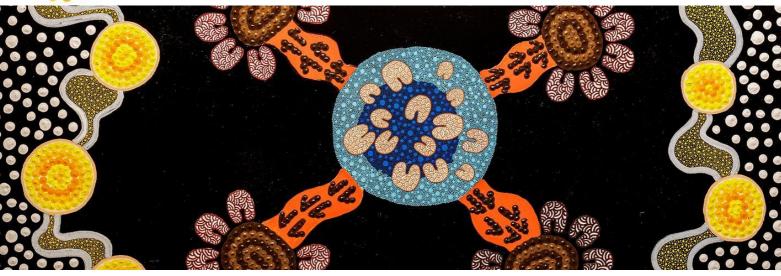




February 2024, Issue 2



We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members of our community and acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which our workplace is located, the Wadjuk people of the Nyungar Nation.

Lifetime Achievement Award

Craig Dukes Memorial



Congratulations to Healthy Blood Healthy Body Aboriginal Advisory Group member, Uncle Mick Adams (pictured centre), on receiving a Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2023 Indigenous Allied Health Australia Conference. Uncle Mick Adams received the award for his long-standing commitment in his profession and in improving the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Conference Presentation NACCHO Member's Conference



Healthy Blood Healthy Body project's Principal Investigator, Roanna Lobo (pictured), Chief Investigator's Richelle Douglas, Alvin Edney and Co-Design Working Group member Paul Dessauer, presented at the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) Member's Conference 2023. A particularly significant opportunity for this was the first time that harm minimisation and needle and syringe programs (NSPs) featured in the NACCHO conference program.

GOVERNMENT OF

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Scholarship and Rapid-Fire Presentation

Healthy Blood Healthy Body Project Officer, **Adrian Simpson**, received a scholarship to attend the **Indigenous Peoples Conference on HIV and Hepatitis Health Equity** where he presented on the project in the rapid-fire round.



INTERVENTION UPDATES



CULTURAL SAFETY

- The development of a cultural capability information portal for NSP staff and other organisations working with Aboriginal peoples is underway, with the launch expected this year.
- A paper reporting on the outcomes of the cultural safety yarns is in progress.
- A paper reporting on the scoping review findings is being prepared.



COMMUNITY EDUCATION

- Yarns completed with NSP consumers, people with family members who inject drugs, Elders, and service providers to inform campaign messaging and preferred communication channels.
- Current focus is on drafting campaign messages and determining costs of preferred media. The campaign launch is scheduled for 2024.



PEER REFERRAL

- Lead agency: Peer Based Harm Reduction WA.
- A scoping review exploring peer-based alcohol and other drug program evaluation completed.
- Intervention materials and a peer educator training workshop have been created.
- Recruitment of an Aboriginal Peer Worker to manage the pilot is in progress.



HOLISTIC SERVICES

- Seeking participants for yarns with Aboriginal NSP consumers, service providers, and key organisations to identify strengths and limitations of current services in Boorloo (Perth) for Aboriginal peoples who inject drugs. Contact: nsp@curtin.edu.au
- Service and journey mapping with service providers and Aboriginal consumers will be used to visualise current system, with recommendations for enhancements to be proposed.



SERVICE AVAILABILITY

- A summary of the completed 'Review of NSP service options in Australia' is in preparation and will feature on the Healthy Blood Healthy Body website.
- Review of historical data on NSP availability in WA will be undertaken in 2024.



JOB OPPORTUNITY

Aboriginal community development and peer education worker

Peer Based Harm Reduction WA is currently seeking someone to fill the position of Aboriginal Community Development & Peer Education Worker. Peer Based Harm Reduction WA is a peer-based organisation. People with a lived or living experience of using drugs are strongly encouraged to apply. Pursuant to Section 50(d) of the Equal Opportunity Act 1984, the successful applicant will be a person of Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent.

Follow this link to view the full JDF;

https://www.ethicaljobs.com.au/members/WASUA/aboriginal-communitydevelopment-and-peer-education-worker

GET INVOLVED

Paid opportunities for Aboriginal peoples who inject drugs to participate in yarns to develop the interventions are currently available. If you are interested or know someone who might be, please contact nsp@curtin.edu.au for more details.

If you are no longer the right person to receive Healthy Blood Healthy Body project updates, please let us know who we should contact in your organisation.

