



NHMRC

CREATE

The Centre of Research Excellence in Aboriginal Chronic Disease Knowledge Translation and Exchange

CREATE Newsletter

Issue 12, 31st July 2016

Welcome to Issue 12 of the CREATE Newsletter. In this edition we have detailed a number of opportunities for Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations and their peak bodies.

General CREATE News

It is hard to believe that CREATE is now two and half years old. The CREATE Leadership Group comprising of senior Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organization members met recently to mark this occasion and help us ensure that our commitments to the sector are being met.

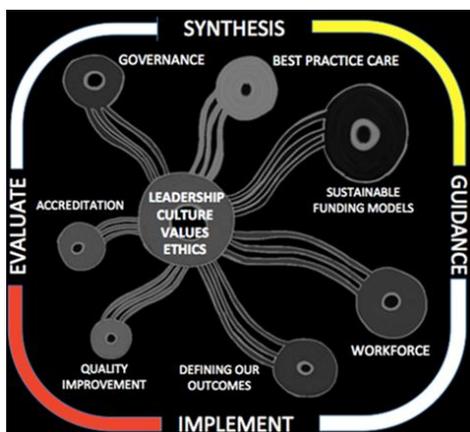


Figure: The CREATE Program of Work

Are you currently supporting the needs of older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples?

The Leadership Group has also asked us to include aged care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as a priority topic. There is a clear need for evidence that informs both policy and practice given the Aged Care Reform Package announced in 2012. We are working closely with Aboriginal community controlled aged care services to identify the opportunities that arise from these reforms. If you are interested in talking to us more about this work, please contact infocreate@sahmri.com.

Best Practice Case Studies

Are you proud of what your ACCHO is achieving and would like to share this with others in the sector?

We are currently inviting ACCHOs that believe their work is best practice care in any of the priority domains to participate in a case study. Each **Case Study Site** will be provided with a tailored report, evidence briefs and information brochures that could be used to advocate for and promote their work more broadly. If you think your ACCHO may be interested in participating, please email: infocreate@sahmri.com to find out more.

Master Classes

Are you interested in knowing how to evaluate any of your programs?

Following on from the success of our first two Master Classes – Understanding and Undertaking Research, we are proud to announce the addition of a new **Evaluations Master Class**. This new Master Class focuses on using evaluation as a tool for assessing and then improving healthcare services and programs. Participants in the Evaluation Master Class will gain a basic understanding of:

- benefits that arise from and pitfalls to avoid while evaluating services and programs in the ACCHOs;
- what to consider when selecting an evaluation design;
- how to develop an evaluation plan; and
- how to undertake an evaluation and ensure that the findings are used.

CREATE Fellowship Program

Are you interested in learning how to implement evidence into practice?

CREATE Fellowships are a six-month program and involves a work place evidence based implementation of a project supported by senior academics and your ACCHO. CREATE Fellows also attend two, five-day intensive training workshops at the University of Adelaide. CREATE provides a full scholarship for this course including not only the university fees but also costs associated with travelling to and from Adelaide, and accommodation while you are here.

CREATE Fellowships are available to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples working within the ACCHO sector.

Renee Blackman, a recent CREATE Fellow tells of her experience.

Tell us about yourself

My name is Renee Blackman, I am a Gubbi Gubbi woman originally from Nambour on the Sunshine Coast in QLD which is Gubbi country. I have worked in health for the past 20 years as an Aboriginal Health worker and Nurse. My true passion is Aboriginal Primary Health Care which is where I currently find myself.

Your current role in Brisbane?

I am currently fulfilling a role for the Brisbane Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Health Service as a Director of health services. This role is based in Woolloongabba in Brisbane and is responsible for the operational direction of five Aboriginal Health Clinics and a residential Aged Care service.

The Fellowship project you undertook – why was it important, and how did it help you?

My project was mainly an audit process and concerned with identification of patients with elevated HbA1c levels and the length of time from notification through pathology results and action for follow up. The exercise not only contributed to a continuous quality improvement exercise but also informed an emerging clinical governance agenda for clinics across the region. In the final week, I also really enjoyed re-engaging with the people I met in the first week and listening to how their projects had been implemented.

