

Overcoming Indigenous Family Violence

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PERTH

Conference | 5 March 2019

Post-Conference Workshop | 6 March 2019

PARTNERING WITH KEY STAKEHOLDERS
FOR A HOLISTIC STRATEGY TO OVERCOME
INDIGENOUS FAMILY VIOLENCE

In partnership with:

APO ANALYSIS
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Overcoming Indigenous Family Violence



in tackling the menace of family violence which has and continues to afflict the lives of many men, women and children in the indigenous community. During the course of this 1-day conference and 1-day workshop, we will explore critical issues in the indigenous family violence space, including state and federal government initiatives; how frontline services are engaging in prevention, early intervention and response; building better relationships between police and local communities; hearing directly from survivors of family violence; working more effectively with perpetrators to achieve positive behaviour change and empowering indigenous communities to prevent child abuse and neglect.

Indigenous Family Violence is a national issue that requires the involvement of many stakeholders across the country to overcome.

The **5th Annual Overcoming Indigenous Family Violence Forum** brings together representatives from government, police and legal services, not-for-profit, community organisations, family violence support services and shelters. They all have a vital role to play

Having previously been held in Cairns, Brisbane, Melbourne and Darwin, **Overcoming Indigenous Family Violence** comes to Perth in 2019. We remain committed to delivering relevant, practical and effective solutions that are borne directly out of experience from the coal-face. Working with our Advisory Board of Elders and experts, we have striven to ensure that the agenda addresses the concerns of those closely involved in the indigenous family violence space.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS



SENATOR FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Hear from Senator Patrick Dodson outline the Labor Party's plan for indigenous affairs with a particular focus on their strategy to overcome indigenous family violence.



COMMISSIONER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Hear how **Colin Pettit**, WA Commissioner for Children and Young People, is advocating to improve the wellbeing of Aboriginal children and youth.



ABORIGINAL MALES HEALING CENTRE

Learn how the Aboriginal Males Healing Centre is helping Aboriginal men reduce their use of violence by strengthening their culturally identity and boosting their self-esteem.



DJINDA SERVICES

Find out how Djinda Services, a partnership between Relationships Australia Western Australia (RAWA) and the Women's Law Centre (WLC), is providing specialised legal support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people that have experienced or are at risk of family and domestic violence or sexual assault.



YORGUM ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

Gain insight into a culturally sensitive and holistic healing approach to Aboriginal family violence with the sole Indigenous provider of Indigenous family counselling support in WA.



ZONTA HOUSE REFUGE ASSOCIATION

Discover how one of the largest refuge associations in Western Australia is assisting women, including their substantial Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander client base, with crisis accommodation and through their Positive Pathways and Safer Pathways programs.



ELDERS PANEL

Engage with our Indigenous Elders and find out more about engaging them in the development and implementation of family violence prevention programs.

To ensure that the conference program reflects the issues that are of greatest importance in overcoming indigenous family violence, our Advisory Board of Indigenous experts have helped us to develop the agenda:



UNCLE PETER SHINE

Director of Aboriginal Health, **North Sydney Local Health District**

Uncle Peter is a Gomeroi man from north-western NSW. He has been involved in Aboriginal health and social emotional wellbeing for many years. He is currently the Director of Aboriginal Health Northern Sydney Local Health District (NSLHD) and wrote the NSLHD Aboriginal Health Services Plan 2013-2016.



THOMAS HARRISON

Indigenous Family Violence Regional Coordinator (Eastern Metro), Department of Health and Human Services, **Victoria**

Thomas Harrison is an Aboriginal man descendant of the Yorta Yorta, Dja Dja Wurrung, Wurundjeri and Wiradjuri peoples. Thomas has spent a number of years working with the Aboriginal community. Thomas has overseen many youth projects over time mentoring through the Deadly Leaders project, cultural development programs to include youth camps and community cultural group and leader of the Mullum Mullum Cultural Dance Group.



SENIOR CONSTABLE DEBRA BLACKWELL

Community Engagement Police Officer, **Northern Territory Police**

Joining the NT Police Force at the mature age of 38, Senior Constable First Class, Deb Blackwell is now a Community Engagement Police Officer in the remote NT communities of the Groote Eylandt archipelago, some 1, 000 km South East of Darwin with a population of around 2, 400 people.



PROFESSOR SIMON FORREST

Elder in Residence, **Curtin University**

Simon is WA's longest serving Aboriginal academic in his country having been teaching undergraduate and postgraduate students since 1983 at Edith Cowan University, The University of Western Australia, Curtin University and Michigan State University. He was the inaugural Head of KurongKurl Katijin School of Indigenous Australian Studies at ACU. His services are widely sought particularly as a presenter in the areas of Aboriginal Education, History and Politics, Cultural Awareness and Competency and Cultural Consultancy.



