



2004-2005 Snapshot

- Annual Report now Available!

The AHCSA Secretariat experienced an extremely busy and challenging year in 2004-2005 characterised by continuous change and expansion. Staff were congratulated at the Annual General Meeting for their unceasing dedication to AHCSA and its role as the peak body representing Aboriginal community controlled health and substance misuse services at a state and national level.

AHCSA also thanked its funding organisations - the Aboriginal Health Division (Department of Health), Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and the Commonwealth Department of Education Science and Training.

To follow is a snapshot of what took place during the year.

THE CHANGES

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| Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission | Closed in June 2004. |
| Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia Inc. | Enhanced advocacy role in identifying and demonstrating Aboriginal health reforms. |
| Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia Inc. | Review of AHCSA by the Department of Health announced. Board of Directors commences a review of the constitution including membership, role and function. |
| Board of Management | Mr Basil Sumner retired as Chairperson and Mr Robert Dann assumed the role. |
| National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation | Another review commenced, commissioned by the Department of Health and Ageing and conducted by KordaMentha group. |
| Professional Aboriginal Health Worker Association | Closed on 30 June 2005 due to lack of funding. |

THE ACHIEVEMENTS

New Programs

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| Workforce Planning | AHCSA commenced working with Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services and Aboriginal Primary Health Care Access Program regions to develop workforce plans. |
| Centre of Clinical Research Excellence | Integrated Project commenced at Pika Wiya, Ceduna and Port Lincoln to provide a foundation from which to develop and promote successful practices in the management and prevention of chronic illness. |



New Programs Cont.

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| Indigenous Health Research Scoping Study | Commenced in late 2004 and involved a literature review of issues; completion of an audit to map Indigenous health research undertaken since 2000 in South Australia; and consultation with 60 people involved in Indigenous health research. |
| Aboriginal Health Profile Feasibility | Commenced in June 2004 to determine the feasibility of using health information gathered during Aboriginal Adult Health Checks to provide health summaries for Aboriginal people and population based data. |
| Work Based Senior Management Development Program | Commenced training in March 2005 with graduations held in December 2005. Participants came from Ceduna/Koonibba Aboriginal Health Service, Nganampa Health Council, Port Lincoln Aboriginal Health Service Inc. and Pika Wiya Health Service. |

Completed Projects

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| SA Aboriginal Population Health Database | Aboriginal Health Indicators CD-Rom completed. SAAHP Regional Profiles developed. |
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Ongoing Programs/Projects

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| SA Aboriginal Health Partnership | AHCSA continues as the lead agency for the Data and Information Strategy, having completed work on the Social and Emotional Well Being and Substance Misuse Strategies. |
| SA Aboriginal Community Controlled Sector Statewide Strategic Plan | Completed development of the implementation plan, communication strategy, and monitoring and evaluation strategy. |
| Aboriginal Primary Health Care Workers Forum & Aboriginal Hospital Liaison Officers Network | Continue their important role in assisting workers with issues related to the workplace and local communities. The APHCW Forum celebrated their 15 year anniversary in 2005. |
| National AHW Competencies | Development completed and endorsement expected by end 2005. |
| Enhanced Primary Care | Two statewide workshops held and a reference group established to contribute towards increased awareness of program benefits across South Australia. |
| General Practice Education and Training | Success with sharing a GP Registrar between Nunkuwarrin Yunti and the Parks Community Centre; convening of the reference group; delivery of cultural training to 17 GP Registrars. |
| Governance Training for Boards of Management | Completed development of the program. To be trialled at Pika Wiya, Aboriginal Sobriety Group, Goreta and Pangula Mannamurna in 2006. |



Ongoing Programs/Projects Cont.

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| Centre for Aboriginal Health Education and Training | Over 300 enrolments throughout the year and several graduation ceremonies held in late 2005. Training now delivered at 11 sites: Coober Pedy, Port Augusta, Yalata, Oak Valley, Ceduna, Port Lincoln, Whyalla, Port Pirie, Renmark, Mount Gambier and Adelaide. |
| Aboriginal Health and Research Ethics Committee | Review of a wide range of research and evaluation projects in various areas including diabetes, ageing, mental health and nutrition. |
| Centre of Clinical Research Excellence | Awarded 13 scholarships to support Indigenous people with further studies that will equip them to make important contributions to Aboriginal health services and health research into the future. |
| Eye Health & Chronic Disease Specialist Support Program | Building on the previous SA Eye Health Coordination Program and broadening it into a source of funding that supports, encourages and empowers Aboriginal rural and remote area community controlled health services. |