

CONFERENCE SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Session Types



Workshop



Panel



Yarning Circle

The SNAICC Conference program has identified some sessions as 'Yarning Circles'.

How are we defining 'Yarning Circle'? A yarn up or yarning is an Aboriginal term meaning to converse or have a conversation.

A non-Aboriginal equivalent would be a discussion circle. This is an informal way of learning, where a facilitator or discussion leader assists the communication flow so that discussion and information is shared and equally distributed around participants.

At the SNAICC Conference we want the Yarning Circle to be about open conversations, learning from others, whilst allowing equal participation in a safe space where every person in the circle can feel comfortable to share, feel supported and is respectful of each other's learning styles and wisdom.

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All other sessions will include short presentations.

Concurrent Sessions 1 - 10

11.00am – 12.30pm

1 Pathways to Safety

Pathways to Safety and Wellbeing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children

This session explores priorities for action to implement Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander led approaches to promoting the safety and wellbeing of children, with particular reference to implementation action for the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children.

Sharron Williams (SNAICC, VIC)

Hearing their Voices: Self-Harm and Help-Seeking among Aboriginal Children and Young People

This presentation describes the finding from the National Children's Commissioner's 2014 examination into intentional self-harm among children and young people aged 0-17 years, as they relate to the particular issues facing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

Megan Mitchell (Australian Human Rights Commission, NSW)

2 Heal our Families, Heal our Children

An outline of how healing gatherings are assisting communities to come together and have the opportunity to discuss openly issues that are impacting their families and communities in negatives ways, creating pathways to restore harmony and balance to community life.

Steven Torres-Carne & Frank Cook (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation, ACT)

3 Management for Success:

The Importance of Cultural Supervision

Management for success: the importance of Cultural Supervision, and a black and white approach in the decolonisation of the mind and the further development of Aboriginal organisations and services.

Fran Illingworth (Mara Mara Healing, VIC) & **Michael Moran** (Njernda Aboriginal Corporation, VIC)

4 The Voices of Aboriginal Kids in Care

A space to focus on the voices of kids and their experiences in OOH.

Michael Higgins, Jessie Longbottom & Julie Welsh (AbSec, NSW)

5 Community Connection and Building Techniques Improving Early Years Outcomes

Making a Difference – Lulla's Children and Family Centre

Lulla's, in partnership with Shepparton Communities for Children, uses community building and sustaining techniques, lateral approaches to problem-solving, to deal with issues now for those children who need it most. Hopefully participants will take away a sense of optimism that much can be achieved against the odds and that with a strong community a bright future is possible for children whose start in life has been far from ideal.

Miranda Borlini (Lulla's Children and Family Centre, VIC)

Leading a Sense of Independence, Belonging and Empowerment in Young Children through Open-Ended Questioning

Through an interview and recount of real life experiences of working with young children, we will learn how open questioning and providing greater connection to family and community develops success and promotes better outcomes for young children.

Tanya Robinson, Kirsten Holland & Jacqueline Toby (Creche & Kindergarten Association, QLD)

DAY 1: TUESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER

Opening Plenary

9.00am - 10.30am

Keynote Address

Professor Michael Chandler

> Cultural Wounds Require Cultural Medicines: How Cultural Continuity Reduces Suicide Youth Risk in Indigenous Communities

This presentation will summarise a quarter-century of research into the health and wellbeing of a subset of Canada's First Nations communities. Youth suicide is taken as a marker of community distress, and the ongoing program of research to be described aims to search out distinctive features of those communities that enjoy low or absent youth suicide rates. The broad conclusion to which these data point is that those groups that enjoy remarkably lower rates of suicide are different from their more distressed counterparts by having achieved substantial measures of community control over their own cultural identity. More particularly, those communities that have sustained meaningful connections to their cultural past (i.e. language preservation; the maintenance of cultural rituals and practices; and the development of facilities to support cultural maintenance), and that are otherwise engaged in related practices meant to guarantee jurisdiction over their own cultural future (e.g. control over health and social service delivery; education; and matters of social justice) are just those communities with lower burdens of ill health, including youth suicide. Special attention will be focused on how such cultural control factors impact ongoing negotiations with governments and health delivery systems.

Working Together in a Remote Town to Provide a Strong Voice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders

The School Partnership Journey with early years and health services to support a community driven strategic plan. This session focuses on a process to develop and apply user-friendly tools to assist the community to understand and apply wellbeing data to support health outcomes.

Dallas Harris (Nganggawail Aboriginal Health Service, WA)

6 Community Healing Groups

Tiwi Islands - An Example of Working Collaboratively towards Creating a Resilient Community

We will look at the women's and men's groups that are held on a weekly basis in Wurrumiyanga, Tiwi Islands, as an example of building community resilience.

Marisa Taylor, Henrietta Hunter & Richard Tungatulum (CatholicCare, NT) & **Peter Ulbrick** (CatholicCare, Voyager Hypnotherapy & The Healing Foundation, NT)

Little Black Duck Spreads its Wings

Following on from SNAICC 2013, Little Black Duck programme responds to Community need and now includes couples and family counselling with an emphasis on healing grief and loss in Community.

Nerida Oberg & Louise Crawford (Anglicare – Shoalhaven, NSW) & **Darryll Farrell** (Anglicare - Shoalhaven & Jerrinja Aboriginal Community, NSW)

7 Driving Change in the Justice System

They're Just Kids – Amnesty International's Campaign for Indigenous Youth Justice

An overview of Amnesty International's national research and campaign to reduce the representation of Indigenous youth in the justice system within a generation.

Tammy Solonec (Amnesty International, WA)

Building Communities not Prisons: 'Justice Reinvestment' Opportunities for Community Driven Change

This session will draw on Australian and international examples of 'justice reinvestment' initiatives and explore what opportunities they present for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to develop holistic place-based, community-driven solutions aimed at creating long-term, sustainable social and economic change.

Ben Schokman (Human Rights Law Centre, VIC)

8 Transforming Carer Assessment Practice: Introducing Winangay Resources across Australia



Participants in this interactive workshop will be able to see the use of the Winangay carer assessment tools in practice, and talk with the Winangay and Australian Centre for Child Protection researchers about their successes and challenges in achieving the "seismic shifts" required in policy and practice for Stronger Ways for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people.

Sue Blacklock (Winangay Resources Inc, NSW & Australian Centre for Child Protection, University of South Australia), **Fiona Arney & Jenna Meiksan** (Australian Centre for Child Protection, University of South Australia), **Paula Hayden, Gillian Bonser & Karen Menzies** (Winangay Resources Inc, NSW)

9 Education and Empowering Youth

Making Tracks to Tertiary Education: In Pursuit of Better Learning Outcomes for Indigenous Care Leavers

This presentation focuses on the tertiary educational experience of Western Australian Indigenous young people in out-of-home care, drawing on a recently completed national report on higher education outcomes of Australian care leavers.