What sorts of supports did you need and how did you get the support?

It was very helpful to go through this experience with a work colleague as we kept each other accountable to time frames etc. Being based in Brisbane I did find it a little hard to keep in touch with the JBI staff.

How was the experience over the six months?

To be honest the first week, while informative, was a little confusing. Spending time with JBI staff during this week helped focus the project. The six months in between seems like a long time but it can get gobbled up by everyday work so it was important to dedicate some time to completing or, at the very least have something to work on when you returned. The final week allows for more focus and a chance to ensure that you get your project on paper.

Any other anecdotal information, or ‘gems’ from the process?

I found it extremely helpful in listening to other fellows as you can get some brilliant ideas in terms of process from beginning to the end. It is also important to keep the fellowship simple, in my role I had a tendency to think too big and too strategic; however, focusing on small projects where you can appreciate the JBI process was helpful.

What did the community, the service and you get out of the Fellowship?

While my project did not directly benefit community, the community benefit will come from health service implementation of quality audits that will benefit quick responses and focused follow up for abnormal pathology that need attention. Participation in the fellowship was timely, it contributed to building a consciousness for continuous quality improvement in service provision. The influence of the Fellowship definitely contributed to assisting leadership in this area of service improvement. As a result of the Fellowship, I now have a better appreciation of the quality improvement process based in evidence based practice.

Would you recommend the Fellowship to others?

Yes especially to clinicians who are currently working in the clinic.



Picture: Ms Renee Blackman

Post Graduate Scholarships

Are you thinking of undertaking post graduate studies?

CREATE has a number of post graduate scholarships for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples working within the ACCHO sector. The scholarships are designed to support successful applicants to attain a research based postgraduate degree (Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) or a Masters Degree).

Jasmine Gregory joins CREATE as a Post Graduate Student

Jasmine Gregory is an Aboriginal woman who has grown up in Geraldton Western Australia with ties to the Bard Nyul Nyul and Gidja people in the Kimberley's. She is part of a large extended family and spends much of her time with her family and engaging in community work or activities.

Jasmine has worked in Aboriginal Affairs since leaving school and the roles that she has undertaken have been in the Public Service (State and Commonwealth) and in the Aboriginal Community Controlled Sector. The majority of these roles were heavily involved in addressing the social determinants of Aboriginal health and wellbeing at the community level.

Jasmine has recently been awarded a post graduate scholarship and will be studying a Masters of Philosophy through the University of Adelaide.



Picture: Ms Jasmine Gregory

Are you interested in the CREATE Capacity Strengthening Program?

If you would like to know anything more about any of the CREATE Capacity Strengthening Program initiatives just email us at infocreate@sahmri.com.

Knowledge Translation

Are you interested to find out about our recent publications?

Davy, C., Kite, E., Aitken, G., Dodd, G., Rigney, J., Hayes, J., & Van Emden, J. (2016). What keeps you strong? A systematic review identifying how primary healthcare and aged - care services can support the wellbeing of older Indigenous peoples. *Australasian Journal on Ageing*, 35(2), 90-97.

Kite, E., Davy, C. (2015) Using Indigenist and Indigenous methodologies to connect to deeper understandings of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' quality of life.(2015) *Health Promotion Journal of Australia*, 26, 191- 194

Are you interested in any of our publications?

Refer the Research Impact section on our website <http://create.joannabriggs.org/> or send an email to infocreate@sahmri.com.

Don't have time to read the full article?

CREATE is now producing two page evidence briefs that summarise the evidence and importantly provide recommendations suitable for both policy and practice settings. [Click Here](#) to go to the publication page and then click on the Evidence Brief button beside the publication that interests you.

We are also developing short webinars which summarise some of the evidence in relation to the key priority areas identified by the CREATE Leadership Group. You may like to check out a recent webinar focusing on a program of work designed to support the wellbeing of older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Refer to: <https://youtu.be/s4bw4FSGfCl>

