Aboriginal Community Development and Health

Past Projects

PROJECT NAME  Good News Stories from Koori Maternity Services
STAFF  Priscilla Pyett
COLLABORATORS  Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation
FUNDING SOURCES  Department of Human Services, Victoria
DATE  2007 – 2009
PROJECT DESCRIPTION  This project will collect qualitative data in the form of narrative case studies from Aboriginal Health Workers and maternity service providers in the 11 Koori Maternity Services (KMS) around Victoria. PROJECT AIMS  The project aims to gain an understanding of the ways KMSs support women to access and attend antenatal care throughout their pregnancies and document the ‘good news stories’ observed by service providers in KMSs. Stories of successful health service provision will contribute to Victorian Aboriginal community wellbeing and affirm the role of service providers working within Aboriginal Community controlled health services.
CURRENT OUTCOMES  Data collection undertaken in 2007.
PROJECTED OUTCOMES  Community report for VACCHO.

PROJECT NAME  Making healthy choices for ourselves: Partnerships for healthy eating and physical activity in Aboriginal Communities
STAFF  Priscilla Pyett, Kevin Rowley
COLLABORATORS  Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation, National Heart Foundation of Australia, Dietitians Association of Australia, Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health
FUNDING SOURCES  Department of Human Services, Victoria and VicHealth
DATE  August 2007 – July 2009
PROJECT DESCRIPTION  This is a participatory action research project aiming to strengthen the capacity of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal health professionals to work in partnership on collaborative health promotion initiatives around nutrition and physical activity. The project will train, support and mentor Aboriginal Health Workers and provide funding, support and evaluation for 4 ACCHOs to develop and implement local nutrition and physical activity projects.
PROJECT AIMS  This project aims to define key factors influencing Victorian Aboriginal Communities to better understand and participate in nutrition and physical activity initiatives.
CURRENT OUTCOMES  Steering Committee established. Four sites selected. Three conference presentations.
PROJECTED OUTCOMES  Community report.

PROJECT NAME  Resource Development for the Improving care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Patients (ICAP) Program
STAFF  Angela Clarke, Nicole Shanahan, Shaun Ewen
COLLABORATORS  Aboriginal Health Unit at St Vincent’s Health, Melbourne
FUNDING SOURCE  Department of Human Services, Victoria
DATE September 2007 – December 2008
PROJECT DESCRIPTION An orientation package is being developed for health service managers overseeing the Improving Care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Patients (ICAP) program
PROJECTED OUTCOMES Orientation package for Service Managers and orientation guide for Aboriginal Liaison Officers.

PUBLICATIONS

- *Ngarrngadjji Listen/understand* - Improving Care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander patients (ICAP) Resource Kit

PROJECT NAME Billabong Evaluation Project
STAFF Angela Clarke, Nicole Shanahan, John Whyte
COLLABORATORS North Yarra Community Health
FUNDING SOURCE Department of Human Resources, Victoria
DATE 2007-2008
PROJECT DESCRIPTION An evaluation of the Billabong Barbeque, an innovative health and welfare outreach program to Kooris in the Collingwood area of Melbourne, supported by a consortium of services in the City of Yarra. The Consortium comprises North Yarra Community Health, the Royal District Nursing Service Homeless People’s Project, Homeground Services and the City of Yarra.
PROJECT AIMS To seek the views and opinions of users of a health outreach program in the North Yarra region of Melbourne, to improve their access to health services in the area, and to build up social capital in the local community.
OUTCOMES Evaluation completed December 2007. The project provided program coordinators of health services in the area with suggestions for improvement and expansion of service delivery. It also contributed to the theoretical development of concepts of social capital in relation to social participation and inclusion.

PUBLICATIONS


PROJECT NAME We can like research... Koori Health Research Workshops
STAFF Paul Stewart, Nicole Shanahan, Angela Clarke
COLLABORATORS Mark Saunders, Joan Vickery, Njernda Aboriginal Corporation, Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation, Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-operative Ltd, and Gippsland and East Gippsland Aboriginal Co-operative, Wirraway Mirrim
FUNDING SOURCE Onemda
DATE 2007-2008
PROJECT DESCRIPTION Four workshops were held in Melbourne and three Victorian regions in 2007 to capture the latest views of workshop participants on Koori health research and the barriers to community-controlled research. The workshops were written up into a report.
OUTCOMES The workshops opened up open up discussion on ways of improving health research practice for Koori people. Workshop participants contributed to a
great deal of discussion and made really good suggestions about ways to increase Koori involvement in, and control of, health research.

**PUBLICATIONS**


**PROJECT NAME** From Mainstream to Margins Conference capacity development support

**STAFF** Ngarra Murray

**COLLABORATORS** VicHealth

**FUNDING SOURCE** VicHealth

**DATE** April – October 2008

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Onemda was funded to support Indigenous participation at ‘From Margins to Mainstream: The 5th World Conference on the Promotion of Mental Health and the Prevention of Mental and Behavioural Disorders’ in Melbourne from 10–12 September 2008. This was done by mentoring Indigenous community presenters through workshops and individual support.

**OUTCOMES** Participants developed their presentation and abstract writing skills and gained confidence in speaking at an international conference.

**PROJECTED OUTCOMES** To write a report on the project.

**PROJECT NAME** Ngernila Koories Kila Degaia (Listen up to Koories Speak about Health): Oral history project

**STAFF** Angela Clarke, Karen Adams, Aunty Joan Vickery

**COLLABORATORS** Koori Heritage Trust

**FUNDING SOURCE** The Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

**DATE** 2002-2005

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** This project was a response to the need to document the stories of Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services in Victoria so that future generations and non-Koori people can understand the struggles and issues involved.

**OUTCOMES** The histories were written up into a book which was launched in 2005. This publication celebrates and remembers the significant work of the 'pioneers' in the history of Koori health services and makes their stories available to a wider audience.

**PUBLICATIONS**