**Aberdeenshire Responsive Intervention Engagement Service (ARIES)**

***Brief Overview:***

The ARIES project covers the whole of Aberdeenshire. The project is initially funded until October 2021.

ARIES consists of one Care Manager and two Community Mental Health Nurses. All are experienced in working within substance misuse services.

ARIES aims to support individuals who have experienced a non-fatal overdose (NFOD) who may, or may not, be known to any current services.

ARIES will be notified when a NFOD has happened via a referral system.

ARIES aims to see the individual within 48 to 72 hours from point of referral. We will provide intensive, yet brief, interventions that will address immediate risk. Links will also be made with either community and/or clinical services, local to the area that the individual lives.

Prior to any visits to the individual systems will be checked to establish any links with services past or present.

ARIES will not pick up clients if they are already open to a substance misuse service. If a referral is received and found to be a known client, ARIES will make the relevant worker aware of this to ensure follow up.

ARIES will work with an individual over a period of a month. However, this may be longer or shorter depending on the assessment of needs of the individual. If appropriate following the ARIES intervention they will be transferred to the relevant team for further support.

The assessment used by ARIES will cover areas of substance use, self-care, physical health and mental health. If there are any concerns regarding children, the relevant children and families’ duty team will be made aware as soon as possible.

Links with the Scottish Ambulance Service have been made and they have 10 stations within Aberdeenshire. They will be using the referral system that they have helped put together with the ARIES team. Their referral is unique to them as they wished to include information specific to their service.

All other services have access to a generic referral form which contains basic details. This will allow ARIES to undertake a home visit and assessment to address immediate risks.

Links with the minor injury units and A&E departments are in the process of being developed.

All referrals are directed to a generic inbox which will be checked Mon-Fri. Some evening or weekend work can take place as and when required.

Please send any referrals to: [communitysubstancemisuse@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:communitysubstancemisuse@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)

**Contact details & Staff involved -**

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