Charmaine Walley (Salvation Army, VIC) & **Andrew Harvey** (College of Science, Health and Engineering, La Trobe University, VIC)

Indigenous Excellence and Cultivating a Generation of Positive Change Makers

This presentation will explore the impact of a positive discourse on a generation of young Indigenous people in Redfern/Waterloo who are engaged in NCIE programs that celebrate culture and the positive impact of young people in the community.

April Long (National Centre of Indigenous Excellence, NSW)

10 Cultural Competency Models

Creating Cultural Safety: A Model of Care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Patients and their Families in a Tertiary Paediatric Hospital

Providing culturally sensitive and responsive services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients and their families in a tertiary paediatric hospital.

Sharon Mongta, Selena White & Margaret Rowell (The Royal Children's Hospital, VIC)

Development of Culturally Informed Addendum to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services Standards Evidence Guide

This presentation will discuss the project, including how it came about, who was involved in project, the project process, the significance of the project and the impact it will have upon the Aboriginal children and families accessing these services and relationships between Aboriginal and non Aboriginal Controlled Community Organisations.

Eveanne Liddle (VACCA)

Concurrent Sessions 11 - 20

1.30pm – 3.00pm

11 Community Driven Initiatives Empowering Change

Stronger Communities for Children: Giving kids the best start to life in remote Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory

In 2013, the Australian Government committed to the Stronger Communities for Children (SCfC) program in 10 sites. The program aims to empower communities to lead sustainable local solutions for children and families to thrive. SCfC Boards are responsible for deciding on local priorities, and informing new initiatives and service delivery decisions based on these. These Boards also advocate for changes in service arrangements to better meet the needs of children in their communities.

In this presentation, SCfC Board Members from three different sites will present on 'what's worked' with SCfC in the early years, emerging evidence and the challenges faced along the journey.

Taren Williams (Tjuwanpa Outstation Resource Centre, Ntaria), **Bernadine Kungul** (Kardu Lurruth Ngala Purungime Committee, Wadeye), **Marie Tirak** (Kardu Lurruth Ngala Purungime Committee, Wadeye), **Gaylene Gurruwiwi** (Yolngu Wanganhamirr Mitj, Galiwin'ku), **Helen Guypul** (Yolngu Wanganhamirr Mitj, Galiwin'ku), **Ingrid Johanson** (Ninti One, Alice Springs, NT)

To Achieve Change, First Change the System

The evidence is in. Three decades of effort, involving considerable funds and high aspirations, have failed to achieve change in First Nation communities. This presentation will argue that this represents a failure of the system, rather than organisations or, as is so often assumed, the communities themselves. Five systemic reforms which challenge the status quo, and which are being applied by Children's Ground in partnership with the Mirarr people in Kakadu West Arnhem, will be presented for reflection and discussion.

Jane Vadeloo (Founding CEO, Children's Ground, NT)

12 No More Violence: Exploring Whole of Family and Community Approaches to Preventing and Responding to Family Violence



This workshop will incorporate a focus on agreed "Good Practice Principles" developed through the SNAICC Safe For Our Kids research and in consultation with the sector, which identifies key values, approaches and strategies when working with family violence issues.

David Ellis, Eveanne Liddle & Lorena Thompson (SNAICC, VIC)

13 Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) in Nyoongar Country



This workshop will provide a brief overview of FASD and some of its impact on children with FASD; and families.

Robyn Williams (Curtin University, WA)

14 'Pirjirdi Warlpiri Wangkanjaku Manu Pirjirdi Warlpiri Kurdu-Kurdu Wita-Wita-Ku' (Strong Warlpiri Voices, Strong Warlpiri Children) Stories of Warlpiri Early Childhood Governance



An interactive session with representatives from Warlpiri Early Childhood Reference Groups sharing their stories of: Pirjirdi wangkanjaku (strong voices); Pirjirdi nguru (strong communities); Pirjirdi walarlja (strong families); for strong children.

Warlpiri Early Childhood Care and Development Project Representatives

15 Early Childhood Journeys

"Beyond Education" in the Early Years Education Environment

A partnership approach to supporting Aboriginal children, families, communities and educators to provide a holistic early years' service.

Lisa Ranahan (Australian Childhood Foundation, VIC), **Alyson Ferguson** & **Josh Kenny** (Gippsland and East Gippsland Aboriginal Cooperative)

Kindy is Deadly! – Our C&K 'Soft Entry Approach' to Increasing Access and Participation to Kindy in an Urban and Regional Location in Queensland

The presentation will showcase effective community collaboration and proven techniques to assist children to attend an approved kindergarten program.

Sandi Lascelles (C&K – Central, QLD), **Jackie Bennett** & **Dorothy Brown** (C&K - Pre Kindergarten Diversity Program, QLD)

16 Out-of-Home Care and Kinship Care

Carer Yarning Circle Cultural Training Package

The Carer Yarning Circle is designed to add value to the direct care work carried out by carers and support workers within the Out-of-Home Care Program Primary Care Team – General and Tier 1 Placements, in order to provide culturally sensitive, safe and responsive support to both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and non-Indigenous children placed within the protective care environment.

Helen Humes (Centrecare, Djooraminda, WA)

Finding Families for Aboriginal Children in Care: Kinship Connections WA

The presentation will outline a new model of finding family members of Aboriginal children in care and will report on the recent pilot project funded by the Department of Child protection and family Support in 3 District Offices in Perth, WA.

Mike Clare (Clare Consultancy, Kinship Connections, WA & The University of Western Australia) & **Ann Oakley** (Kinship Connections, WA)

Creating a Partnership to Care for Aboriginal Children and Young People: Mackillop Family Services and Wirraka Maya Health Service Aboriginal Corporation Working Together to Empower Community to Provide Culturally Connected Kinship Care and Foster Care

This presentation will explore, reflect on and detail learnings from partnership between MacKillop and WMHSAC that aims to deliver the best possible care to Aboriginal children and young people, through supporting kinship care and foster care that is culturally aware. It also discusses recruiting and retaining Aboriginal staff in order to empower the community to care for their children within the community, and staying connected to community and culture.

