

Much more needs to be done for Aboriginal People who Inject Drugs – Findings from a NSW community consultation

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Why Undertake the RISE Project?

- Dearth of information available about Aboriginal PWID
- Injecting increasing particularly amongst Aboriginal youth
- NAAA conscious of current challenges
- NAAA wants to a better job!

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Focus Groups

- Peer Led focus group methodology
- 2 urban and 5 regional sites
- Total of 70 participants
- Co facilitation
- AIVL Hepatitis C Peer Education Workshop

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Drug Use and Local Context

- Increasing prevalence of drug use particularly amongst young people
- Increasing incidence of injecting
- Need for education and support for young PWID
- Higher prevalence of methamphetamine and Fentanyl

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Knowledge Information and Support

- Understanding of the context of health care delivery in local areas
- Difficulties accessing AO services
- Peer networks strong for older PWID – young people injecting in small groups and alone
- Highly connected peer leaders – strong peer to peer influence
- Fluctuating knowledge of NUAA
- Low levels of BBV knowledge



Improving Health and Related Services

- Limitation of existing services
- Inadequate NSP access
- Concerns regarding confidentiality
- Insufficient disposal sites
- Need to increase availability of education resources
- Recognition of community consultation

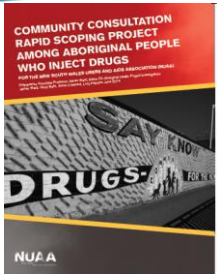


Recommendations

- Work strategically to increase visibility and awareness of NUAA to Aboriginal PWID, particularly in regional NSW but not at the expense of metropolitan areas.
- Funding to increase the scope of harm reduction activities for Aboriginal PWID in NSW.
- Advocate for trialling the use of key and influential peers in selected communities
- Strengthen partnerships with key stakeholders and organisations
- Advocate and work with the NSW Ministry of Health to identify funding for an Aboriginal state-wide coordinator to implement the findings of this report.



COMMUNITY CONSULTATION RAPID SCOPING PROJECT AMONG ABORIGINAL PEOPLE WHO INJECT DRUGS



TAKE ACTION!



thank you!

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Copies of the report are available @ www.nuaa.org.au

