

# National Empowerment Project Update

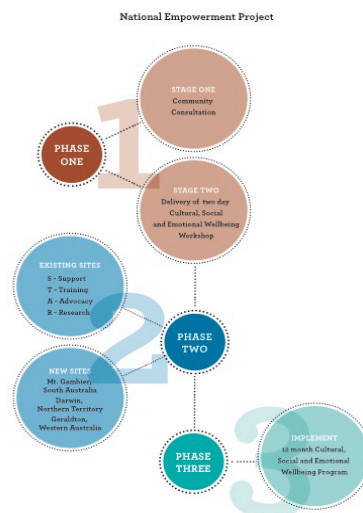
August 2014

Dear NEP Researchers and Partner Organisations,

Welcome to our second newsletter of the year. Carolyn will be ensuring that a newsletter gets out to everyone at least once per month as well as updating the website. If you have any news that you would like to share please send to Carolyn for both the newsletter and the website. Our big news this month is that firstly NEP has been funded for another 12 months (so we will be having more gatherings!). Second, Queensland has piloted the Cultural Social and Emotional Wellbeing program that we all helped develop when you were here in Perth last time. Read more below!

## NEP Continues Into NEP Phase Three

NEP has been funded for another 12 months. In this Phase we will be consolidating all the achievements we have made. We will be lobbying for other sites to get funds to deliver their CSEWB Programs (see QLD below) and bringing NEP co researchers and partner organisations together to discuss the outcomes of the Project and to undertake planning. So watch this space everyone!



## NEP Summary Report

*Voices of the Peoples: The National Empowerment Project Summary Report 2014: Promoting Cultural, Social and Emotional Wellbeing to Strengthen Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities*

The Report has been published and emailed to all community consultants and partner organisations. We will also be sending all authors, community consultants and partner organisations a hard copy. If you would require more than one copy please let me know and we will send to you.

We will also be summarising the report in a plain English version with more beautiful photos and you could expect this next version in a few weeks.

Also, a huge version is waiting for approval from our funders. This is a big research report about all that we have done.

## New Sites

Community Consultations have been taking place at three our new sites:

- Geraldton Aboriginal Medical Services (GRAMS), with community consultants Colin Woods, Sonya Crane and Cameron Davies and
- Pangula Mannamura (Mount Gambier) with John Watson.

Welcome to our new community consultants and partner organisations in joining the team participating in the National Empowerment Project and we look forward to seeing you at our next gathering(s)

- Darwin consultations have been delayed as the NT ethics approval processes has taken forever, however, thankfully we received the approval this week. Our community consultants, Gary Lang and Mark Munnich with the assistance of Adele will now be free to engage participants in the consultation process and we also look forward to receiving their data.

## Cultural, Social and Emotional Wellbeing Program

Our two Queensland sites delivering the program, Cherbourg and Kuranda have nearly completed delivery of the first program to approximately 20 participants in each site.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate, Kate, Biri, Barbara, Bronwyn and James on their work delivering the program to their local communities. The informal feedback that we have received notes that participants have been really enthusiastic and have found the program to be immensely beneficial to them. Along with participants, the consultants have expressed how much they have enjoyed delivering the program and that they can see benefits to participants, along with participants expressing this. The program will be formally evaluated and outcomes will be communicated to all.



The program will be delivered to a new group of participants in both communities in a few weeks.

Kate has happily handed over the coordinator role to Glenis Grogan who will be coordinating the program in both Cherbourg and Kuranda under the auspice of Ngoonbi. We take this opportunity to thank Kate for her fantastic work not only in assisting with program delivery but also with the development of the program. Kate won't be too far away from us all!!

## Website

NEP website is continually being updated by Sinem and Damien and we strongly encourage you to check the website at least weekly. Lots of news has been updated, i.e. Adele's Life Award from Suicide Prevention Australia,

*(Congratulations Adele!!)*

Also there was excitement about the Queensland CSEWB Program Launch. There were articles in the National Indigenous Times and Koori Mail – check it out!!

If you have anything you would like to go on the website, please let us know!

## Roundtable

Pat convened, *The Third Conversation: Has Anything Changed: Indigenous Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Roundtable* in Perth on the 24th and 25th June. The Roundtable coincided with a visit from Emeritus Professor Michael Chandler. The outcomes from the Roundtable will be reported.

See the photo below of some of the Roundtable attendees.



## NEP Promotion

Pat, Adele and Tom Calma have been busy promoting NEP internationally, nationally and locally. We have been in many reports and articles. Pat and Adele presented at the following events:

- ❖ Pat. Presentation: National Empowerment Project. Suicide Prevention Australia Conference, Perth July 2014.
- ❖ Pat. Presentation: National Empowerment Project. Poche Centres Meeting CDU, Darwin, July 2014.
- ❖ Adele. Presentation at the Inaugural NT Suicide Prevention Conference, June, 2014.
- ❖ Adele. Presentation at the 6<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Suicide Prevention Conference, June 2014.
- ❖ Adele. Presentation to a Roundtable about youth suicides in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities including information the National Empowerment Project in Perth, July, 2014.

## Until Next Time...

We kept the best until last and have some lovely news on the following page. Until next Newsletter, best wishes from Carolyn, on behalf of the NEP Team UWA.



## *BEAUTIFUL BABY BORN*

Massive congratulations to Biri and Candice on the birth of their beautiful daughter **Jahan**