David Fox & **Ross Councillor** (MacKillop Family Services, VIC) & **Sophia Davis** (Wirraka Maya Health Service Aboriginal Corporation - WMHSAC)

17 First Peoples Disability Network



'Living My Way' – The Untold Story of Disability in Childhood Development

This is a workshop to capture narrative from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with lived experience of disability, and present how these narratives can be used to influence policy and practice.

Scott Avery, Damian Griffiths & June Riemer (First Peoples Disability Network (Australia), NSW)

18 Holistic Supports Starting Early

Bumps to Babes and Beyond – Supporting Aboriginal Mothers in the Journey to Parenthood

Sharing the practice wisdom and key learnings from the Bumps to Babes and Beyond project, which supported Aboriginal women who were vulnerable from the ante-natal period until their child was 18 months old.

Beverley Allen (QEC Early Parenting Centre, VIC), **Danielle Dougherty** & **Ada Petersen** (Mallee District Aboriginal Services, VIC)

Cradle to Kinder – Working in Partnership with Aboriginal Families

Supporting Aboriginal mothers to connect to their infant, health promotion, safety and wellbeing of children and assisting the parents to make positive changes in their lives.

Sarah Bailey (QEC Early Parenting Centre, VIC), **Djimpi Hood** and **Myra Pinney** (Northern VACCA)

Improving Service Coordination for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Families through Pregnancy, Birthing and the Early Years

We will outline the key priority issues related to service fragmentation in South East Melbourne, identified through consultations, service mapping and qualitative research. In addition to this, we will present a case study illustrating these factors and propose key questions for a comprehensive systematic review of strategies, to improve service coordination for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.

Catherine Chamberlain (The University of Melbourne)

19 Child Protection Policy and Practice

Insights on Progressing Indigenous Child Wellbeing in Neo-Liberal Political Climates

This session shares insights from a recent academic roundtable, led by Aboriginal leaders, which reflected on our current approaches and explored new or expanded frameworks to progress Indigenous children's wellbeing in the current political context.

Muriel Bamblett (VACCA) & **Emma Sydenham** (SNAICC)

20 A Community of Practice Approach in the Torres Strait Islands



Meke Yumpla Pikinini Safe (Make our Children Safe)

In 2011 a critical practice issue led to a training partnership in the Torres Strait Islands. An outcome of the training initiative was the development of an ongoing Community of Practice in the Torres Strait Islands. Through this workshop we will explore:

- The process used to develop the Community of Practice in the Torres Strait Islands including the opportunities and challenges presented by the process;
- The factors identified as critical in effective partnership and cultural responsiveness;
- The indicators that the Community of Practice is achieving positive outcomes in the Torres Strait Islands
- The next steps in the process ... where to from here?

Toni Cash & **Deb Hall** (Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services, QLD), **Gabriel Bani** (Port Kennedy Association, Torres Strait Islands, QLD) & **Wayne Laza** (Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islands Domestic & Family Violence Service, Mura Kosker Sorority, Torres Strait Islands, QLD)

21 Government Tools and Innovations to Support Child Safety and Wellbeing

Building Safety Together

This presentation will focus on how a child protection worker put the voice of an unborn child in the centre of joint safety planning to successfully engage both of the baby's parents, their family, the Department and the Wheatbelt Aboriginal Health Service.

Kim Reader (Department for Child Protection and Family Support and the Wheatbelt Aboriginal Health Service, WA)

Getting Back to the Kurturtu (Heart) of Good Practice

This presentation highlights the complexities and rewards encountered when implementing the Signs of Safety framework (SofS) in a regional and remote setting. When we get back to the Kurturtu (heart) of good practice, and work with the family and community of Aboriginal children, it ensures the delivery of good cultural outcomes.

Russell Gregory (Department for Child Protection and Family Support, WA)

22 From Punishment to Prevention: Broadening our Advocacy Strategies to Achieve Systemic Change



This interactive workshop will explore how we can broaden our advocacy strategies to convince governments to shift their focus from punishment to prevention, and more effectively support the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families.

Ben Schokman (Human Rights Law Centre, VIC)

23 Healing – 'Indigenuity', Listening is a Gift



Throughout this experiential workshop, participants will explore the healing process inherent in and integral to, the gift of listening.

Alison Elliott & Robyne Latham (The Bouverie Centre, La Trobe University, VIC)

24 Early Learning Strategies

School Readiness Initiative – Little J and Big Cuz

Developing resources and a television production acknowledging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander pedagogies and working from the strengths of culture within the early years of learning.

Lisa Norris & Priscilla Reid-Loynes (Australian Council for Educational Research, VIC)

Playing it Smart at Playgroup: Best Early Games for Guaranteed Success at School

This presentation will provide an overview of strategies and games used in Playgroup WA's Indigenous playgroup programs to support improved literacy outcomes for Indigenous children and families through the development of phonological awareness skills.

Christine Hawkes & Kate Stack (Playgroup WA), **Ann Jacobs** (Ann Jacobs Speech Pathologist, WA)

25 Driving Change in Early Childhood

The Northern Territory BBF Quality Improvement Workshop Series 2015-2016

The Quality Improvement journey of BBF services across the Northern Territory.

Jan Fleming (RRACSSU NT IPSU)

Innovative Delivery 'Promising Results'

This presentation will expose you to the journey of the collaboration and the learning experience of an Anangu Education Worker in Certificate 3 in Children's Services.

Sue Wilson (TAFESA) & **Ann Marquard** (Anangu Schools, SA)

Building Community through Playgroup

We aim to share the story of our playgroup by explaining the research project we are conducting with the Early Child Reference Group, BIITE, WVA and Charles Darwin University, in relation to Wirliyajarrayi Kurdu-Kurdu-Wita Wita Kurlangu playgroup.

Connie Borg (Warlpiri Education and Training Trust, NT), **Jasmine Spencer** (Charles Darwin University, NT) & **Melinda Noe** (World Vision Australia, NT)

26 Intergenerational Trauma and Community Safety

Victor's Story

The story of one Aboriginal family's journey over six generations, naming and healing from inter-generational trauma.

Jackie Stewart & Melissa Stubbings (Family Worker Training + Development Programme Inc, NSW)

Community Safety Research Project through Maari Ma Health

Community Safety Research Project – a joint partnership between Maari Ma Health and the University of NSW.

Marsha Files (Maari Ma Health Aboriginal Corporation, NSW)

27 Cultural Support Planning for Kids in Care

Cultural Support Planning for our Kids in Care (NSW)

The important process of developing and implementing cultural support plans for Aboriginal children and young people in care must be respected and acknowledged as significant and meaningful work that will keep our kids strong in culture and connected to family, community and country.

Michelle Lester (AbSec, NSW)

All Children have the Right to know who they are and where they come from

Keeping a child's life story is critical to the child/young person's sense of identity and long-term wellbeing.

