



Workshop 33 Working with Aboriginal communities to improve HIV, STI and BBV outcomes: access, respect, partnership and success

Wednesday 21 October, 10.00 am – 3.30 pm Star Room, Level 6, IMAX Theatre Complex, Cockle Bay Wharf

Introduction to the workshop

Many mainstream organisations continue to face challenges in improving their engagement with Aboriginal clients, services and communities. This workshop will discuss the epidemiological data, policy environments and context of health services in New South Wales, focusing in the areas of prevention and treatment of blood-borne viruses (BBVs) and sexually transmissible infections (STIs). We will examine examples of strategies that have been successful in engaging Aboriginal people, and delegates will have the opportunity to ask questions and develop strategies relevant to their own organisations.

There will be a group of workers talking about successful practice in this area and a panel of Aboriginal elders, senior managers and experienced workers.

Aims of the workshop

- ▶ To refresh our understanding of contemporary and historical factors that impinge on Aboriginal people's ability to access services
- ▶ To explore ways of improving access to mainstream services for Aboriginal clients, and to improve engagement by these services with Aboriginal clients, services and communities
- ▶ To provide examples of successful practice and to encourage further innovation.

Delegate profile: who should attend

This workshop targets people who work in services seeking to improve Aboriginal people's access to, and engagement with, their services. It is specifically designed for workers in services dealing with HIV, hepatitis C, drug use and sexual health. Employees of research centres, area health services, government and non-government organisations in clinical, health promotion or education, sexual health, drug treatment or needle exchange program (NSP) settings should apply.

Cost

There is a registration fee of \$55 (including GST) per participant per workshop. Note: You may be eligible for funding to attend from the NSW Health Workforce Development Program (WDP). Check the guidelines for applying for a WDP grant in the *WDP Training Directory* or at www.wdp.nsw.gov.au

Guest speaker

James Ward is an Aboriginal man of Nurrunga and Western Arrente descent from Central and South Australia. He is Program Head and Senior Lecturer, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, at the National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research (NCHECR) at the University of New South Wales. James is a member of the NSW Ministerial Advisory Committees on STIs, HIV and Hepatitis, and is also a member of the Victorian HIV Taskforce. James has worked in public and sexual health in the Aboriginal community-controlled health sector and mainstream health services for over twenty years.

Facilitators

Robert Monaghan is a Bundjalung man from Grafton NSW. Rob has been in the sexual health workforce for nine years and has been the NSW Aboriginal Sexual Health Coordinator for the last six years. In this role Rob has coordinated workforce development activities and continues to act as an advocate for the sexual health network at the state and national level. Rob is a member of the NSW Aboriginal Sexual Health Advisory Committee (ASHAC) and is co-chair of the working group to oversee the new program to support Aboriginal people's engagement with hepatitis C treatment and care.

Norman Booker is an independent consultant working in the fields of planning and evaluation, change management, facilitation and professional learning. Until recently he managed the statewide NSW Health Workforce Development Program (WDP) in Hepatitis, HIV and Sexual Health. He has extensive experience in training and development in health and in adult education having worked in a broad range of agencies in both the community and government sectors in the areas of alcohol and other drugs, infectious diseases and community development in culturally and linguistically diverse communities. Norman has collaboratively undertaken reviews and evaluations for a wide range of programs and services in the health, community and welfare sectors both locally and overseas.

Registration

To register, please email Ann Whitelaw at a.whitelaw@unsw.edu.au Please include in the email your name, job title, the name of your organisation, its postal address and your contact phone numbers (work and mobile).

Please note: There are strictly limited numbers and delegates will be selected on a first-come-first-served basis, given that they meet the requirements of the delegate profile above.

Registrations are now open and close on Monday 12 October 2009.

Proudly brought to you by the Consortium members: National Centre in HIV Social Research (NCHSR), Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council (AH&MRC), ACON (AIDS Council of NSW), Hepatitis C Council of NSW, NSW Users and AIDS Association (NUAA), Positive Life NSW, Social Policy Research Centre (SPRC), Workforce Development Program.

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