary medical consultation, health and dental check-up, interest development activities and community education road show.</p>
Evangelical Lutheran Church Social Service = Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 797 1283 833"><u>Operation of Networking Hidden Drug Users – Phase 2</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 878 1356 1267">This project aims at linking up drug rehabilitation service in the community and cooperate with Substance Abuse Clinics under Hospital Authority to provide daytime rehabilitation programmes. Project elements include sharing sessions, recruitment talks, outreach and visits, support groups for family members, motivation enhancing programme, such as counselling sessions, consultation and follow-up by psychiatric nurses and Chinese medicine practitioners, and vocational training and orientation activities in rehabilitation centres.</p>
Evangelical Lutheran Church Social Service = Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 1312 1023 1348"><u>My Love. I Care II: Love+ Program</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1393 1356 1783">This project aims at providing family-based support to drug abusing parents and their families so as to prevent inter-generational drug abuse problem. Project elements include training workshop for frontline workers or related professionals, promote healthy family icon through comics/video/audio clips/web-station/schools, outreaching support, family/children counselling for couples/families/children and a series of family relationship enrichment activities for drug abusers/their family members (including children) to enhance family support.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital Occupation Therapy	<p data-bbox="504 237 1351 353"><u>“Enhancing Abstinence by Novel Approach of Metacognitive Intervention and Lifestyle Re-design” Version 2.0</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 398 1351 712">This project aims at helping drug abusers to reduce drug use, improve their self-efficacy to avoid drug abuse, rebuild a healthy social circle and reintegrate into society. Project elements include offering each participant an initial intake session and core intervention sessions of treatment program, adopting an approach with integration of Occupational Life Style Re-design and metacognitive intervention, and conducting group therapy in psychiatric hospital ward.</p>
Hong Kong Lutheran Social Service	<p data-bbox="504 752 1351 833"><u>Healing Journey – Trauma-Informed Substance Abuse Treatment and Professional Training Program</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 878 1351 1473">This project aims at strengthening treatment efficacy of the Trauma-informed Integrative Substance Abuse Treatment Model so as to increase clients’ motivation to seek help and enhance the therapy outcome. Project elements include adopting neuroscience and neurobiology approach to enhance the treatment efficacy of the Trauma-Informed Integrative Substance Misuse Treatment Model for drug abusers with traumatic experience, arranging six levels of training, supervision groups and sharing sessions to equip substance abuse service professionals to deal with substance abuse cases with traumatic experiences, providing psychological assessment with treatment and therapeutic groups to target clients, and producing booklets on Trauma-Informed Integrative Substance Misuse Treatment with training on the use of the booklet.</p>
Caritas – Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 1509 671 1550"><u>Vitamin Cs</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1594 1351 1863">This project aims at developing rehabilitees’ competency so that they could reintegrate and contribute to the society and be protected from the risk of relapse during the process of reintegration. Project elements include vocational training, e.g. media production, home repair and maintenance and physical fitness, individual and family counselling and volunteer service.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Caritas – Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 237 1351 349"><u>Lightening Soul, Renewing Life – Psychological Healing Services for Drug Abusers/Ex-drug Abusers and Their Family Members</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 394 1351 629">This project aims at providing integrated service and drug addiction treatment to drug abusers and ex-drug abusers, as well as support for their family members. Project elements include online outreach, individual intervention, family intervention, community-based intervention and establishment of Trauma-informed Care Practice Platform.</p>
Caritas – Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 674 986 712"><u>Pregnant to Nurturing Scheme 2.0</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 757 1351 1032">This project aims at providing comprehensive services for drug abusing or ex-drug abusing parents and pregnant women and their children. Project elements include outreach activities, supportive and counselling services for drug abusers, rehabilitees and their family members, parenting and child care guidance services and support for ex-drug abusing and drug abusing parents who live apart from their children.</p>
Caritas – Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 1072 1054 1111"><u>Gato House – Under the “Meow” Roof</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1155 1351 1431">This project aims at preventing relapse and reduce drug use among drug abusers through animal-assisted therapy. Project elements include providing animal-assisted therapy, e.g. individual and group counselling and life education, and animal-related vocational training as well as job trial for drug abusers and rehabilitees and family counselling for drug abusing mothers and their children.</p>
