

Victorian Aboriginal
Child Care Agency



DEVELOPING CULTURAL RESOURCES

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**2010 SNAICC NATIONAL
CONFERENCE –**

“Ampe Anwernekenheke –
Rlterrke Akwete Aneye”

(For Our Children: Local
Strengths, National Challenges)

Artwork by Ralph Nicholls©



Traditional Resources – We Were Rich

- Natural resources – land, animals and plants
- Human made resources – hunting and gathering tools which came from the land, animals and plants
- Social structures – families, clans, religious beliefs and values



Colonisation – We Became Poor

- We no longer had access to our resources – our land, our animal and plant life, our social structures
- We were denied access to introduced resources
- We became a resource

But

- We fought for and continue to fight for our rightful place and the return or compensation for the loss of our resources
- We survived



Maintaining our Culture

- Learning new skills
- Creating new resources
- Developing new tools and weapons – our own Aboriginal run and managed groups and organisations



VACCA'S Lead Agency Role

Commitment to developing
resources across the continuum
of care

VACCA'S Resources – What we have now

- Cultural Diary
- Care Bear
- “Deadly Reading, Koorie Kids Getting Ready for School”
– Early Literacy Bag
- Lifebook
- Cookbooks – one for children, one for young fellas
- Carer book
- The Guide for Child Protection and Child and Family Welfare Workers book
- Koorie Faces Program
- Capacity Building Kit – contains Manuals and other information for ACCO with a child/family service
- Cultural posters
- Training
- Films



VACCA'S Resources – What we are developing now

- ❑ Series of resources for children and young people new to care that promotes their rights – storybook, booklet developed by young fellas for young fellas, board game, 2 posters, overnight bag with cultural and practical resources
- ❑ Foster Carer's DVD
- ❑ 2011 Cultural Diary
- ❑ Series of posters and postcards about the importance of reading and storytelling for children's language development



VACCA Resources – Ideas

- Information Cards
- Cultural Activity Children's Swap Cards
- Community Magazine (printed)
- Comic Series
- Children's Storybook Series
- Children's Posters

VACCA Resources – Ideas

- Children's Play Items
- Victorian Koorie Stickers
- Creation Stories Book and Posters
- Children's Storybook – Coming Into Care
- Poster Series – Young Girls
- Poster Series – Young Boys
- Teenager Bag
- DVD – Young Koorie Dads

VACCA Resources – Ideas

- New Mum Pack
- Children's Coloring and Activity Book
- Posters – Koorie Families
- Women's Business – A Handbook for Koorie Girls
- Men's Business – A Handbook for Koorie boys
- Children and Safety DVD



Developing More Resources

- Need more time
- Need more funding support for resource development and maintenance
- Need greater collaboration between Aboriginal community organisations
- Need more sharing amongst ourselves – creativity, knowledge, expertise, skills
- Need to change government thinking

Summing Up

- We have always been a very resilient and creative people
- We continue to develop new tools and resources to serve our needs
- We have lots of ideas for new resources
- The best resources for our community are the ones we develop ourselves for our community