



## **Workshop 26** Access, respect and partnership: how can mainstream services work better with Aboriginal people?

Wednesday 20 August, 10.00 am – 4.00 pm

Dockside @ Cockle Bay

### **Introduction**

Many mainstream organisations face the challenge of 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 and sexually transmissible infections. We will examine practical examples of successful strategies for engaging with Aboriginal people, and delegates will have the opportunity to ask questions and develop strategies relevant to their own organisations.

### **Aims**

- ▶ To explore 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 changed practice.

### **Delegate profile: who should attend**

This workshop targets people who work in mainstream organisations 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 and government and non-government organisations in clinical, health promotion or education, sexual health, drug treatment or 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). Funding covers registration fees and, where appropriate, travel and accommodation costs. Check the guidelines for applying for a WDP grant in the *WDP Training Directory* or at [www.wdp.nsw.gov.au](http://www.wdp.nsw.gov.au)

### **Registration**

To register, please email Ann Whitelaw at [a.whitelaw@unsw.edu.au](mailto: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 Tuesday 12 August 2008.**

### **Guest speaker**

**James Ward** is an Aboriginal man of Nurrunga and Western Arrente descent from Central and South Australia. He is Program Manager, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, at the National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research based at the University of New South Wales. James is Chair of the NSW Aboriginal Sexual Health Advisory Committee, a member of the NSW Ministerial Advisory Committees for STIs, HIV and Hepatitis, and a member of the Indigenous Australian Sexual Health Committee. James has worked in public and sexual health in the Aboriginal community controlled health sector and mainstream health services.

### **Facilitator**

**Troy Combo** has worked in Aboriginal health since 1994 after completing his Diploma in Aboriginal Health at Redfern Aboriginal Medical Service. He has worked mainly in the field of HIV and sexual health and in numerous capacities in both the Aboriginal community health sector and mainstream health organisations. Troy is currently employed at the National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Program. In 2006 and 2007 he was the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy Officer for Hepatitis Australia, where he was responsible for the inaugural National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Hepatitis C Workshop. Troy's professional interests are in sexual health, prevention and treatment of blood-borne viruses and ensuring that Aboriginal health remains on the agenda of governments and mainstream health care providers.

### **Proudly brought to you by the Consortium members:**

National Centre in HIV Social Research (NCHSR), ACON, Positive Life NSW Inc., Social Policy Research Centre (SPRC), Hepatitis C Council of NSW, Workforce Development Program, Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council (AH&MRC), NSW Users and AIDS Association (NUAA).

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