Hong Kong Christian Service	<p data-bbox="504 1471 754 1509"><u>Marvel Imprint II</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1554 1351 1830">This project aims at serving pregnant and postnatal drug abusers together with their family members in the Kowloon West region. Project elements include supportive and counselling services, parenting and child care guidance services, community involvement and drug prevention education activities for at-risk female and community members.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Christian New Life Association Ltd.	<p><u>重新裝備、重回正軌 (No English title)</u></p> <p>This project aims at equipping residents of Christian New Life Association with vocational skills so as to enhance their sense of self-efficacy and facilitate their reintegration into society. Project elements include vocational training courses including painting, wires fixing, plumbing, welding, air-conditioning and solar panel installation for participants. Trained participants will then help low-income families and elderly persons to conduct home repair and maintenance.</p>
Mission Ark Ltd.	<p><u>《新生綜合模式生涯發展計劃》之延伸 (No English title)</u></p> <p>This project aims at strengthening the employment readiness of drug rehabilitees through vocational training, apprentice scheme and career life planning. Project elements include vocational training and interest classes, career life planning and job matching, apprentice scheme, job matching and placement, and trainee sharing session.</p>
United Christian Hospital	<p><u>Mobile Functional Cognition Program 2.0</u></p> <p>This project aims at strengthening the cognitive and occupational functions of drug abusers. Project elements include promulgating the evidence-based Mobile Functional Cognition Program, which is a training programme with three parts, i.e. pre-assessment and recovery planning, functional cognitive training and post-assessment and round up.</p>
The Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers	<p><u>“Taste of Art and Sports” – Project for the Physical and Mental Well-being of Female Drug Abusers under Residential Treatment</u></p> <p>This project aims at enhancing the mental and physical health and reducing the relapse risk of female drug rehabilitees in Sister Aquinas Memorial Women’s Treatment Centre (WTC). Project elements include group-based counselling services, art and sports lessons for residents, art and sports activities and trainee sharing sessions for WTC residents and their family members and guided tours to WTC for social workers and members of the general public.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 237 1351 389"><u>Substance Misuse to Psychiatric Disorders for Cannabis – Prospective Evaluation on Cognitive Function and its Associated Genetic Vulnerability in Cannabis Users (SToP – C – PeCoG)</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 439 1351 667">The project aims at (i) evaluating the change in neurocognitive functions for cannabis abusers over 18 months; (ii) determining if genetic vulnerability associated with cannabis use also predispose cannabis abusers to have poorer neurocognitive outcomes and more severe cannabis use disorder.</p>
Department of Psychiatry, the Chinese University of Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 719 1351 792"><u>Adverse Mental Health Effects of a New Psychotropic Substance (Synthetic Cathinones) Use: a Literature Review</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 842 1351 1032">The project aims at conducting a literature review on the risk factors, frequencies, symptoms, pathomechanisms and treatments of Synthetic Cathinones (SCs)-related psychiatric disorders, e.g., SC use disorder, psychosis, mood disorders, anxiety disorders and cognitive impairment.</p>
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	<p data-bbox="504 1077 1351 1196"><u>The Application of Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (rTMS) as an Adjunct Therapy in Reduction of Craving and Consumption of Illicit Drugs</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1245 1351 1592">The project aims at (i) examining if rTMS can reduce craving and consumption of the most commonly used illicit drugs (amphetamine and cocaine) among young people (aged 18 to 35) in Hong Kong; (ii) investigating the association between rTMS protocol (frequency and intensity) and drug craving and consumption; (iii) investigating whether there are gains in executing functioning and reduction in depressive and anxiety symptoms among participants who have received rTMS treatment.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
<p>Emergency Medicine Unit, Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong</p>	<p><u>Acute Toxicity Related to Psychoactive Substance Abuse and the Impact of Emergency Department Interventions on Drug-related Re-attendance</u></p> <p>The project aims at (i) characterising the pattern and trend of acute toxicity related to “Ice”, cocaine and cannabis abuse presenting to emergency departments (EDs) in Hong Kong and to evaluate the impact of the pattern of drug use and severity of acute toxicity on ED re-attendance for drug-related problems; (ii) evaluating the current practice of ED interventions, including psychosocial interventions, pharmacological treatment beyond management of acute poisoning, and case referral to substance abuse services, and their impact on reducing subsequent drug-related ED re-attendance; and (iii) sharing the knowledge generated in this project with frontline social workers working in the field of substance abuse and explore effective strategies to engage drug abusers early in the hospital setting, facilitate case referral and provision of continuum of services, and strengthen care after ED discharge in order to reduce recurrent drug-related ED visits in a multi-sectoral platform.</p>