Raylene Popovich (Barnardos Australia, NSW)

28 Coordinated Approaches for Better Outcomes

Engaging Community Sector Agencies to Build and Embed Cultural Competency to Provide Better Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and their Families in Canberra

This session will discuss an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander led sector development program which aims to increase the accessibility and effectiveness of service responses to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities living in Canberra.

Julie Butler & Kim Peters (ACT Council of Social Service)

We're not Ticking Boxes Anymore

A presentation about a new, coordinated way of working for government agencies with very disadvantaged young Aboriginal people and their families – showing some surprising results.

Joanne Willox (Department for Child Protection and Family Support, WA) & **John Foster** (Western Australia Police)

29 Supporting Children with Special Needs

Supporting our Children with Disabilities: Yawarra Community & Child Care Centre & the STaR Childcare Support Program in Western Sydney

This presentation shares successful support methods for children with Disabilities by Yawarra Community & Child Care Centre within the STaR Childcare Support Program in Western Sydney.

Karen Minter (Ngallu Wal Aboriginal Child & Family Centre and Yawarra Community & Child Care Centre, NSW)

Autism and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children

Discussing ASD in Aboriginal children and communities, and highlighting support pathways.

Florence Williams & Kris Jennings (Early Days, QLD)

Empowering Whole School Communities to Support Aboriginal Children with Autism or Diverse Learning Needs: Inclusive Practices through Our Six Step Model

This presentation will outline the six step model we use to create significant change within Aboriginal communities to improve the educational outcomes for children with autism, and other diverse learners.

Suzanne Donnelly & Lee Casuscelli (Positive Partnerships, NSW)

30 Collaborating to Create Deadly Resources and Storytelling

Story Telling can Make a Change: A Participatory Action Research Model of Engaging Aboriginal Leaders in the Development of Social and Emotional Wellbeing Resources

The Australian Psychological Society created 12 animations that communicate key messages and deeper meanings about the importance of connecting to culture, drawn from the life events and the stories shared by Indigenous storytellers in a participatory framework to grow knowledge and inspire leadership on social and emotional wellbeing.

Lisa Watts (Charles Darwin University, NT), **Dianne Kerr** (Wurundjeri Elder), **Alf Bamblett** (KidsMatter - Australian Psychological Society) & **Ronald Briggs**

1000 Deadly Kids, 1000 Deadly Books

Challenges and rewards of a large-scale book-making event for National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day. (NATSICD 2015). How we set about the creation of 1000 books by 1000 children utilising the wePublish App.

Myles Russell-Cook (Kids' Own Publishing, VIC)



Aboriginal kids need Aboriginal foster carers

If you would like to help an Aboriginal child who needs care and connection to culture, please contact Wanslea Foster Care and we can give you all of the information you need.

Fostering can be life changing, foster now to help our community.

Call 9245 2441
Email: fostercare@wanslea.asn.au
Web: www.fosternow.com.au

Their future is in your hands.

DAY 2: WEDNESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER

Plenary Panel Discussion

9.00am - 10.30am

> Family Matters – Kids Safe in Culture, Not in Care

An update on the Family Matters initiative, followed by a dynamic and frank Q&A style discussion with community, national and international leaders on reversing the tide of child removals.

With more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in out-of-home care every year, an increase in punitive approaches across jurisdictions, and child protection systems across the country appearing more and more broken, it is time to debate strategies to reverse this trend in the current political and social climate.

Facilitator: Narelda Jacobs

PANELISTS:

Muriel Bamblett, VACCA

Dr Cindy Blackstock, First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada

Judge Matthew Myers, Federal Circuit Court of Australia

Andrew Jackomos, Victorian Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People

Emma White, Director General, WA Department for Child Protection and Family Support

Concurrent Sessions 31 - 40

11.00am - 12.30pm

31 The Australian Government Early Childhood Sector Reform – How will Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children Fare?

A panel and discussion on structural changes underway in the sector and how they will impact Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

PARTICIPANTS:

Geraldine Atkinson (SNAICC, VIC)

Christine Foreshew (Yenu Allowah Aboriginal Child and Family Centre)

Professor Fiona Stanley (Telethon Kids Institute, WA)

Jackie Wilson (Deputy Secretary, Department of Social Services)

32 Transition to School

PARTICIPANTS:

'Getting Ready': A Collaborative Transition to School Program for Aboriginal Families

This presentation will describe the planning, implementation and evaluation of a transition to school program piloted in Southern Eastern Sydney involving children's group sessions and a concurrent parent information and support program.

Danielle Chytra, Bianca Warner, Laura Hagan & Frances Dobson (South Eastern Sydney Local Health District, NSW Department of Health)

The Journey to Big School: Improving Educational Outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children

Working in partnership with communities to develop culturally appropriate and holistic transition to school programs that lay a strong foundation for life long educational success.

Lisa Coulson (SNAICC, VIC)

Lift off to Learn – Early Intervention for Pre-School Aged Aboriginal Children in Regional WA

'Lift Off to Learn' is a program starting children's learning journey from birth: structure, principles and outcomes.

Cate Ham, Amanda Baxter & Rheanna McCleery (Wanslea Family Services Inc., WA)

33 Strong Women's Voices = Strong Communities Program. Family Worker Training for Aboriginal Women in the Sector

The Western Sydney Cultural Support Program offers Aboriginal women working in the community sector a year-long program to build cultural connections and strong voices.

Jackie Stewart & Melissa Stubbings (Family Worker Training + Development Programme Inc, NSW)

34 Healing Approaches and Trauma Informed Practice when Working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People



The workshop will discuss the challenges and possibilities when working closely with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities affected by trauma.

Nick Joseph (SNAICC, VIC) & **Sue-Anne Hunter** (VACCA)

35 What is the Family Matters Strategy and how can you Participate?



Family Matters: Kids Safe in Culture not in Care is a national initiative to stop child removal, ensuring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are safe and cared for within family and culture. This session is a workshop to input on the draft Family Matters objectives and strategic priorities. It will also allow state/territory discussions on strengthening state based strategies for change.

Sharron Williams, Frank Hytten (SNAICC), **Natalie Lewis** (QATSICPP), **Tim Ireland** (AbSEC), **Richard Weston** (The Healing Foundation) & **Brian Babington** (Families Australia)

36 Child and Family Centres and their Deadly Stories

Bubup Wilam for Early Learning Aboriginal Child and Family Centre – Belonging, Being and Becoming – Where are we now?

Strong and deadly children at Bubup Wilam through self-determination and community control.

