

NT Families & Children

Towards a Culturally Secure Service System for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children, Families and Communities.

Denella Detourbet & Jacqueline McCann

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Department of Health and Families is a Smoke Free Workplace

History of Aboriginal Community Workers

- 1980 – 1990's Aboriginal staff were employed as liaison officers across the various Departments in the Northern Territory.

History of Aboriginal Community Workers

- 2000 – 2001 Territory Health Services officially launched the FACS (NTFC) Aboriginal Community Worker Career Pathways Strategy.
- To enhance FACS capacity to deliver culturally appropriate services to Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander children and families.

NTFC Aboriginal Community Workers

- Operational offices provided with specific funding.
- General & duties at the discretion of the Office Manager.
- Employed as Cultural Brokers:
 - Community & Cultural Knowledge.

2004 Caring for Our Children Agenda

- Create a more responsive & better integrated service system.
- Increase & foster interagency & community partnerships that promotes the wellbeing & safety of our children & other supports to families & communities in caring for our children.

NTFC Reforms & Initiatives

- Developed workforce retention & recruitment strategies.
- NTFC/Police Child Abuse Taskforce.
- Care & Protection of Children Act 2007.
- Enhanced & updated Policy & Procedures Manual & all NTFC training.
- Expanded sexual assault, forensic, & therapeutic services.
- Developed new service models for remote areas to tackle child abuse & family violence.

NTFC Reforms & Initiatives

- Aboriginal Community Resource Team.
- Strong Families, Strong Communities, Strong Futures Program.
- Remote Aboriginal Family & Community Worker Program.
- Safe Places Project.
- OATSIH & NTFC Community Education & Training Partnership.
- Targeted Family Support Services.

Aims

- To advise and make recommendations to the Divisional Leadership Group (DLG) within NTFC.
- To advocate in the development and review of all NTFC policies, procedures and practices in NTFC services delivered to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children & families.

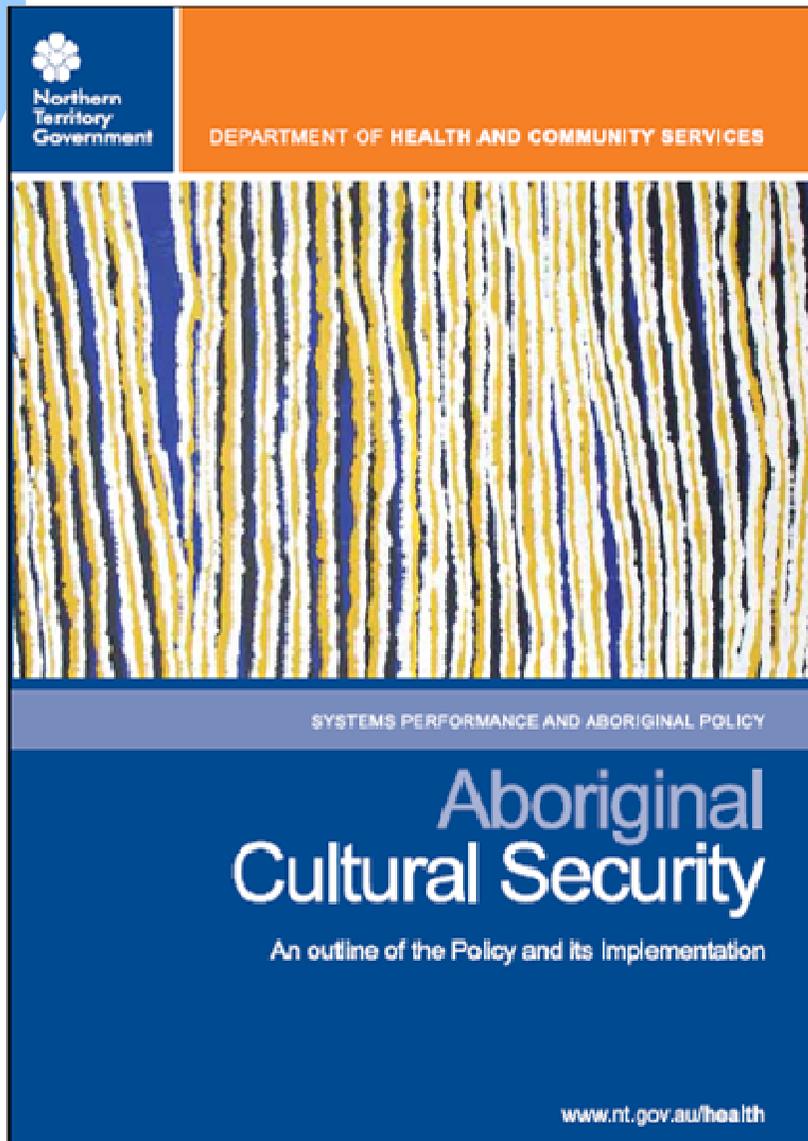
How do we achieve this?

