



Foundation for Alcohol
Research & Education

Media Release

Foundation announces new initiatives to change the way we drink

19 October 2011: Last night at its 10th anniversary reception at Old Parliament House, Canberra, the Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education (FARE) launched the *Professor Ian Webster Scholarship* to recognise his outstanding achievements over many years.

FARE Chairman Cheryl Bart said the *Professor Ian Webster Scholarship* aims to support the building of leadership and management capacity in the alcohol and other drugs sector.

The scholarship will be awarded on a competitive basis and will benefit one post-graduate research scholar a year who has demonstrated a long-term commitment to the sector.

“Professor Webster was the Board’s inaugural chairman and served with distinction in this role from 2001 until 2009. I congratulate him for his significant contributions over the past ten years, and acknowledge his inspirational and tireless efforts on behalf of the foundation.”

Currently a Consultant Physician in the South Western Sydney and Shoalhaven areas, Emeritus Professor of Public Health and Community Medicine at the University of New South Wales, and Chief Patron of the Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia, Webster has served on the FARE board since inception in 2001. His previous research and publications have covered preventive medicine, medical practice, ageing, disability, homelessness, alcohol and other drug problems, suicide prevention and social issues in health.

Among his other honours, Webster received the Prime Minister’s Award at the 2009 Drug and Alcohol Awards, became a Life Fellow with the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (2006), named Life Governor of the Community Health and Tuberculosis Australia (2003), and is a Life Member of the Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia (2002).

The Foundation also announced a new \$250,000 national grants program, to strengthen the capacity of community organisations that are working to develop solutions to alcohol misuse at the local level. A key focus of the initiative is to support projects that target high-risk groups including youth and Indigenous Australians.

The focus will be on public education, health promotion and prevention initiatives that encourage the responsible use of alcohol.

FARE Chairman, Cheryl Bart said “These new investments come as FARE celebrates its tenth year of working with Australian communities to change the way we drink. Over the last decade, we’ve invested more than \$115 million, helped 750 organisations and funded over 1,400 projects tackling the harms caused by alcohol misuse.

“The Foundation will continue its work with organisations and communities across the country to prevent the harms caused by alcohol misuse, and foster a healthier and safer drinking culture for all.”

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Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education (FARE) FARE is an independent, charitable organisation working to prevent the harmful use of alcohol in Australia. Since 2001, the FARE has invested over \$115 million in research and community projects to minimise the impact of alcohol misuse on Australians. Through our national grants program and commissioned research, FARE has established itself as a leading voice on alcohol and other drugs issues. We work with community groups, all levels of government, police, emergency workers, research institutions and the private sector to address alcohol-related problems. For further information visit our website: www.fare.org.au