<p>The Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention, Hong Kong</p>	<p><u>The Prevalence and Factors Associated with Post-release Substance Use in Ex-offenders in Hong Kong</u></p> <p>The project aims at (i) exploring the prevalence and profile of substance use behaviours in ex-offenders one year post-release; (ii) identifying risk factors for drug use after discharged from prison, protective factors for remaining drug-free, and factor associated with methadone treatment compliance in these substance using ex-offenders; and (iii) conducting qualitative interviews to have a detailed examination in understanding participant’s experience during imprisonment and after release that might be relevant to the substance use behaviour.</p>



Grantee	Project Title and Description
<b>2020 Funding Exercise</b>	
Christian New Life Association Ltd.	<p><u>「毒」不鬆懈 (No English Title)</u></p> <p>This project aims at identifying hidden drug abusers in the community by peer-led outreaching service. Project elements include first aid training and bi-weekly supervision on outreaching skills and counselling theories, forming an outreaching team to identify drug abusers from the community for treatment, sharing seminars, anti-drug sharing events in Hei Ling Chau Addiction Treatment Centre and organising anti-drug music performance to echo the United Nations International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.</p>
Mission Ark Ltd.	<p><u>從「靈」到豐盛 (No English Title)</u></p> <p>This project aims at providing coaching and training to drug rehabilitees and drug abusers covering topics on emotional management, personal growth, positive thinking and team building skills. Project elements include training workshops for drug abusers on personal growth, emotional management and communication skills and one-to-one tutorial classes, peer-counsellor training for rehabilitees on team building skills, conflict management and communication skills, and provision of volunteer services by drug rehabilitees/drug abusers to low-income families.</p>
Caritas – Hong Kong	<p><u>Drugs Tech Tour Anti-drug Education and Counselling Project</u></p> <p>This project aims at installation of high-tech interactive media tools to disseminate anti-drug information and provide innovative treatment services for drug abusers and rehabilitees. Project elements include offline and online anti-drug preventive education such as dissemination of knowledge about different drug types using holography technology and Augmented Reality (AR) technology, application of face-swap technology to simulate the adverse effect of drugs, and simulation of the effect of drug abuse using VR technology, and group counselling service for drug abusers and drug rehabilitees using mindfulness intervention, narrative therapy and VR-based counselling programme for relapse prevention.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Caritas – Hong Kong	<p><u>X-ploration</u></p> <p>This project aims at enabling drug abusers and rehabilitees to explore their vocational interests and develop occupational skills, which would engage them on more meaningful career choices. Project elements include online outreaching and support, financial crisis support scheme and various type of vocational skills trainings, group-based counselling with narrative therapy elements, support groups and medical support services, vocational exploration and pre-vocational skill training.</p>
Caritas – Hong Kong	<p><u>Caritas Project Hyacinth – Project Teams Love</u></p> <p>This project aims at providing services to young drug abusing parents to enable them to quit drugs. Project elements include anti-drug education at maternal and child health centres, youth centres, SSD and residential homes for high-risk youths, training rehabilitated drug abusers to disseminate online drug prevention messages, individual and family counselling for drug abusers and their family members, outreach support, parenting skill training and stress relieving relapse prevention group, vocational training, career life planning, job hunting skill training and job trial opportunities for drug abusing or rehabilitated parents.</p>
Caritas – Hong Kong	<p><u>Project Butterfly</u></p> <p>This project aims at improving the motivation of hidden drug abusers to seek treatment and quit drugs. Project elements include regular venue-based outreach at courts, Correctional Services Department facilities and entertainment venues, Internet-based outreach to identify hidden high-risk youths, hidden drug abusers or their family members, crisis intervention including legal right education, emotional support, drug counselling, psycho-education workshops with different themes, therapeutic group service, medical assessment and treatment service, rapid drug test for hidden drug abusers, vocational training for hidden drug abusers to develop essential job skills, activities to strengthen family relationships, experience sharing workshops/groups and delivery of anti-drug and anti-crime messages in social media by peer educators.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups	<p data-bbox="504 239 1351 353"><u>Project RADAR III – A Counselling and Treatment Program for Young People with Hidden Drug Abuse Problems and Drug Related Criminal Offences</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 398 1351 947">This project aims at providing anti-drug educational training to tertiary students and tailor-made counselling programme for high-risk youths, hidden youth drug abusers, youths convicted of drug-related criminal offence and their family members. Project elements include outreaching services, training workshops for parents and community stakeholders, recruitment and training of “anti-drug ambassadors”, online and offline preventive education on social media, professional counselling and assessment using cognitive behavioural therapy protocol and adopting the Acceptance and Commitment Therapy, medical services, positive lifestyle development and career skill trainings for drug abusing youth or their family members, big data analysis and hosting a media event to disseminate project end outcome.</p>
