Seminar Series

Ngiare Brown
Director
Bullana, the Poche Centre
for Indigenous Health
University of Sydney

Background

- Philanthropic donation early 2008
- Mr Greg Poche
- Clinical service delivery
- Specialist outreach to western NSW and possibly NT
- Directors appointed late 2008

Function

- Strategic hub, key relationships
- Collaborations to progress initiatives, research, service delivery
- Leadership, advocacy, workforce development, capacity building, systems reform
- Contribute to the elimination of health and social justice disparities

Naming Rights

- The Gymea lily
- Creation story
- Bullana – warrior
- Traditional medicine – strength and endurance
- Perseverance in the face of adversity

Vision

- Bullana, the Poche Centre for Indigenous Health is committed to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander equality and the elimination of disparities in health and social justice outcomes.
- We will promote leadership and support collaborative efforts in health to influence policy; promote systems reform; and improve health and wellbeing outcomes for Indigenous peoples nationally and internationally.

Purpose

- Focus on initiatives that will facilitate greatest positive change – vascular risk and chronic disease; early childhood and adolescent development; education
- Mobilise expertise of the SMS, collegiate networks, University of Sydney to build capacity in Aboriginal communities and underserviced regions
- Pursue innovation
- Develop Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership
Values and Principles

- Pursue the aims and objectives of the Centre in the context of a human rights-based, community development approach to health and social justice.
- Human rights principles – self-determination, participation, non-discrimination, accountability
- Social justice – equality of opportunity, equality of outcomes.
- Social inclusion – participation; how systems, policies and services developed to facilitate engagement of most socially disadvantaged and excluded

Aims and Objectives

- To contribute to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health equity and the elimination of disparities in health and social justice outcomes.
- To develop Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander capacity and leadership in clinical and public health practice, research and education.
- To establish a positive national and international reputation in Indigenous health policy, practice, capacity development and research.
- To establish international partnerships for global advocacy and action for the health of the world’s Indigenous peoples.

Core Business

- Clinical services – medical, nursing and midwifery, dental and allied health outreach; developing models of sustainable service delivery; regional approaches to comprehensive and integrated care.
- Professional Development – support health students; up-skilling of community members; develop cultural competence program.
- Pathways - for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students into Sydney University and across health careers.
- Research – monitoring and evaluation of our programs and community based initiatives; priority driven, outcomes focused.
- International partnerships for the promotion of the health of the world’s Indigenous Peoples.

Signature programs

- Clinical service delivery – BH, B, Bre, W, TC
- Regional approach to sustainable, integrated models of care and capacity development beyond health – Dubbo as hub
- Cultural competency module
- Pathways initiative

Bullana Pathways Initiative

- David Peachey Foundation
- Australian Indigenous Education Foundation
- Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience
- Residential Colleges
- WATSA initiative
- Medical and health sciences faculties
- Koori Centre
- University of Sydney
Research interests:

Clinical perspectives on
- Disparities
- Service delivery
- Cultural determinants of health
- Epigenetics
- Bioethics

Aboriginal Health Research

- National and jurisdictional criteria
- Individual, institutional, research sector commitment to reform
- Indigenous perspectives complex – view as opportunity not barrier
- Principles of engagement and responsibility applicable to all populations, but particularly disadvantaged, vulnerable, unequal
- Priority, consent, benefit sharing