

*I respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we gather today. I also pay respect to the Elders past and present and to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people present here today.*

research



prevention



support



To accredit or not accredit cancer education training?  
Lessons learnt from Aboriginal cancer education initiatives in South Australia

research



prevention



support



## Overview of presentation

- Background
- Development of modules
- Pilot delivery
- Accredited training – so what?
- Accreditation process
- Challenges
- Lessons learnt



Tumbetun Ngopun "Healing Journey"

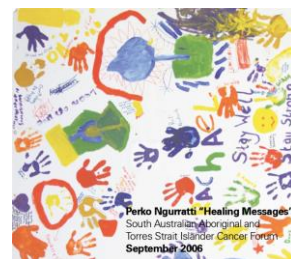
Starting the journey of healing. Learning about the journey and speaking with professionals about the journey. Walking with someone and not on your own.

Artwork – Allan Sumner



## Background

- recommendations from *Perko Ngurratti Healing Messages* Forum (SA 2006)
- a grant provided through Cancer Australia, Supporting people with cancer initiative funded by the Australian Government
- supported by CanNET (CA initiative)
- built on Cancer Council models of training
- aiming for accreditation
- aim for training to be delivered by Aboriginal RTO



Australian Government  
Cancer Australia



## Development of modules

- partnership between Aboriginal Health Council of SA, SA Health (CanNET SA) and Cancer Council SA
- Course Advisory Group established (national focus)
- Facilitator's Guide, Student Guide, Assessment tools and Activities Checklist developed
- applied to Community Services & Health Industry Skills Council (CSHISC) – industry led body that oversees qualifications and training product development and
- Australia Skills Quality Authority (ASQA)- the national regulator for vocational education and training



## Development of modules

- Sharon Clarke Senior Project Officer: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Well Women's Screening Program SA Health
- Josie Owens Aboriginal Cancer Care Coordinator Royal Adelaide Hospital SA Health
- Dr Jacqui Adams Clinical Head, Oncology, Lyell McEwin and Country Health SA
- Dr Michael Penniment Radiation Oncologist Royal Adelaide Hospital
- Chris Hygonnet Coordinator Education and Information Cancer Council SA
- Helen Barnard Screening Coordinator: Screening Coordinator Cancer Council SA
- Robert Dann Workforce Development Officer: Aboriginal Health Council of SA (AHCSA)
- Emma Croager Education Services Manager: Cancer Council of Western Australia
- Marita Hope Manager Education and Training Central Australian Aboriginal Congress Alice Springs
- Debbie Jagoe Project Officer: Cancer Service Networks National Program (CanNET) NT
- Alison Arblaster CEO South Australian Health and Community Services Skills Board
- Melanie McMahon Principal Project Officer: Cancer Service Networks National Program (CanNET) SA
- Georgina Neill Principal Project Officer: Cancer Service Networks National Program (CanNET) SA
- Paul Ryan Manager Education and Training: AHCSA
- Graham Williams Training Resource and Education Consultant: AHCSA
- Carmel McNamara Coordinator Aboriginal Cancer Control Programs Cancer Council SA



## Pilot delivery – HLTAHW035

- 5 day pilot held April 2012
- 10 Aboriginal health professionals participated
- evaluation undertaken – pre and post & 6 week follow-up
- well received
- Increase in cancer knowledge and confidence
- time for sharing experiences & knowledge important
- site visits very valuable



## Accredited training – so what?

- recognised qualification for Aboriginal health professionals (nationally recognised Certificate of Attainment)
- supports professional development and career pathways
- meets national quality assurance requirements
- provides appropriate standard of competency
- delivered by appropriate Recognised Training Organisations (RTOs)
- Sustainable
- RTOs required to undertake validation process to ensure relevant and current

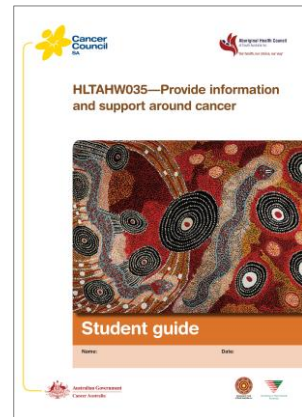


## Accreditation process

- identified need - unique not adapted
- letters of endorsement – from Aboriginal health organisations and industry representatives
- submission to ASQA and CS&HISC – cost
- accredited training for Aboriginal health professionals called Provide information and support around cancer (HLTAHW035)

[www.training.gov.au/Training/Details/HLTAHW035](http://www.training.gov.au/Training/Details/HLTAHW035)

- Elective in the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care Course



## Challenges

- capacity and priorities of Aboriginal RTOs
- up-skilling of RTOs educators
- ongoing partnership – long term commitment eg: Cancer Council SA and Nunkuwarrin Yunti
- Needs to be delivered as a 'stand alone' unit as well for greater reach – extra cost to do this
- keeping key stakeholders informed



Tumbi-warrun "Restoring"



## Lessons learnt

- culturally appropriate, relevant and accredited cancer training is valued but first step
- training priorities and costs some of the barriers
- 'Train the trainer' approach
- need to partner and work with Aboriginal RTOs delivering unit
- sharing of training resources – adapt to local context
- flexible approach to delivery
- ongoing process

Tumbi-walun Becoming Healthy"



## Thank you

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