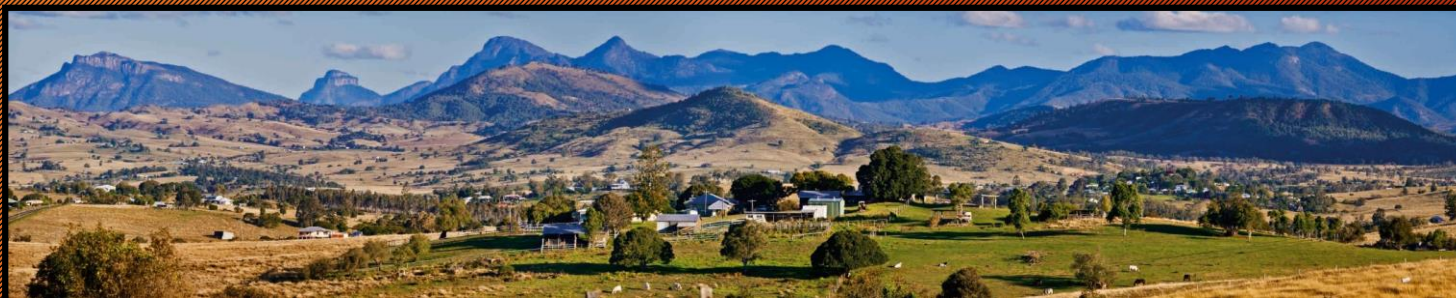


Deadly Grandmothers Hepatitis Queensland



Jodie Walton education@hepqld.asn.au

1800 437 222 (1800 HEP ABC)

www.hepqld.asn.au

Funded by:
hepatitis
australia

Acknowledgement of Country

Hepatitis Queensland would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land upon which we meet and acknowledge Elders past and present

We would also like to pay respect to the Grandmothers of the Scenic Rim who made this project possible

The Black Earth Elders



Deadly Grandmothers - The message from community



Elder Auntie Ruby Rose

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or Hepatitis Queensland info line 1800 648 491

The consultation - Binan

Issues raised...

- Ice use and racism/bullying in schools
- Discipline and dislocation from cultural process
- Generational trauma and mental health
- Support for Elders to respond
- Response needing to be grounded in country

"His story was so real. As a grandmother I am going through the same story with my family. He spoke the truth from his heart. It was very moving. The Elders want him to come back to give more understanding to the young people." Elder



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Cultural process leading up to the forum

- Registrations - right process, people come (technology/ need to protect family)
- Giving space, gentle process, understanding burn out of community and cultural processes required
- Consultation may require many families, ages and may also involve country and ancestors.

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The Grandmothers Forum

- Grandmothers decided on a two day forum- for Indigenous Grandmothers (or non-Indigenous Grandmothers in care of Indigenous families)
- Gendered space included staff of the centre
- Yarning circles after sessions (fire) used as a debrief space
- Day was deliberately structured to start and end within school hours

“Very respectful to the Grandmothers, the entire program was professional and highly informative. An extremely important issue that needs to be talked about. I am so proud the Grandmothers made it happen” Elder



Structure of the forum

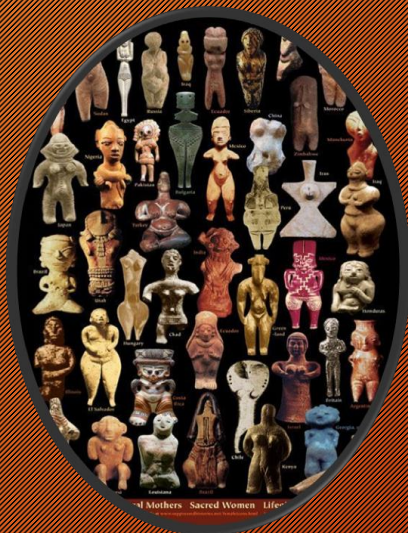
- Education updates (hep B, hep C, mental health, Ice and methamphetamine)
- Singing, yarning, healing and blessings from country and ancestors

*"Heart connections and stories,
I am grateful and thankful, I
hope we do more of this." Elder*

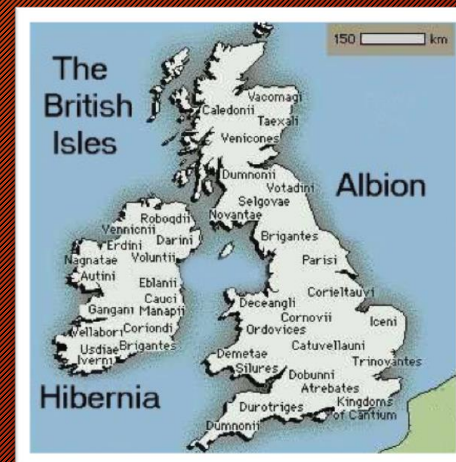


How do we meet each other?

- Sharing your own story/ step across the divide
- Indigenous reciprocity involves real relationships



"Information sharing was done in a culturally respectful way, loved the music. We've (as Elders) never been so well supported in conference forums before. Sam and Jodie are our sisters now. It's been healing and it's only the beginning."



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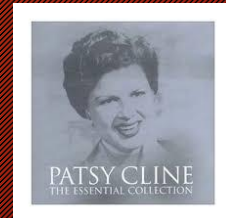
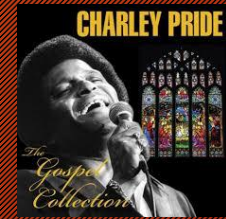
Privilege in institutionalised systems

- Important to understand white privilege & institutionalised racism
- Messages like just get tested/ go to hospitals have historical and current barriers
- Understand historical and current practices impacting on Indigenous people to achieve better outcomes

"We are told there is no racism anymore. There is such lack of understanding. Our children go to hospitals and come out sicker than when they went in"

10 tips to creating cultural safety

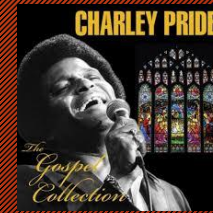
1. Music and food create connection
2. Allow time and let go and trust the process & community.
3. Health and wellbeing cannot be separated from country, family and culture. (Songs, dance or prayer may be appropriate within education sessions)
4. Everything is about relationships EVERYTHING. Share your own story/ make real connections
5. If your process is right- everything will fall into place. Process over outcome. The relationship building is the goal, not the final event.



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10 tips to creating cultural safety

6. Make a lot of tea. Elders always eat first. Elder support people.
7. If you are non-Indigenous take time to understand your own cultural and race privilege and the impact of systemic racism on Indigenous people and health.
8. Binan - Listen more than you talk. Don't speak when an Elder is talking.
9. Use personal stories and local ideas over stats and facts. Don't tell community there is a problem through numbers. Use story and activities to provide practical support and a way forward.
10. Practice speaking without questions or requiring a immediate response.



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Project outcomes

- Two day conference held in the Scenic Rim for Grandmothers
- 25 Elders attending each day
- 50 resource backpacks
- School packs distributed through the Elders room
- Strengthening of service links (esp. rehab and NSP services)
- Forming of Logan and Scenic Rim Grandmothers Council
- Getting to see some deadly karaoke

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Questions?

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"This gathering was fantastic for our mental, emotional, physical, spiritual and cultural wellbeing. You got it right with having the Elders strong presence anchoring this business in country." Elder