Lisa Thorpe (Bubup Wilam Early Learning Aboriginal Child and Family Centre, VIC)

South Australian Children and Family Centres – Establishing and Growing Services for Aboriginal Children and Families in their Local Community

Staff from SA Children and Family Centres share stories of their journey in establishing centres that reflect a philosophy of acknowledgement, engagement and inclusion of Aboriginal families and children.

Heather Ward, Catherine Cavouras & Kellie Bails (Department for Education and Child Development, SA)

Walking Alongside Families with Young Children – Children and Family Centres in Western Australia

Exploring the challenges, opportunities and achievements of the five Children and Family Centres located in Western Australia, highlighting the Ningkuwum-Ngamayuwu Halls Creek Children and Family Centre.

Sandy Freimond (Department of Education Western Australia) & **Maria Lovison** (Wunan, WA)

37 Out-of-Home Care and Connection to Culture

Factors Influencing Connection to Culture by Indigenous Children and Young People in Out-of-Home Care in Australia

Cultural connection is vital for Indigenous children and young people, and an understanding of its importance is essential for those caring for them.

Joseph McDowall (CREATE Foundation, QLD)

Connecting Kids to Family and Culture

How do non-Aboriginal foster carers, fostering Aboriginal children, ensure that children are connected to their culture and family.

Stephan Lund & Jodie Plug (Wanslea Foster Care, WA)

Building Identity, Self-Esteem, Resilience and Empowerment in Aboriginal Children and Young People in Care

An overview of the Djooraminda model for ensuring Aboriginal children and young people in Family Group Homes are resilient, independent and culturally secure.

Tony Culbong (Centrecare, Djooraminda, WA)

38 Strong Aboriginal Men Driving Change

The Metamorphoses of a Noongar Men's Group in Regional Western Australia

Establishing a Noongar Men's group in a fractured community in regional Western Australia: processes, relationships and outcomes.

Cate Ham, Tony Evers & Derek Woods (Wanslea Family Services Inc, WA)

The Strengths of Maambart Maam (my Father) for Maali Moort (Urban Families)

Using a community participatory action research framework within an Aboriginal male worldview, our project explored the mental health of Aboriginal male carers during the perinatal period. The aim of our project was to understand, respect and recognise the needs of male carers in order to develop and evaluate a program suitable for male carers' needs in raising their family.

Cheryl Kickett-Tucker & John Kalin (Pindi Pindi, Centre for Research Excellence in Aboriginal Wellbeing, WA), **Caroline Nilson** (Murdoch University, WA) & **Quinton Tucker** (Burnna Yurral Aboriginal Corporation)

39 Community and Child Health Care

Maitjara Wangkanyi: Talking about Food

Maitjara Wangkanyi started as a nutrition research proposal to research food habits in three South Australian APY communities, to know how to appropriately support change. With Mai tjara Wangkanyi, we are trialling ways to open the discussion around food habits and keep it open.

Suzanne Bryce (NPY Women's Council, NT)

Aboriginal Child Health Success Stories

There is some excellent work being delivered in Aboriginal child health service delivery across WA to improve health and development outcomes for young children.

Diann Peate & Leonie Hellwig (Department of Health, WA)

40 Tapping Indigenous Knowledge and Wisdom

Strengths of Australian Aboriginal Cultural Practices in Family Life and Child Rearing

Based on findings from the recently published Strengths of Australian Aboriginal cultural practices in family life and child rearing, discussion focuses on how traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural practices can strengthen families and communities, and have positive effects on children throughout the life course.

Jenine Godwin-Thompson (SNAICC, VIC)

Sharing our Grandmothers' Stories

Supporting the intergenerational transmission of Indigenous cultural knowledge for Aboriginal women in Central Australia.

Christine Armstrong (Waltja Tjutangu Palyapayi, NT)

Concurrent Sessions 41 - 50

1.30pm – 3.00pm

41 Creating Change through Partnerships



This panel session focuses on initiatives promoting genuine inter-agency partnerships in child and family services. It includes presentations and discussion on:

SNAICC's Creating Change through Partnerships training program
Emerging partnerships supported by QATSICPP and SNAICC in the Queensland Family and Child Connect initiative.

The process and outcomes of partnerships principles developed by Aboriginal Peak Organisations Northern Territory (APO NT).

PARTICIPANTS:

Brionee Noonan & Theresa Roe (Aboriginal Peak Organisations Northern Territory (APO NT)), **Michael Currie** (QATSICPP, QLD), **John Burton** (SNAICC, VIC)

42 Holistic Wellbeing for Victims and Survivors of Family Violence

A presentation on the AFVLS holistic wellbeing framework for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander victims/survivors of family violence.

Mary Cowley (CEO of Aboriginal Family Law Services and Deputy Convenor of National Family Violence Prevention Legal Services Forum)

43 DRUMBEAT – New Interventions for Parents and Children using the Combination of Rhythm and Reflection



This session will showcase two new interventions from Holyoake based on the award winning DRUMBEAT social and emotional development program. DRUMBEAT uses hand drumming to explore relationship issues that support community connection and healthy lifestyles. It is used in Aboriginal communities across Australia and First Nations communities in Canada and the USA.

Holyoake also released their child computer game 'DRUMBEAT QUEST' which is the world's first computer game for social and emotional learning that incorporates the latest neuroscience on rhythm and regulation.

For further information on both programs visit:
www.holyoake.org.au/drumbeat

Grace Trusso (Holyoake DRUMBEAT Program, WA)

44 First Nations Children v. the Government of Canada



For the first time in history, the Canadian Government was held to account for alleged contemporary discrimination against First Nations children before a legal body that can make binding orders. Learn about the 8 year history of this case, the evidence and its implications for Indigenous children's rights worldwide.

Cindy Blackstock (University of Alberta, Canada)

45 Sharing and Strategy Workshop for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Early Years Services (Closed Session)



This session will provide a space for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander early childhood education and care services to exchange experiences and learnings internally. Participants will discuss upcoming sector changes with the Child Care Assistance Package, key questions for the Department of Social Services and priorities to ensure the early years needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are best met.

Child Care Assistance Package Workshop

Have some questions about the Child Care Assistance Package? Please come to raise your questions at this workshop with the Department of Social Services. It will provide a space to discuss the package and what it will mean for your service, and attending children and families.

Joanna Stanion (Department of Social Services)

46 Supporting Families through Improved Child Protection Systems

Centrecare Djooraminda – Working with Aboriginal Families

An overview of holistic outreach based support to families with children aged 0-17 within the Perth metropolitan area.