The Forum was a great conference as it provided rich learning opportunities about family violence especially in remote areas.

Chief Projects Officer, safe steps Family Violence Response Centre



The Forum provided the opportunity to hear very uplifting stories from very strong indigenous women.

Remote Training Officer, The Arnhem Land Progress Aboriginal Corporation



This was a great opportunity to gain knowledge of contemporary practices in overcoming indigenous family violence.

Director Community Life, City of Greater Geelong



Patrick Dodson
Shadow Assistant Minister
for Indigenous Affairs and
Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islanders, Senator for
Western Australia
Senate of Australia



Glenice Smith
Aboriginal Practice Leader
**Department of Communities,
Child Protection and Family
Support, Western Australia**



Wendy Cope
Youth & Family
Engagement Worker
**Department of Communities,
Child Protection and Family
Support, Western Australia**



Colin Pettit
Commissioner for
Children and Young
People
**Western Australia
Government**



Leanne Barron
Chief Executive Officer
Starick



Robyn Fitall
Chief Executive Officer
**Koolkuna – Eastern
Region Domestic Violence
Services Network**



Devon Cuimara
Chief Executive Officer
**Aboriginal Males
Healing Centre**



Damian Green
Chief Executive Officer
Stopping Family Violence



Dianne Gipey
Chief Executive Officer
**Alice Springs Women's
Shelter**



**Senior Constable
Debra Blackwell**
Community Engagement
Police Officer
Northern Territory Police



Kedy Kristal
Policy Officer
**Women's Council for
Domestic and Family
Violence Services (WA)**



Laurel Sellers
Chief Executive Officer
**Yorgum Aboriginal
Corporation**



Angie Perkins
Service Delivery Manager
**Zonta House Refuge
Association**



Jessica Peake
Lawyer
Djinda Services



Tameka Brown
Senior Lawyer
Djinda Services



Kate Jeffries
Practice Development and
Strategy Manager (Mental
Health, Family Violence
and Justice)
Anglicare WA



Dr Hannah McGlade
Senior Indigenous Research
Fellow
Curtin University



Professor Simon Forrest
Elder in Residence
Curtin University



Dr Richard Walley OAM
Director
Aboriginal Productions



Gemma Spee
Coordinator
Djinda Services

MEN'S BEHAVIOUR CHANGE AND HEALING PROGRAM

OVERVIEW

The AMHC Board of Governance and I believe that there is a way to heal men who use violence. A mandatory 28-bed rehabilitation facility where Aboriginal men who use violence will enter a 12-month residential, healing pathways program. On completion, they shall then advance to a 4-year care plan.

Longevity is the key to the AMHC success for their participants' healing pathways. Aboriginal men are continuously aware of the traumas of the past and the suffering of the present. Since colonisation, Aboriginal men have been the victims of oppression and we have been blamed for our plight because it has not been in the best interests of wider society to recognise the source of our traumatisation.

Mainstream attention needs to turn to the effects of trauma of Aboriginal men who use violence. We fear that perpetual survivors will become the focus of another round of colonisation and exploitation, this time through incarceration, with little empathy of the consequences of these actions on our lives.

Family violence intervention should ensure that the person experiencing violence is safe at the point of crisis and impose sufficient controls over the persons engaging in violence against others to prevent future violence.

WORKSHOP LEADER



DEVON CUIMARA

Founder & CEO

Aboriginal Males Healing Centre Strong Spirit Strong Families Strong Culture Inc (AMHC)

I am the Founder & CEO of the Aboriginal Males Healing Centre Strong Spirit Strong Families Strong Culture Incorporated (AMHC). The AMHC was incorporated on the 7th July 2015 and is a life-time commitment to all the women in my life – my wife, my daughters, mother, grandmother, all female family members and female community members – to develop a cure to the societal illness of family violence, and because it “stops with me”.

Furthermore, I'm the son of a father who used violence. My grandfather used violence. My uncles used violence. Most men in my family either used or used violence. Most Aboriginal men I know either use or have used violence. I used violence.

Men are not born violent. Violence is a learned outcome. Growing up and witnessing family violence was and is the norm. To live with family violence as a child and then to live with the fallout as a man, is akin to walking on glass.

