

HARM REDUCTION AT UNDERGROUND EVENTS

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NUAA



DANCEWIZE:
NSW



INTRODUCING DANCEWIZE NSW

- Established in 2017
- Funded by the NSW Ministry of Health on a 2 year trial
- Established with support from Harm Reduction Victoria and based on the Victorian DanceWize model which has been running since 1995
- Peer based harm reduction education and support at music festivals
- Funded to attend 5 underground/unregulated events in second year
- Currently over 150 volunteers





UNDERGROUND PARTIES IN NSW

- **Bush doofs**
- **Warehouse parties**
- **Bunker parties**



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BUSH DOOFS

- Named after the sound of the bassline in electronic music; “doof doof doof”
- Occur in remote bush and rural settings
- Usually last 1-3 nights
- 300 – 1500 pax



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WAREHOUSE PARTIES

- Occur in industrial areas, usually close to the city
- Usually operated with consent of the owner, but there is a history of break and enter parties in Sydney region
- Varied in terms of facilities provided, e.g. bar, toilets, security
- 1 night
- 300 pax



BUNKER PARTIES

- Occur in old war bunkers around the harbor
- Difficult to access sites
- Little to no facilities provided
- 1 night (often run until police shut them down)
- 50 – 200 pax



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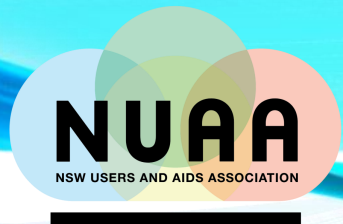


SCOPING REPORT

What's possible? What challenges did we identify before attending unregulated events?



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CHALLENGES IDENTIFIED DURING SCOPING

Inaccessibility

General
team safety

Security and
medical
requirements

Phone
reception

Value of
service

Limited
budget

Short lead
time

Integrity of
underground
events



DANCEWIZE:
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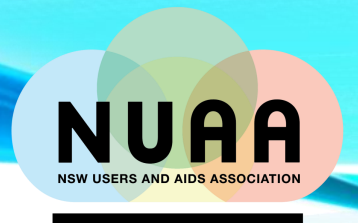


IMPLEMENTATION

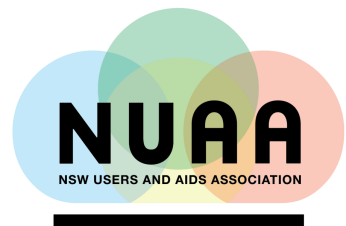
What we found when we put the service into action



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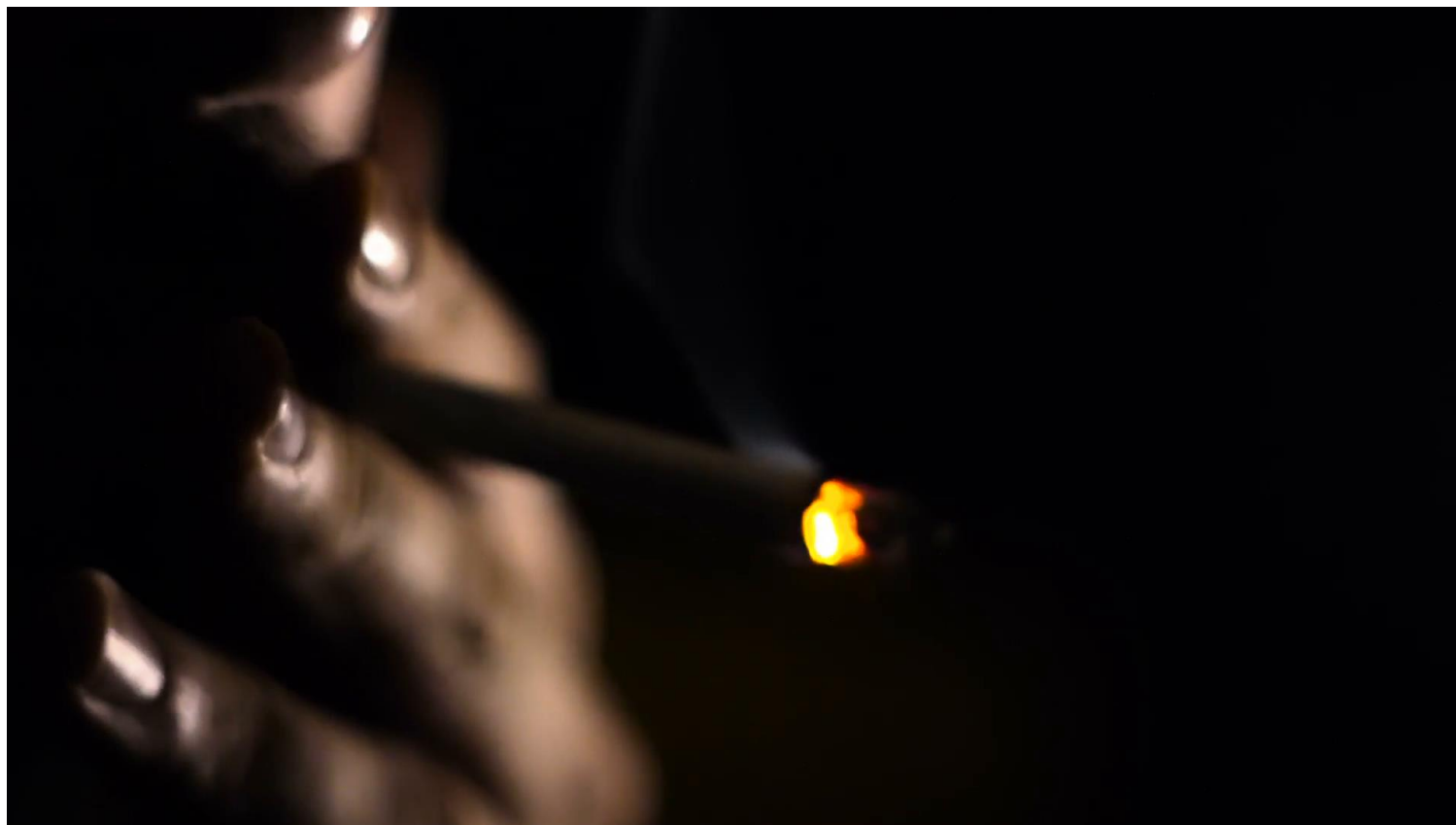
INADEQUATE MEDICAL SERVICE