Debra Coker & Jason Thompson (Centrecare, Djooraminda, WA)

Please Help, they Took my Child Away and I Never See him? NPYWC Child Advocacy: An Innovative Service Supporting Aboriginal Families Negotiate Complex Tri-State Child Protection Systems

On account of increasing requests for support from Aboriginal families who reported feeling confused, overwhelmed and disempowered in their interactions with the tri-state child protection agencies of central Australia, the NPYWC Child Advocacy service has been designed to provide families with culturally appropriate, practical, advocacy support with the ultimate aim of keeping children safe and connected to family, community and culture.

Hannah Stanley (Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Women's Council (NPYWC), NT)

Luwinta Mana-mapali Krakani Waranta – Reclaiming our Jurisdiction in Child Protection

A presentation from the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre report on changes needed in the child protection system, including consultation based research and recommendations on how the transfer of the child protection jurisdiction to the community would result in an improved system for children and families.

Lisa Coulson (TACCA, TAS) & **Heather Sculthorpe** (Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre, TAS)

47 Community: Collaborative Approaches

It's Moorditj, the Time's Right

Connecting and working together with the Midland Aboriginal community: The journey of the Swan Alliance Communities for Children.

Di Ryder, Carol Ryder, Jude Bridgland Sorenson & Jennifer Brodie (Swan Alliance - An Equal Partnership between Mission Australia, Anglicare WA & Ngala, WA)

Alekarege Multi-Media Project: How a Community Development Approach is Giving Aboriginal People a Stronger Voice in Community Decision Making

A discussion about how a community development approach has supported a remote Aboriginal community to take greater control over decisions affecting their community.

Dave Howard & Graham Beasley (Central Land Council, NT)

48 Working with Families in the Early Years

'ReadnPlay' – A Pre-Kindergarten Partnership

This presentation showcases a collaborative partnership between two North Queensland Indigenous organisations that successfully developed, trialled and delivered an inspiring and fun program for families to use at home with their Under 3's. The program 'ReadnPlay' helps parents learn more about the many ways young children learn, and provides practical resources and support to encourage positive parent/child interactions every day.

Relena Ara (Napranum Pal. Group Limited, QLD)

Tharawal Aboriginal PlayLinks – Supported Playgroup: A Family's Playgroup Journey

History of Tharawal Aboriginal PlayLinks (supported playgroup), a collaborative partnership between Tharawal Aboriginal Corporation and Northcott, and a family's journey through a supported playgroup.

Leanne Franklin & Tamika Briggs (Northcott, NSW) & **Linda Bolt** (Tharawal Aboriginal Corporation, NSW)

49 Early Childhood Education and Literacy

The Impact of School Engagement on Educational Outcomes for Victorian Aboriginal Primary School Children

It's not about making Aboriginal kids go to school, it's about creating an environment that helps them engage in school that will lead to their best education outcomes.

Scott Winch (University of Melbourne, VIC)

Read to me – I Love it! An Innovative Indigenous Family Literacy Program for Remote Communities in Western Australia

Read to me – I love it! is the only literacy project in Western Australia that distributes quality resources to families with preschool-aged children over a two-year period. This paper presents the findings of a three-year evaluative study of the project.

Lennie Barblett (Edith Cowan University, WA)

50 Young People's Journeys in Out-of-Home Care

Jilya-Balya 'Learning how to Fly'

This is the story of a young Bunjima girl's journey through out-of-home care, the development of the community that supported her through this journey, and how she left the out of home care system a strong, resilient and courageous young woman at the age of 18. It also describes the lessons that children in care workers learnt through her story.

Sarah Edwards, Mel Curran & Renee Abercrombie (Department for Child Protection and Family Support, WA) & **Kyia Coffin** (Bunjima Language Group, WA)

Indigenous Specialist Reconnect - The Journey to Better Practice in Working with Aboriginal Young People who are at Risk of Homelessness

This workshop will focus on the key learnings, achievements and challenges associated with establishing an Indigenous specialist case-management model.

Ross Wortham & Johnna Flavell (Save the Children Australia, WA)

51 Moving to Prevention-Intensive and Targeted Family Support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and Families



This session explores good practice in intensive and targeted family support services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and research that reviewed practice in 5 community-controlled organisations.

PARTICIPANTS:

Clare Tilbury (School of Human Services and Social Work, Griffith University, QLD), **Raymond Brunker & Natalie Lewis** (Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Protection Peak)

52 My Rights, My Voice: Empowering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children to Participate in Matters that Affect them



This session will provide an overview of children's rights as they are relevant to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people, including an introduction to best practice youth participation principles, practical tools and case studies.

Aivee Robinson (UNICEF, NSW) & **Ben Schokman** (Human Rights Law Centre, VIC)

53 Holistic Aboriginal Led Integrated Services

Baya Gawi Children and Family Centre, Fitzroy Crossing – A Coolamon Model of Service Delivery

Like a coolamon, Baya Gawi Children and Family Centre gently cradles and protects our community's children with an integrated suite of services for children and their families.

Sarah Cleaves & June Oscar AO (Marninwarntikura Fitzroy Women's Resource Centre, WA) & **James Fitzpatrick** (Patches Paediatrics & Telethon Kids Institute, WA)

Achieving Deep and Enduring Change – A Bininj Led Approach to Learning, Family Health, Community Development and Wellbeing

This is a brief presentation that celebrates the strength of Bininj culture and what can be achieved when Bininj lead the way in achieving the best outcomes for our children.

Roxanne Naborlhborlh, Christine Alangale & Kestianna Djandjomerr (Children's Ground, NT)

54 Learning through Culture

The Cousins' Program – To Engage Local Indigenous Youth as Mentors with our Preschool Jarjums, to Foster a Positive Sense of Self and Identity before they Begin School

Cath Gillespie & Kirby Barker (Evans Head Woodburn Preschool, NSW)

HIPPY Australia and Barnardos Australia: A Partnership to Ensure Successful Community Engagement in the HIPPY Program in Wellington NSW

Ron Holmes (Brotherhood of St Laurence, VIC) & **Donna Ashley** (Barnardos Australia, NSW)

Balee Koolin Bubup Connecting Children and Families to Boonwurrung Country

Aunty Fay Stewart Muir (VACL), **Priscilla Reid-Loynes** (Indigenous Early Years Consultant, VIC) & **Sarah Bingle** (Library has Legs Project, Windermere's Communities for Children Cranbourne, VIC)

55 Abuse Prevention Resources

Community Risk-Mapping Exercise

Community Risk-Mapping exercise is a visual display and gathers qualitative data that can give adults the insight into where and why children participate in risk-taking and private behaviours. It also identifies areas in community where they feel safe and unsafe.

