

The **Victorian Dual Diagnosis Initiative Rural Forum (VDDIRF)** is a volunteer-led, virtual and in-person, collaborative of rural dual diagnosis workers committed to the improvement of health outcomes for people with co-occurring mental health-substance use and other complex concerns.

The VDDIRF is a component of the state-wide, cross-sector, [Victorian Dual Diagnosis Initiative \(VDDI\)](#).

The VDDI's role is to work with Victorian mental health- both Clinical & MHCSS- and Alcohol & Other Drug services to help them to build their capacity to recognise and respond effectively to people experiencing co-occurring mental health and substance use concerns (dual diagnosis). The VDDIRF has embedded structural links with the **Homeless Youth Dual Diagnosis Initiative (HYDDI)** and the **Emergency Department Clinical Liaison Addiction Network (EDCLAN)**. The VDDIRF currently meets monthly via teleconference. In person meetings will resume, when possible, with the support of [VDDI-NEXUS](#).

The VDDIRF provides support to its membership through:

- Ongoing collegial support, information and resource sharing
- Clinical Supervision (peer, group and 1:1)
- Identifying, flagging and addressing rural issues and priorities
- Providing a forum for rural clinicians to network and enhance collaborative working relationships
- Initiating the development of a rural response based on best practice principles
- Providing a coordinated approach to education needs in rural areas
- Providing feedback to lead agencies, DHHS and other groups on rural issues
- Supporting the capacity-building strategies of the VDDI
- Increasing the skills and knowledge of rural dual diagnosis clinicians,
- Contributing to the partnership strategies of rural services.



*Click for  
VDDI Profile*

VDDIRF Contacts

# Contacts:

# Rural



## Barwon South West

*Currently vacant*

## Gippsland

Coordinator: *Leave till July 2022*

West Gippsland: *Currently vacant*

[Click to email](#)

[Click to email](#)

## Goulburn Valley

Gary Said

0438 322 854

[Click to email](#)

## Grampians

*Currently vacant*

[Click to email](#)

## Great South Coast

*Currently vacant*

## Hume-Border- NE Vic

Gary Croton

0458 292 744

[Click to email](#)

## Loddon Mallee – Northern

Leighlan Phillips

0428 101 017

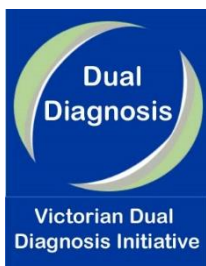
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## Loddon Mallee – Southern

Paul Hurnall

0439 184 526

[Click to email](#)



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