AGENDA

- 09:00-10:30** **Session One: Clinical Pathways for the Men's Healing**
- Reflections on the Yirna Jukurpa Treatment Model, a combination of AMHC's model and Aboriginal cultural healing methods
 - A psycho-educational group counselling approach
 - Role of education in emotional and behavioural change
 - Core role of spiritual practices
- 10:30-11:00** **Morning Tea**
- 11:00-12:30** **Session Two: Core Profile Paradigm**
- Healing of persons living in resident houses including four critical elements: Acceptance, Forgiveness, Lateral Love, Humility
 - Using the Core Profile Paradigm to value add in the necessary healing, spiritual and psychological transformation of all the residents and staff
 - The healing and spiritual map
 - The role of the gift ritual in the healing process and family reconciliation

- 12:30-1:30** **Lunch**
- 1:30-4:00** **Session Three: De-institutionalisation, cultural activities and training program**
- **Stage 1:** De-institutionalisation through communal activities, hobbies, sports, team work and making their own decisions
 - **Stage 2:** Cultural activities with Kinship Groups, including stories and traditions, rituals, hunting and gathering, Elders and initiation rituals
 - **Stage 3:** Training Program incorporating the Core Profile Paradigm
- 4:00** **Workshop ends**

08:30 Registration & Welcome Coffee

09:00 Welcome to Country

09:10 Chairperson's Opening Address

GOVERNMENT

09:20 Federal Keynote: Addressing family violence in WA

- Criminal justice reform to address impact on First Nations
- National Summit on First Nations Children
- Addressing family violence in Closing the Gap

Senator Patrick Dodson, Shadow Assistant Minister for Indigenous Affairs and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, Senator for Western Australia, Senate of Australia

09:40 Ensuring the safety and wellbeing of children and youth in WA

- Consulting children and youth on family separation
- Services for children and youth who've been harmed by and/or display harmful sexual behaviours
- Addressing causes of vulnerability and reducing its impact on children and youth

Colin Pettit, Commissioner for Children and Young People, WA Government

10:10 Morning Tea

10:30 WCDFVS: ensuring all women and children can live free of domestic and family violence

- Representing women and children's needs to policymakers
- Advocating to local, state and national bodies
- Public awareness and education programs on domestic and family violence

Kedy Kristal, Policy Officer, Women's Council for Domestic and Family Violence Services (WA)

LEGAL SERVICES

11:00 Djinda: supporting Indigenous women at risk of family and domestic violence and sexual assault

- Legal advice and representation
- Community legal education for Indigenous women
- A trauma-informed model to strengthen safety and recovery for mothers and children

Jessica Peake, Lawyer, Djinda Services

Tameka Brown, Senior Lawyer, Djinda Services

Gemma Spee, Coordinator, Djinda Services

POLICE

11:30 How police can lead the way in preventing family violence

- Improving family violence reporting levels
- Building relationships with communities and Elders
- Prevention, early intervention and response

Senior Constable Debra Blackwell, Community Engagement Police Officer, Northern Territory Police

FRONTLINE SERVICES

12:00 Zonta House: supporting women experiencing family and domestic violence

- Crisis and transitional accommodation for women experiencing family and domestic violence
- Wrap around services through stakeholder partnerships
- Safer Pathways: enabling women to stay safe at home

Angie Perkins, Service Delivery Manager, Zonta House Refuge Association

12:30 Networking Lunch



The Forum was a great conference as it provided rich learning opportunities about family violence especially in remote areas.

Chief Projects Officer, safe steps Family Violence Response Centre



I would highly recommend this conference to others, as it was a real eye opener on the challenges that indigenous people are faced with when trying to overcome family violence.

Team Leader, Department of Family and Community Services, NSW



As an Aboriginal worker/woman working directly in the family violence field, I have taken a lot of information & knowledge back with me.

Aboriginal Family Violence Case Manager, Women's Health West

1:30 Alice Springs Women’s Shelter: keeping women and children safe from domestic violence

- Crisis accommodation for women and children experiencing domestic violence
- Working with local services to support women experiencing domestic violence
- Helping women navigate the legal system through the Court Support Service

Dianne Gipey, Chief Executive Officer, **Alice Springs Women’s Shelter**

WOMEN

2:00 Helping victims overcome the trauma of family violence through healing

- Designing a culturally sensitive and holistic healing approach to family violence in Aboriginal communities
- Understanding how intergenerational trauma contributes to family violence
- Improving the impact of healing projects through a wider community strategy

Laurel Sellers, Chief Executive Officer, **Yorgum Aboriginal Corporation**

MEN

2:30 Working effectively with Indigenous men in behaviour change programs

- Developing a culturally appropriate behaviour change program
- Getting men to take responsibility for their decisions without using violence
- Ensuring men maintain long-term positive behavioural changes