Holly-Ann Martin (Safe4kids, WA)

Innovative, Interactive Resources for Abuse Prevention Education in the Early Years

Innovative and effective ideas and tools for teaching Abuse Prevention Education to young children including those with special needs.

Holly-Ann Martin (Safe4kids, WA)

56 Healing through Cultural Connection



Wayapa, An Aboriginal Wellness & Connection Practice

Wayapa is an Aboriginal Wellness & Connection Practice that combines cultural mindfulness, traditional movement and narrative meditation to create earth, mind, body and spirit wellbeing.

Jamie Thomas (Wayapa Wuurk, VIC)

57 Connecting with Culture through Creativity

Crayons, Calico and Cups of Tea: An Unlikely Friendship

Sharing the evolution of an innovative cultural planning idea designed to link Aboriginal children in care, their families and communities, foster families, departments and NGO services - so that the children can grow up safe in culture, strong and proud.

Verity Roennfeldt & Natasha Orr (Department of Child Protection and Family Support, WA)

The Future of our Dance Lies with our Children who will Carry it on

I will present an interactive case study about the work I am doing nationally and internationally with the Wagana Aboriginal Dancers.

Jo Clancy (Blue Mountains Aboriginal Culture and Resource Centre, NSW)

58 Respecting the Rights of Children with Incarcerated Parents



Supporting Indigenous Children Impacted by Parental Incarceration by Assisting them to SHINE (Supporting, Hope, Inspire, Nurture, Empower)

The aim of the presentation is to raise awareness of the unique needs of Indigenous children impacted by parental incarceration to practitioners working in the Out-of-Home Care environment.

We aim to facilitate a collective discussion utilising a number of stakeholder engagement methods to enhance collaborative practice across the sector. It is our aim to build a knowledge base across the sector to improve collaboration.

We will be showcasing a number of initiatives that SHINE for Kids currently runs in supporting Indigenous children in NSW, ACT and Victoria.

Carol Vale (Shine for Kids, QLD)

59 Grandmothers Against Removals: the Fight Against Continuing Stolen Generations

More of our children are being stolen than ever before and the situation will only get worse until we mobilise in big numbers to force a change that puts Aboriginal people in control. Grandmothers Against Removals is made up of families who have suffered from child removal and have decided enough is enough! Since 2014 we have organised street protests, meetings and helped many families to win their children back. We have built strong alliances and support networks, and forced negotiation with welfare departments. Come and hear about our struggle and find out how you can get involved.

Debbie Swan (NSW) & **Vanessa Culbong** (WA)

60 Supporting New Mothers and Fathers

Changing Lives by Delivering Culturally Secure and Holistic Maternity Care

The importance and effectiveness of providing culturally secure and holistic health care to Aboriginal women and families.

Alison Gibson (Moort Boodjari Mia Department of Health, North Metropolitan Health Service, Public Health and Ambulatory Care, WA)

A User-Designed Website for Young Aboriginal Fathers

Video presentations of young Aboriginal fathers will be shown to illustrate the website features and development.

Craig Hammond (University of Newcastle, NSW)

DAY 3: THURSDAY 17 SEPTEMBER

Plenary

9.00am - 10.30am

Keynote Address

Professor Fiona Stanley

- > Early Childhood: Overcoming Intergenerational Trauma for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Populations

The evidence around the impact of healthy pregnancies and early childhood development to provide for future health and wellbeing is now overwhelming. Psychosocial and neuroscience research shows clearly that brain development in the first 4 years is crucial for a range of capacities and capabilities. It also shows that negative influences have profoundly negative impacts early on children's future potential and poor health (such as alcohol, poor nutrition and stress). Early intervention focusing on parental empowerment has been shown to be particularly effective for disadvantaged groups if they are appropriate, intensive and long enough.

Keynote Address

June Oscar AO

- > Learning Across Worlds: Nurturing the Future of the Fitzroy Valley with New Practices in Early Life Education and Care

June Oscar AO, CEO of the Marninwarntikura Women's Resource Centre (MWRC) in Fitzroy Crossing will share her and her community's remarkable story of community led development, unheard of in Australia. In recent years, Marninwarntikura has become renowned for acting on the women's powerful convictions, through spearheading a movement which saw the enforcement of alcohol restrictions, leading to a ground-breaking study called Liliwan, which has recorded the prevalence of Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD). The results are shocking; 21% of the region's children has been assessed to have one or many of the FASD related conditions.

The Liliwan study, conducted in partnership between the Fitzroy Valley community, the Telethon Institute, Sydney University and the George Institute for Global Health has given the women and their families the rigorous evidence base they need. The continued engagement between researchers and the community is enabling the Fitzroy Valley to become increasingly informed in how to respond to, care for and prevent children being born and growing with complex developmental conditions. These new multidisciplinary approaches to the education and therapy of children and families living with FASD are being practised in Marninwarntikura's Baya Gawi Early Childhood Learning Unit.

Oscar's presentation encourages us to imagine a growing generation that is empowered to grasp all educational opportunities, no matter the challenges each child faces. As Oscar argues, it is diverse, creative and inclusive educations that have the power to unleash the boundless potential of youth, so an entire generation can walk together into a more promising and equal future.



Concurrent Sessions 61 - 70

11.00am - 12.30pm

- 61 Embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Participation in the Child Protection System

PARTICIPANTS:

Evaluation of VACCA's Guardianship Program

Sue-Anne Hunter (VACCA)

Absec, Creating a State-Wide Approach

Michael Higgins (AbSec, NSW)

Community Controlled Child Protection and 'The Voice of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and Families'

Michael Currie (QATSICCP, QLD)

- 62 Remember the Past, Change the Future: Drawing from the Roots of the Ancestors

Understandings and stories to bring forth strong healthy fruits in families' lives for the next generation. Yolngu from East Arnhem walking together 'bala rali' (working together) to bring yolngu cultural understandings alongside a strengths-based family strengthening program 'FAST' to enable their families to be strong to help their children grow up and succeed.

Phillip Dhamarrandji, Susan Garawirtja, Jessica Wurungmurra & Malcolm Galbraith (FAST NT)

- 63 The Aboriginal Therapeutic Home Based Care Program

This presentation will discuss the aims, strengths and challenges, and examples of the work of the statewide Aboriginal Therapeutic Home Based Care program in Victoria.