The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups	<p data-bbox="504 994 1351 1108"><u>Project CHOICE II – Community-based Healthy Life Style Online and Offline Interactive Comprehensive Educational Project</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1153 1351 1704">This project aims at enhancing awareness of drug harms of cannabis use or other drugs through online and offline multi-media education and counselling service. Project elements include production of educational videos and messages, dissemination of anti-drug messages via Instagram/Facebook, online outreaching with referral system and risk assessment on cannabis use, recruitment of secondary/tertiary school students to become “anti-cannabis peer KOLs”, anti-cannabis trainings and workshops, mobile exhibition screening, cognitive behavioural therapy and motivational interviewing counselling, professional training cum sharing, publication of anti-cannabis resource pack and conducting a qualitative research on cannabis use among youths in Hong Kong..</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 237 799 271"><u>Project C.H.O.I.C.E.</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 315 1356 752">This project aims at inspiring and developing positive values and lifestyle of high risk youths and occasional/habitual drug abusing youths through various multi-dimension healthy activities, as well as disseminating anti-drug messages to their peers, families and members of the public via production of short videos. Project elements include interest classes, experiential activities and camp for high-risk youths, experiential activities, community stations, providing training workshop for production of anti-drug film, short videos with KOL and sharing of the videos on social media for further dissemination of anti-drug messages</p>
Hong Kong Lutheran Social Service	<p data-bbox="504 792 687 826"><u>WeCycle IV</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 875 1356 1312">This project aims at encouraging drug abusers to live a healthy lifestyle through sport intervention therapy and vocational training, voluntary services for the needy and guided tours. Project elements include bike training or community care training to rehabilitated drug abusers, having rehabilitated drug abusers to conduct guided tours for secondary and tertiary students, teachers, social workers, high-risk youths and general public, having trainees of bike and community care training to provide voluntary services for the needy and producing a publication for experience sharing with students and general public.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 239 954 275"><u>LGBT Drug Prevention Service</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 320 1356 902">This project aims at providing targeted prevention education and treatment for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community and enhancing the capability of frontline workers in working with the LGBT youths and their families. Project elements include production of videos and posters with anti-drug messages targeting the LGBT community, conducting online outreach, physical outreach during various gays events and providing motivational interviews and drug education to gay community during HIV test outreach, counselling, group-based resilience-enhancement activities and medical support with psychiatric assessment and treatment, general medical consultation or Chinese medical support or treatment for high-risk and drug taking LGBT youths, and organising professional training workshops for social workers.</p>
Barnabas Charitable Service Association Limited	<p data-bbox="504 954 1251 990"><u>“Starfish” Integrative Aftercare and Outreach Project</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1034 1356 1550">This project aims at enhancing the self-esteem and a healthy lifestyle of drug rehabilitees through volunteer training sessions, voluntary services and aftercare services. Project elements include engaging participants in basic training and voluntary services, providing selected participants with advanced training and voluntary services, including visiting sessions for aftercare cases, providing aftercare follow-up services to rehabilitated drug abusers and co-ordinating aftercare activities with the project social worker and psychiatric nurse, organising integrated aftercare activities by social worker and psychiatric nurse, dissemination of anti-drug messages via “outreach health station” and conducting graduation ceremony and experience sharing session.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Barnabas Charitable Service Association Limited	<p data-bbox="504 239 1351 353"><u>“Life Recreate” – Identification with Crisis Intervention and Bibliotherapy Services Program for Hidden Substance Abusers and Their Families</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 398 1351 1025">This project aims at motivating the drug abusers to quit drugs and maintain abstinence by using picture books as an intervention, and promoting anti-drug messages to hidden drug abusers and general public. Project elements include promoting general anti-drug messages and help seek information through media, providing intervention and counselling service to hidden drug abusers and their family members in the form of talks, individual interview, family visits, picture book counselling and reading club, providing drug T&amp;R service including dental check to hidden drug abusers, organising “Identification and Crisis Intervention Services for Hidden Drug Abusers” experience sharing session for drug rehabilitation field workers, and video production, broadcast of picture book via social media and sharing by ex-drug abusers to enhance community members’ acceptance.</p>
The Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers	<p data-bbox="504 1072 1351 1149"><u>“Re-structuring Life, A Better Tomorrow” – Strengthening Inpatient and Aftercare Support for Drug Rehabilitees 2.0</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1193 1351 1709">This project aims at providing aftercare services for rehabilitated drug abusers discharged from Shek Kwu Chau Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre and enhance their resistance towards drugs and promote social reintegration and culture communion. Project elements include individual counselling sessions, aftercare visits, medical treatment and referral services, mutual support groups, volunteer services and vocational training programs, language courses, various interest classes, outdoor leisure activities, family visits, festive celebrations as well as setting up a multicultural music band and music performance for rehabilitated drug abusers of both Chinese and non-Chinese origins as well as general public.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Tung Wah Group of Hospitals	<p data-bbox="504 239 1351 315"><u>SACH-IV: Anti-drug Prevention and Treatment Scheme (HIV Infected and High Risk Groups)</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 356 1351 909">This project aims at improving the motivation to quit drugs among HIV-infected drug abusers, promoting interdisciplinary and cross-sector collaboration to deal with specific drug abuse patterns of HIV-infected persons and providing preventive education to tertiary students, professional teachers and high-risk population for HIV infection. Project elements include individual and group counselling sessions, preventive education about Chem Fun/Chem Sex culture and volunteer group programme to HIV-infected drug abusers or high-risk population for HIV-infected drug abusers, group counselling sessions to family members or partners of HIV-infected persons, professional sharing sessions on drug abuse and public events for anti-drug preventive education.</p>
The Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers	<p data-bbox="504 954 1351 1149"><u>Provision of Steady Vocational Training in (1) Plumbing &amp; Pipefitting; and (2) Painting &amp; Decoration and Mandatory Basic Safety Training (Construction Work) Course for Rehabilitees in Shek Kwu Chau Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1189 1351 1630">This project aims at providing structured vocational training to residents of Shek Kwu Chau Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre to enhance their employability and facilitate their reintegration into the community, as well as enhancing self-efficacy of youths/students to refuse drugs through community education. Project elements include provision of plumbing and pipe fitting and painting and decoration courses for drug rehabilitees, providing career counselling and assigning course graduates to provide community services such as conducting anti-drug talks/sharing sessions in secondary schools.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
The Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers	<p data-bbox="504 239 1348 315"><u>Mindfulness Training: Women-Focused Rehabilitation &amp; After-care Project</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 356 1348 826">This project aims at providing mindfulness-based treatment and vocational training courses to female drug rehabilitees of Adult Female Rehabilitation Centre, as well as uplifting their sense of self-efficacy to avoid relapse and facilitating them to reintegrate into the society. Project elements include yoga training cum health talk programme, relapse prevention counselling, mindfulness-based training course, pre-employment workshop and vocational training course, life skills training, mother parenting skills training, counselling for family members of drug rehabilitees and after-care service for rehabilitated drug abusers, as well as arranging school talks to secondary school students.</p>
Evangelical Lutheran Church Social Service – Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 875 1348 952"><u>Chinese Medicine Treatment of Drug Sequelae cum Preliminary Exploration of Cannabis Treatment</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 992 1348 1742">This project aims at establishing a “Medical and Social Comprehensive Treatment Model” to identify hidden drug abusers who develop sequelae after taking cannabis, “Ice” and cocaine, providing free Chinese medical treatment and counselling support to motivate hidden drug abusers to receive treatment and enhancing awareness of drug harms of cannabis among primary to tertiary students. Project elements include health related anti-drug educational seminars for students in secondary and tertiary school and community organisations, a two-week treatment programme under the exploration study titled “Chinese Medicine Treatment of Cannabis” making use of Chinese medicine prescriptions to treat cannabis abusers, offering a six-week advanced treatment to cannabis abusers, an eight-week Chinese medicine treatment for “Ice”/cocaine abusers to reduce the sequelae of drug abuse, caring and supportive services for drug abusers, and experience sharing session on the treatment outcomes for social workers, teachers and general public.</p>



<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Hong Kong Christian Service	<p data-bbox="504 237 1348 309"><u>Project BEAT – Trauma-focused Intervention for Substance Abuse Families</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 356 1348 707">This project aims at serving drug dependent persons and their family members or partners in Kowloon West district to enhance their awareness about relationship between addiction and trauma experience and their skills on establishing safeness and self-regulation. Project elements include case follow-up sessions, group sessions and therapeutic sessions with cooperation with multi-disciplinary professionals for drug dependent persons and their family members or partners.</p>