Devon Cuimara, Chief Executive Officer, **Aboriginal Males Healing Centre**

3:00 Afternoon Tea

COAL-FACE OF INDIGENOUS FAMILY VIOLENCE

3:20 Panel: Lessons from frontline services tackling indigenous family violence

- Adopting community-based, culturally-appropriate solutions to reduce family violence
- Building community frontline worker capabilities
- Securing long-term funding for family violence services

Kate Jeffries, Practice Development and Strategy Manager (Mental Health, Family Violence and Justice), **Anglicare WA**

Leanne Barron, Chief Executive Officer, **Starick**

Robyn Fitall, Chief Executive Officer, **Koolkuna – Eastern Region Domestic Violence Services Network**

Glenice Smith, Aboriginal Practice Leader, Department of Communities, Child Protection and Family Support, **Western Australia**

Wendy Cope, Youth & Family Engagement Worker, Department of Communities, Child Protection and Family Support, **Western Australia**

COMMUNITY

4:00 Panel: Exploring Indigenous family violence solutions with Elders

- Engaging Elders in developing family violence programs
- Elders’ role in guiding youth
- Reducing recidivism with Elders

Professor Simon Forrest, Elder in Residence, **Curtin University**

Dr Richard Walley OAM, Director, **Aboriginal Productions**

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

4:30 Empowering Indigenous communities to prevent child abuse and neglect

- Evidence-based early intervention for child abuse and neglect
- Engaging families in service design and delivery
- Leveraging community and family resources to care for children

Dr Hannah McGlade, Senior Indigenous Research Fellow, **Curtin University**

OUTCOMES-FOCUSED WORKSHOP SESSIONS

5:00 Workshop Session A: Working effectively with perpetrators of violence in behaviour change programs

Damian Green, Chief Executive Officer, **Stopping Family Violence WA**



This was a compelling, sincere and informative conference that shed light on this issue from an Indigenous perspective and granted real and meaningful insights to inform development of targeted strategies in the struggle against indigenous family violence.

Deputy Managing Lawyer, North Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Service

Overcoming Indigenous Family Violence



The **Overcoming Indigenous Family Violence Forum** is a national event presented by Aventedge, exploring critical issues in the indigenous family violence space.

A report published by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare in 2018 revealed the significantly higher risk factors that Indigenous Australians face with respect to family violence. These statistics showed that Indigenous women were 32 times as likely and Indigenous men were 23 times as likely to be hospitalised due to family violence as non-Indigenous women and men. 1 in 7 Indigenous women had experienced physical violence in the previous year.

This one-day conference brings together leading representatives from the government, police and law-enforcement, not-for-profit, family support services and shelters and community organisations to achieve a system where authentic, relevant and practical solutions to indigenous family violence are achieved.

WHO WILL ATTEND

Those responsible for designing and delivering family violence policies, programmes and services from:

- State and Federal Government
- Local Councils
- Not-for-Profits
- Family Violence Support Centres
- Family Violence Shelters
- Community Organisations and Foundations
- Police and ambulance services



HOW CAN YOU ENGAGE

NETWORK

You and your team will enjoy unrivalled networking opportunities with senior decision makers during the event's networking sessions, morning tea, lunch and afternoon breaks.



SPEAK

Present your company, showcase your knowledge and demonstrate your expertise by speaking to senior decision makers in an open and engaging platform.



EXHIBIT

Stand out from the crowd and demonstrate your solution in person with a stand or tabletop display at the event.



BRAND

Raise your profile and position yourself as an authority in your industry by being branded as one of the Overcoming Indigenous Family Violence Forum partners. You will receive extensive branding opportunities in the lead up to, during and after the event.



Interested in showcasing thought leadership and innovative solutions? Contact info@aventedge.com or call **+61 2 9188 8950**.

Overcoming Indigenous Family Violence



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1 Day Conference	\$799	\$899	\$999	\$1,099	\$1,299
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	\$2,899	\$2,999	\$3,099	\$3,199	\$3,399

*Free Passes available for small NFPs & Family Violence Survivors.

*Exhibition places are subject to availability and all prices are fixed.

All prices are in AUD and exclude GST. The Group Discounts compound on top of the Early-Bird Discounts. Early-bird discounts are subject to availability. A credit card fee is applicable of 1.25% for Visa and 1.5% for Amex.

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 - Within 14 days before the event date: no cancellations or refunds permitted
- Registrations can be transferred to a colleague from the same company before the event without a fee
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- Completing and returning this Registration Form to us implies acceptance of the above Terms & Conditions.

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