Chris Tanti (Take Two, VIC), Sue Hermans (Mildura District Aboriginal Cooperative & Take Two, VIC), Gavin Barker (Rumbalara Aboriginal Cooperative & Take Two, VIC), Kim Duncan (Ballarat and District Aboriginal Cooperative & Take Two, VIC), Kylie Briggs (Njernda Aboriginal Cooperative & Take Two, VIC), Laura Green (Winda Mara Aboriginal Cooperative, VIC) & Patrick Byrne (Bendigo & District Aboriginal Cooperative, VIC)

- 64 Early Childhood Sector Development

Indigenous Educators Inspiring Success

Indigenous Priorities – a strategic approach to strengthening and the ongoing sustainability of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander early childhood education programs and educators, and supporting the sector and educators within it.

Milly Phillips & Ursula Barber (Queensland Department of Education and Training)

Prioritising Aboriginal Early Childhood – The NSW Policy Experience

The presentation will outline various policy changes in NSW to promote access and participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in early childhood education and care services and explores the implications within early childhood services.

Angela Webb, Emma Beckett & Ross Hughes (AECSL Inc, NSW)

- 65 Raising Strong Children through Healing

Growing Our Children Up Strong: Creating Pathways to Healing

Outlines the process undertaken in the co-design and development of school-based healing programs for young people and their families in Bourke and Brewarrina, NSW.

Caitlin Mullins (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation, ACT) & Joan Dickson (Far West NSW Medicare Local)

VACCA's Report on the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse Support Team: Lessons Learned

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse has provided agencies, such as the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency, with a unique opportunity to reflect on how best we can keep Aboriginal children in out-of-home care safe. How as an agency do we train our carers and workforce about sexual abuse and sexually abusive behaviour and foster an environment where children can speak out and feel culturally safe enough to disclose any abuse they are experiencing? How do we ensure we hear the voice of the child?

Jeannie McIntyre, Jenny Kirby & Nathan Bird (VACCA)

66 Inequalities in the Child Protection System

Is Australia Creating a Second Stolen Generation?

This presentation will consider recent child protection data relating to the admission of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children to out-of-home care, with a particular focus on Victoria.

Mick Naughton (Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare, VIC)

Inequality Disguised as Equality – The New Stolen Generation and the Failure to Protect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children (and how Legislation Entraps and Destroys Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Families)

A discussion of the failure of non-Indigenous legal systems, evolved from, if not identical to, those prior to 1967, to protect and serve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in the present day and perpetrating significant injustice by treating as equal those whom generational disadvantage and post-colonial subjugation have rendered unequal before the law.

Joe Harman (Federal Circuit Court of Australia, NSW)

67 Aboriginal Participation Models

Koori Conciliation Conferences in Child Protection Matters in the Children's Court of Victoria

Kate Walker and her colleagues will discuss how the Koori conferences, established in the Children's Court Conference Centre, have been created to empower and encourage the participation of Aboriginal families involved in Child Protection matters.

Kate Walker, Angela Carney & Julia Zanin (Children's Court of Victoria)

Aboriginal Family Led Decision Making (AFLDM): Why it Works

This presentation will provide an overview of the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency's (VACCA) Aboriginal Family Led Decision Making (AFLDM) program, with reference to a case study. The case study will demonstrate a best practice approach to working with Aboriginal families who have been disengaged in the child protection system.

Richard Penrith (VACCA)

68 Learnings from the Parent and Community Engagement Program

Lessons Learnt and Outcomes of a Collaborative Program Evaluation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Clients in the Parent and Community Engagement (PaCE) Program

This presentation will describe a collaborative evaluation pilot undertaken by The Benevolent Society Research and Evaluation team, in partnership with program staff and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients, on the Parent and Community Engagement (PaCE) program in Cairns.

Claudine Wiesner (The Benevolent Society, QLD)

Working with Koorie Children with Additional Needs

This presentation explores the development of support material for Koorie families with children with additional needs in Victoria, through the Parent and Community Engagement (PaCE) program.

Geraldine Atkinson (Victorian Aboriginal Education Association Inc. (VAEAI) & SNAICC, VIC)

69 Family Supports: Exploring New Ways

Supporting Families with a Cultural Coach Approach: Ngallu Wal & The Youth Hope Program in Western Sydney

This presentation shares successful cultural coaching methods by the Ngallu Wal Aboriginal Child & Family Centre to support young people and their families within the Youth Hope Program in Western Sydney.

Leonnie Herczeg (Ngalluwal ACFC, NSW)

Supporting Vulnerable Families and Children – Our Way

We will outline our evidence-based approach to linking social, family support and comprehensive primary health care services to better support the needs of vulnerable families; to promote child and family wellbeing and resilience; and to deliver better outcomes for our children, young people and their families.

Jennifer Savage, Robyn Goodman, Roxanne Ross & Jo Stout (Townsville Aboriginal & Islander Health Service, QLD)

70 Partnership Models for Young People

Building a Strong Tomorrow – Partnerships in Service Provision

Collaborative partnership to provide intensive mentoring for at risk young people in care.

Cheryl Dunkley (Centrecare Djooraminda, WA) & **Steve Dyson** (Save the Children Australia, WA)

The Koorie Youth Traineeship Program

This presentation describes a partnership project aimed to strengthen and improve the outcomes for Aboriginal people by creating an enabling and culturally relevant traineeship model, to increase Aboriginal employment within the child and family sectors.

Bonnie Presley (MacKillop Family Services, VIC) & **Brenda Young** (VACCA)

The South East Corridor Youth Partnership Project – Collective Impact in Practice

The South East Corridor Youth Partnership Project is an innovative two-year Collective Impact initiative focused on supporting the community's most vulnerable children and young people. This workshop will focus on the key learnings from developing and delivering a community-based collective impact model on youth justice.

Anania Tagaro, Preston Culbong & Andrew Yarran (Save the Children Australia, WA)

Closing Plenary

Plenary Panel Presentation

> The Decade Ahead: Learning from the Past to Create a New Future

Aboriginal leaders reflect on the past decade and think strategically and constructively about the focus of the decade ahead, to see all of our children strong, proud and deadly – living their dreams.

We can get demoralised by the national statistics and figures our about kids, and forget about the amazing developments happening every day across communities. What is working to support our most vulnerable children? How are communities standing up to demand a better life for our children? What needs to happen to forge a national movement and see nation-wide change?

FACILITATOR:

Professor Pat Dudgeon

PANELISTS:

Muriel Bamblett (CEO, Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency Co-op Ltd)

Mick Gooda (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner, Australian Human Rights Commission)

Andrea Mason (CEO, NPY Women's Council)

Antoinette Braybrook (CEO, Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention & Legal Service Victoria)

CLOSING REMARKS:

Sharron Williams (CEO AFSS, Chair of SNAICC)