- Specific & General Membership
- Regular meetings
- Forums
- Recommendations

What is Cultural Security?

Cultural Security is a guarantee that Aboriginal people should not receive less favourable health and community service outcomes simply because of differing cultural values and beliefs.

DHF Aboriginal Cultural Security Policy

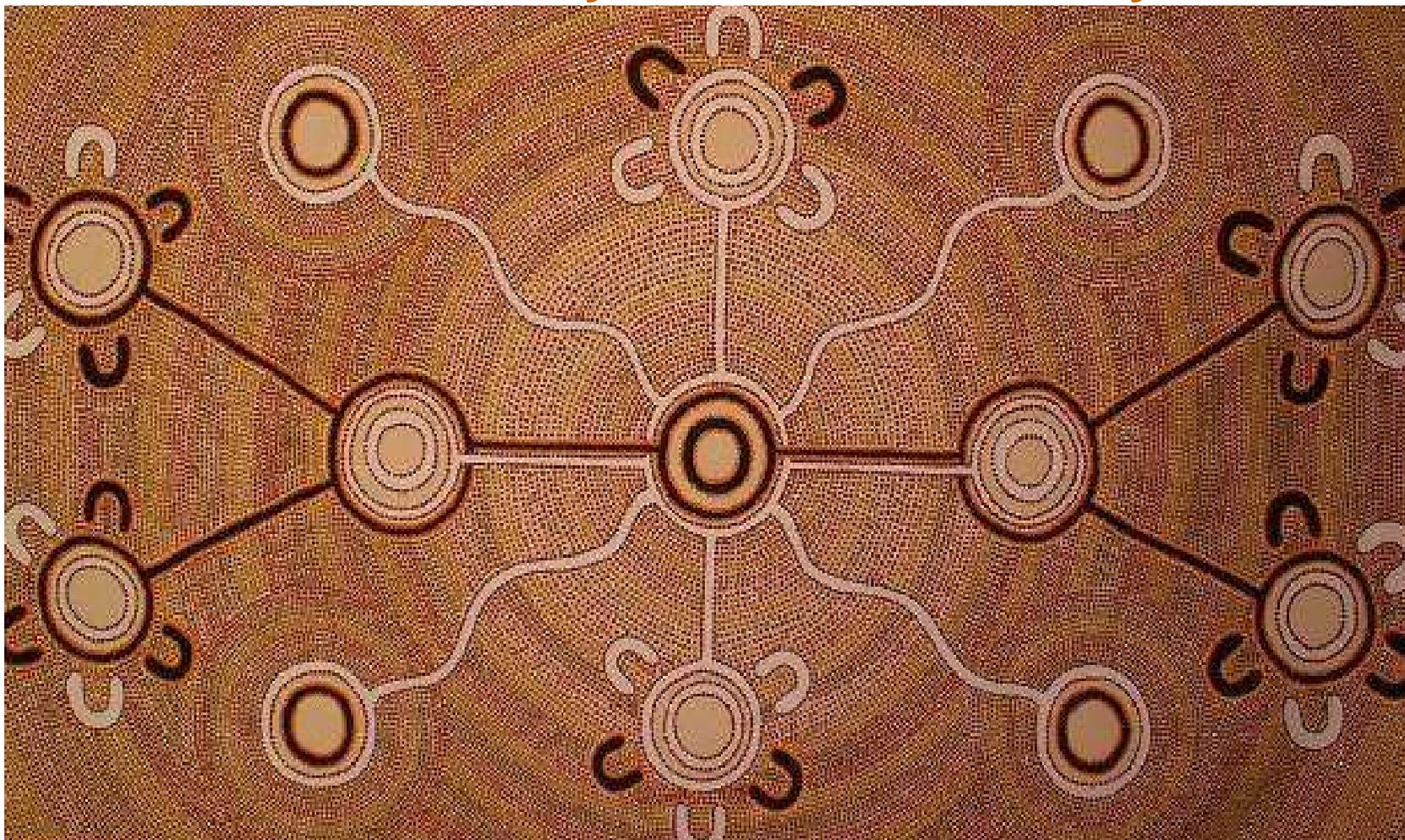


The implementation is focused on a number of key deliverables including:

- Better outcomes
- Quality
- Recognition
- Trust

NTFC Aboriginal Cultural Security

**Strong Culture, Strong Future: Keeping Children
Connected to Family, Culture, Community & Country**



- Vision
- Statement of Commitment
- Values
- Key Result Areas

Next Steps

- Endorsement from DLG.
- Approval of Project Officer & resources.
- Advisory Group to remain involved.