Tung Wah Group of Hospitals	<p data-bbox="504 752 1348 824"><u>Precious Journey 2.0 – A Supportive Project for Parents with Drug Abuse Behaviour</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 871 1348 1223">This project aims at providing comprehensive services for drug abusing pregnant women and mothers together with their family members and children. Project elements include comprehensive assessment, individual counselling, medical escort service, antenatal and postnatal care service, multi-disciplinary collaboration service, home visit and home observation, tailor-made resource for child care, co-learning group, Circle of Security Parenting™ program and parallel play group and joint counselling interview.</p>
Methodist Centre	<p data-bbox="504 1267 842 1308"><u>Hard Core – Heart Core</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1355 1348 1742">This project aims at strengthening anti-drug attitude of young offenders and their peers, offering support for young drug dependent persons and providing preventive education. Project elements include casework counselling with anti-drug elements for rehabilitated offenders discharged from hostels managed by Correctional Services Department, activities for rebuilding social network and therapeutic sessions for young rehabilitated offenders and their peers, and anti-drug talks for students, young adults outside school network and non-Chinese speaking persons.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Community Drug Advisory Council	<p data-bbox="504 237 1351 309"><u>Arts Heals – Expressive Arts in Drugs Rehabilitation &amp; Community Health Education</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 353 1351 510">This project aims at providing treatment with the use of expressive arts therapy. Project elements include expressive arts therapy groups, parent-child expressive arts workshops and arts exhibition.</p>
Integrated Centre for Wellbeing, the Education University of Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 555 1351 627"><u>DrugFree4Health – EdUHK I-WELL Drug Abuse Prevention Education Program in Tertiary Institutions</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 672 1351 1070">This project aims at strengthening the anti-drug awareness of Chinese speaking and non-Chinese speaking tertiary students in The Education University of Hong Kong (EdUHK) through in-depth trainings and active participation in drug-related volunteer services for drug rehabilitees. Project elements include anti-drug abuse ambassador scheme, anti-drug curriculum design competitions for students of EdUHK. Trained students will provide service to drug rehabilitees and organise anti-drug talks together with rehabilitees to serve upper primary and secondary students.</p>
The Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention, Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 1115 1351 1187"><u>Project Empathy – Drug Prevention Service Project for Ethnic Minority Parents and The High-risk Youths</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1232 1351 1863">This project aims at promoting anti-drug knowledge among high-risk youths who are ethnic minorities and their parents/caregivers, encouraging early help-seeking behaviours and facilitating early identification of drug dependent persons within the their communities. Emphasis will be placed on prevention of cannabis abuse and improving participants’ understanding about the legal consequences of drug abuse and drug trafficking in Hong Kong. Project elements include physical and online outreach, on-the-spot crisis intervention services and counselling, on-the-spot health check-up, social groups and leisure activities, visits, pre-vocational and vocational training, education youths' group, education and support group for parents/caregivers, follow-up service, referral service and distribution of drug preventive educational publicity items.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Po Leung Kuk Student Support Services	<p><u>Virtual Anti-Drug Scheme</u></p> <p>This project aims at strengthening tertiary student’s anti-drug awareness to cannabis and improving drug knowledge and case management skills of healthcare professionals/social workers. Project elements include anti-drug workshops, health ambassador scheme, AR exhibition and VR activities for tertiary students and AR activities for upper primary students, as well as professional training focusing on harmful effects of cannabis and experience sharing for frontline medical staff and social workers.</p>
Occupational Therapy Department, Kwai Chung Hospital	<p><u>Resilience Building Project</u></p> <p>This project aims at helping substance abusers to identify and develop personal protective factors and healthy stress coping mechanisms in order to improve their drug use frequency and resilience to reduce their drug use frequency and relapse risk. Project elements include assessments, therapeutic interventions and community reintegration services, by adapting a 3-stage treatment plan (“Re-SEE-lience”, “My Resilience, My Way” and “Resilience on the Go”) to enhance drug abusers’ resilience level, frequency of drug use and relapse risks.</p>
Wu Oi Christian Centre	<p><u>Vocational Skill Training and Fellow Support Scheme</u></p> <p>This project aims at strengthening the vocational skills of the residents of Wu Oi Christian Long Ke Training Centre and their sense of self-efficacy, reducing their relapse rates and facilitating their reintegration into society. Project elements include vocational training courses and providing peer aftercare group support service for drug rehabilitees.</p>
Operation Dawn Ltd.	<p><u>Towards a New World</u></p> <p>This project aims at equipping male residents of the applicant’s rehabilitation centre with vocational skills, preventing them from relapse and enabling them to rebuild their relationship with family members. Project elements include vocational training, individual and group counselling, war games, adventure-based activities for residents, training and psychological support for rehabilitees and counselling for family members.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Operation Dawn Ltd.	<p data-bbox="504 239 932 275"><u>First Light in Operation Dawn</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 315 1359 629">This project aims at providing outreaching and rehabilitation services for community dwelled drug dependent persons of South Asian origin. Project elements include community outreach, job skills and vocational training courses, outward bound trainings, musical instrument training, individual and group counselling, peer counsellor support and training, personal growth courses and support groups for families of drug abusers.</p>