BYO AND CULTURE OF EXCESS



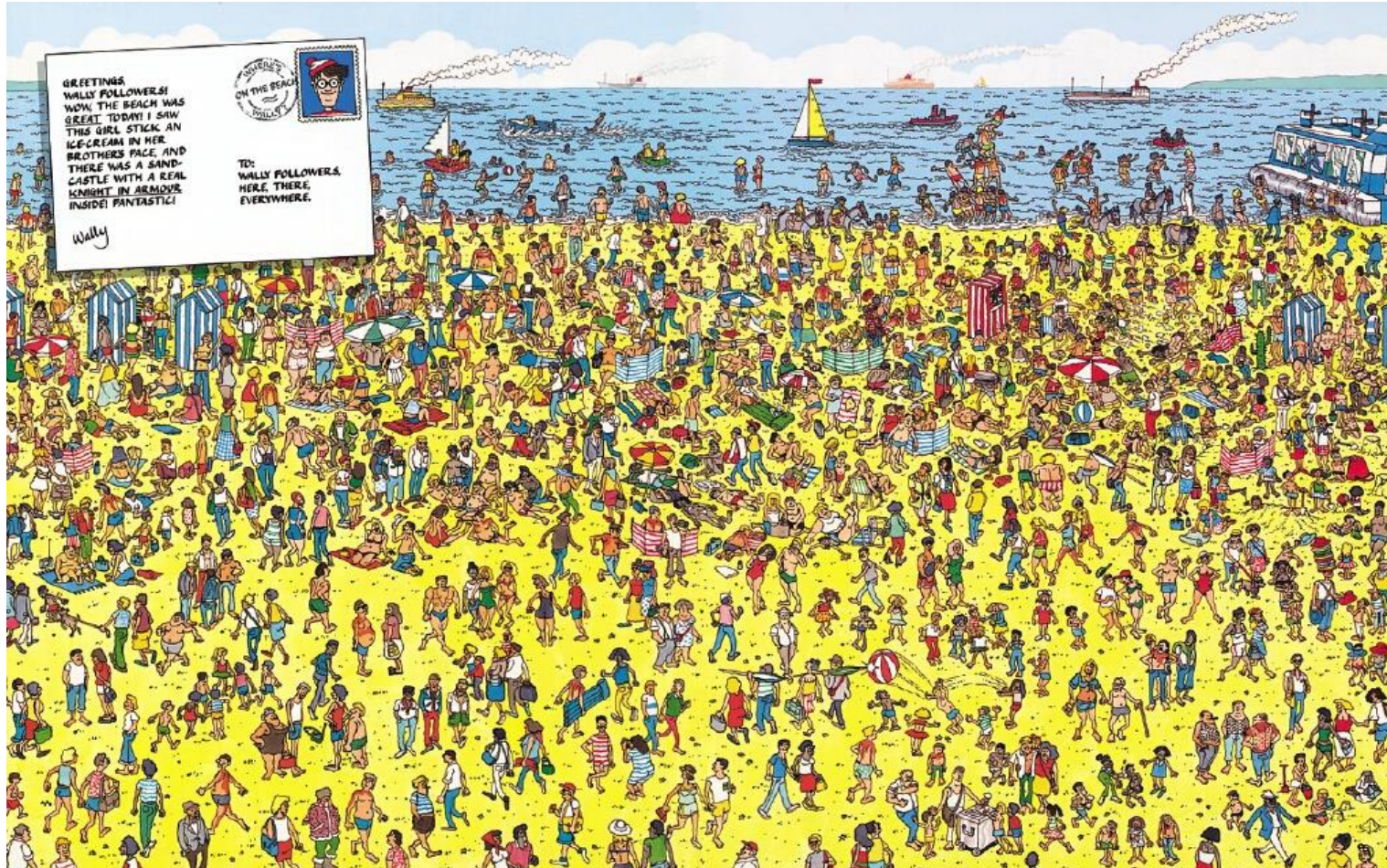
SMOKING INDOORS



POLICE SHUTDOWN



WHERE TO FROM HERE?



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THANK YOU

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