

SNAICC

Alice Springs 2010

Hey, Dad! For Indigenous
Dads, Uncles and Pops





Hey, Dad!

For Indigenous Dads, Uncles and Pops

A parenting program for men

Produced by Centacare Broken Bay



The Hey, Dad! For Indigenous Dads, Uncles and Pops program provides opportunities to:

- Understand the changing role of Aboriginal dads in society
- Understand kids' needs and how dads can take care of their kids
- Develop the new communication skills that are necessary for improved relationships with their kids
- Understand child development and ways dads can protect their kids



The program consists of a manual with:

- CD of the program
- Handouts
- Photo language
- Hey, Dad! DVD



Centacare Broken Bay Why and How?

- Invitation
- Passion and leadership from the Reference Group
- Respect and mutual learning
- Importance of community consultation and time
- External evaluation
- *INSIGHTS*



SYNERGY

Synergy or Synergism
is

“the potential ability of individual
organisations or groups
to be more successful
or more productive
as the result of a merger”.



What is “success”
Positive outcomes for children, families
and communities.

What influences success or effectiveness?

- The quality of the organisations involved
- The quality of the program content
- The subject matter - e.g. fatherhood in relation to community.
A highly emotive and traditional motivation

What is Hey, Dad! For Indigenous Dads, Uncles and Pops (HDI)?

Hey, Dad! is a strength based parenting program specifically for fathers and looks at their relationships with their kids or those in their care.

HDI acknowledges the place the wider family unit plays in Indigenous communities specifically in relation to being a dad.





What's In it?



Five sections.

Being a Dad Today

Understanding Our Kids

Yarning

Keeping Our Kids Safe

Coaching Our Kids

Each section has a wide range of activities and topics that can be adapted depending on the group and it's needs, strengths and abilities

HDI is not a 'test'. It celebrates fatherhood and promotes healthy and strong relationships for our kids.

By acknowledging the past we
can get on with the present and the
future.....they are linked

“The past is not the past. The past, the present and
the future are as they always are, part of each other
bound together”.

“We cannot change the past, which cannot be
undone, but we may be able by the generosity of
imagination and kindness to change the future for
the better, to act in a more enlightened and more
humane manner, with greater dignity and true
compassion”.



Words we don't use.....

..... inability, disadvantaged, deficit, restrictions,
authority, fix, wrong etc.

What we do use....

HDI is a 'strength based program'
in that we look at what men are already doing
and build on that.

Men are natural parents, sometimes just
the acknowledgement of that
can lead to wider work being done.



Centacare Broken Bay's (CBB) Model

Four basic tenets.....

Consultation

Train the Trainer

Capacity Building & Mentoring

....and...Partnerships....

While each of these are valuable on their own, put them together and we have another example of 'synergy'



Outcomes

Funds were allocated to evaluate not only
The development of the program but also
the FaHCSIA funded rollout of HDI training
in 2009.

It gave CBB an idea on what the ideal
conditions would be for the uptake of
actual HDI programs in a
community once training has
been completed.



“Rather than repeat the train the trainer model, it is suggested that an asset building approach is more likely to be effective in embedding the use of Hey Dad within Indigenous communities”.

The most effective implementation of HDI will occur when a community possesses the following assets...

- strong local cultural connections and credibility
- access to Indigenous men through existing groups or at the least, strong local links
- strong leadership and leaders in a community
- some confidence or ability to lead groups, but not necessarily formal training or qualifications
- access to practical resources such as food, transport and photocopying.

We have not come across a community that does not possess some or all of these qualities to some degree.

Other recommendations from the evaluations.

- the encouragement of agencies to take a 'lead agency' role
- the continuance of prior consultation
- the encouragement of reinvigorating local networks utilising local strengths and abilities.



Corrective Services

All indications point to HDI being even more effective in culturally based detention or residential situations.

Broome W.A.

Central NSW via Dubbo

Nthn NSW via Brewarrina

Lithgow CC NSW, plus Cessnock and Parklea

The Glen NSW Central Coast



Thank You!

As you may be able to tell
We are passionate about dads and kids.

Thank you for attending today.

Please don't hesitate to contact

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