Rotary Club of Admiralty Limited	<p data-bbox="504 676 1359 752"><u>Say No to Drugs – Path Builders for Youth Project – Light Up Your Path</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 792 1359 1384">This project aims at providing rehabilitation service and mentoring programme for drug abusers under the age of 40 and promoting community acceptance of T&amp;R service. Project elements include outreaching stations, talent development activities, individual counselling, personal development programmes, career counselling, job skills training, entrepreneurship programmes, training for assistant mentors, volunteer services, certification or license courses for career development and peer supporter training/certificate courses for drug abusers/rehabilitees, mentor training and support counselling for mentors, mentoring activities, matching and mentoring programmes, and graduation recognition ceremony, and family/significant others counselling and programmes for family members of drug abusers/rehabilitees.</p>
Hong Kong Lutheran Social Service	<p data-bbox="504 1431 1359 1507"><u>Sprouting a New Life Journey: A Holistic Parent Counselling and Support Program for Drug-Abusing Parents II</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1547 1359 1861">This project aims at serving pregnant drug dependent women, drug dependent mothers and their children in the Kowloon East District. Project elements include individual counselling for drug abusing women, escort services to medical assessments, parenting counselling groups, in-depth group counselling, mutual support groups for mothers, family support activities, cross-discipline case work conferences.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Department of Psychiatry, Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital, Tai Po Hospital, North District Hospital	<p data-bbox="504 237 1023 277"><u>Tap the Hidden, Tap your Talent 3.0</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 315 1359 707">This project aims at providing assessment, screening, problem identification and treatment to hidden substance abusers and their carers in order to improve their physical, mental and social health. Project elements include conducting comprehensive assessment with risk and problem identification to hidden drug abusers and their carers, performing home visits with tailor-made programmes for clients, and offering psychological and medical treatments and referrals to CCPSA and Integrated Community Centre for Mental Wellness.</p>
Hong Kong Lutheran Social Service	<p data-bbox="504 752 1359 831"><u>Being A Mother Version 2: A Holistic Support Program for Drug-Abusing Parents and Caregiver</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 875 1359 1267">This project aims at collaborating with medical professionals of CCDS, social workers of CCPSA, post-natal care workers and volunteers of the community to provide services to drug abusing parents and parents-to-be in Tai Po and North Districts. Project elements include individual counselling and in-depth counselling services, one-stop medical support, mutual support groups, parenting education, family support activities and volunteer community support services, as well as cross-discipline case conferences for frontline workers and other health-care professionals.</p>
Tung Wah Group of Hospitals	<p data-bbox="504 1312 1359 1391"><u>Project Embrace 2.0 – Mindfulness-based Intervention for Drug Abusers with Alcohol Problem</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1435 1359 1906">This project aims at motivating current or ex-drug abusers with alcohol addiction problem to abstain from drugs and abuse through mindfulness-based interventions. Project elements include providing comprehensive physical check-up, medical consultation, psychosocial assessment and motivational interview to drug abusers with alcohol problem, applying Acceptance and Commitment Therapy and mindfulness-based interventions, organising mindfulness-based online activities and experiential group activities, regular mindfulness reunion for ongoing practice and social support, mindfulness-based relapse prevention group for participants who achieved abstinence.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
Tung Wah Group of Hospitals	<p data-bbox="504 237 1351 315"><u>Online Certified Addiction Counsellor Foundation and Advanced Training Scheme</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 353 1351 752">This project aims at enhancing anti-drug professionals' competency in delivery of addiction prevention, assessment and intervention through professional training and supervision. Project elements include a 6-day Certified Addition Counsellor foundation training course (Phase I) and a 4-day Certified Senior Addiction Counsellor Training (Phase II) for those who have successfully completed the foundation course, with all courses to be conducted through online training platform to allow flexibility and easier accessibility.</p>
The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 795 858 835"><u>A Better Man Project 2.0</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 873 1351 1272">This project aims at providing support to male drug abusers and ex-drug abusers aged 21-35 to motivate them to seek drug-related treatment or quit drugs. Project elements include physical and online outreaching services, case work counselling and group-based activities for helping participants to strengthen participants' roles in intimate relationship, family, occupation or peer network, referral for medical assessments/consultations, a mentoring scheme for ex-drug abusers/drug abusers, and organising training workshops to frontline social workers.</p>
