

	<p>Brain Spectrum Program</p>
<p>Program Overview</p>	<p>An educational program based on the importance of the brain, and the effects of drugs and alcohol.</p> <p>Program includes; Brain Model, DVD and power point presentation which giving information on how awesome brains are. This information grabs peoples attention.</p> <p>SPECT Imaging slides are then shown of what the Brain looks like after using drugs and alcohol, and how this can stop them reaching their full potential.</p> <p>Young people are very engaged for the whole asking questions and interacting the whole time. The brain model is passed around and its explained what different parts of the brain do. Tofu is used to assimilate the consistency of brains Because of the strong drinking culture in Broken Hill over many years we have a huge task to turn that culture around with young people, but I strongly believe that if we can start reaching these youth in years 5 and 6 before they start drinking than we have more of a chance of turning this culture around.</p> <p>A lot of progress has been made with the SPECT Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 sessions - midnight basket ball competition for young kids - 2 sessions - years 5 & 6 children, Broken Hill Central School. - Individual young people and families in the community. - Sessions at Broken Hill Skills Centre - Sessions at Broken Hill Youth College
<p>Evaluation</p>	<p>-Pre and post surveys</p> <p>The information presented through this program has made participants think differently about smoking, doing drugs and the whole issue of Binge drinking. It is obvious that young people see the program, calibrate the information and mentally put it into their frame of thinking which is great.</p> <p>At the midnight basketball the young people were very engaged and responded very well to the information. Many other programs had struggled to engage these young people previously.</p>
<p>Problems</p>	

Community Involvement	<p>Interest not just from youth but also from parents and individuals in the community is growing every day, people asking when the next Seminar is on.</p> <p>Feedback and ideas for improvements</p>														
Participant's Feedback	<p>Feed back from participants has been very good.</p> <p>All participants learnt something new about their brains and about the damage that happens when they drink or do drugs or smoke. All could comment on some positive things that they could do to help their brains.</p> <p><i>'Very pleased about the engagement of the youths, and wants us to go back next year'. Teacher.</i></p>														
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Other Comments	<p>When you are trying to change a culture which is so entrenched, the change often happens in small steps , but now because of our funding over this past couple of years, and through the positiveness of our Local CDAT group with good communication with schools in Broken Hill the SPECT Program will happen. Planned approach for 2011 is for all years 5 and 6 classes in local Primary schools. (Combined with the Beer Goggles program).</p>														