The Neighbourhood Advice-Action Council	<p data-bbox="504 1312 647 1352"><u>Better Me</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1391 1351 1865">This project aims at outreaching sexual minorities, youths at risk and drug abusing youths in the Hong Kong Island and encouraging early help seeking and treatment through narrative therapy, Chinese medical treatment and vocational/interest class training. Project elements include outreaching services in bars or hot spots and provide subsequent assessment and referral services, online Chinese medical consultation for high-risk youths, counselling sessions including narrative therapy and face-to-face Chinese medical consultations for drug abusing youths and provision of referral service, interest class and vocational training classes for high-risk or drug abusing youths.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
The Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers	<p data-bbox="504 239 1351 315"><u>“You Got Chance” – Multidisciplinary Holistic Outreaching Service for Drug Abusers 2.0</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 356 1351 949">This project aims at setting up a medical-social outreaching team to provide medical and psychosocial support to drug abusers and rehabilitees and providing community-based medical and counselling services to high risk groups in different districts. Project elements include setting up a multidisciplinary medical-social outreaching team, hospital-based support and intensive case counselling for low-motivated Substance Abuse Clinic’s outpatients, providing community-based on-the-spot motivational and crisis intervention counselling, medical care, assessment of clients’ mental health status and knowledge on side effects of drugs, Chinese medical consultation and treatment, internship programme for rehabilitees to deliver anti-drug messages and publication of booklets to enhance the awareness of drug harm among readers.</p>
Wu Oi Christian Centre	<p data-bbox="504 994 995 1032"><u>Equipping Families to Fight Drugs</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1072 1351 1391">This project aims at strengthening support and providing preventive education to family members of drug abusers and general public. Project elements include anti-drug and communication skills seminars and family support group sessions organised for family members of drug abuser and general public, recruiting one rehabilitated drug abuser as rehabilitation officer to share their life experience and provide motivational support to the participants.</p>
Department of Social and Behavioural Sciences, City University of Hong Kong	<p data-bbox="504 1435 1351 1512"><u>Research Outline Qualitative Information on Drug Abuse Situation in Hong Kong</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 1552 1351 1870">The project aims at (i) developing a framework of collecting qualitative information on the pattern, characteristic and consequences of drug abuse; (ii) implementing the collection of qualitative information on the pattern, characteristics and consequences of drug abuse and demonstrate its usefulness; and (iii) integrating and analysing the information collected from the qualitative module with currently available quantitative data.</p>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Title and Description</b>
College of Professional and Continuing Education, Hong Kong Polytechnic University	<p data-bbox="504 239 1351 315"><u>Pathway to Desistance: A Qualitative Study of young ex-drug users in Hong Kong</u></p> <p data-bbox="504 356 1351 792">The project aims at (i) enriching the desistance theories among the local and international literature; (ii) advancing the general crime desistance framework with embedment of drug abuse-related factors; (iii) exploring the scope for fostering desistance from young drug users; (iv) examining the significance of different desisters in preventing cycle of relapse; (v) proposing a localised and an integrated desistance model for young drug addicts; (vi) developing a set of basic principles for the use of desistance model in Hong Kong; and (vii) making recommendation to government or social welfare sectors based on study findings.</p>



### Abbreviations

ACAN	Action Committee Against Narcotics
A&ED	Accident and Emergency Departments
BDF	Beat Drugs Fund
BDFA	Beat Drugs Fund Association
CCPSAs	Counselling Centres for Psychotropic Substance Abusers
CDCs	Centres for Drug Counselling
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease 2019
CRDA	Central Registry of Drug Abuse
CSD	Correctional Services Department
DATCs	Drug Addiction Treatment Centres
DH	Department of Health
DLC	Drug Liaison Committee
DTRCs	Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres
EPS	Enhanced Probation Service
FSA	Funding and Service Agreement
HA	Hospital Authority
MSM	Men who have Sex with Men
MTP	Methadone Treatment Programme
ND	Narcotics Division
NGOs	Non-governmental Organisations
PE&P	Preventive Education and Publicity
PO	Probation Officer
PSAs	Psychotropic Substance Abusers
PSWs	Peer Support Workers
RFS	Regular Funding Scheme
SACs	Substance Abuse Clinics
Students Survey	Survey of Drug Use among Students
SWD	Social Welfare Department
The Hotline Services	The “186 186” Telephone Hotline Service and the “98 186 186” Instant Messaging Service via WhatsApp and WeChat
The Ordinance	The Drug Dependent Persons Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres (Licensing) Ordinance (Cap. 566)
Three-year Plan	Three-year Plan on Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Services in Hong Kong
T&R	Treatment and Rehabilitation
WG	Working Group
YND	Overnight Outreaching Services for Young Night Drifters
YOT	District Youth Outreaching Social Work Teams

