



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people/communities

Title: Connecting with the Mob

Presenters: Hanisha Sehjal, Zahraa Allie, Nathan (Tsz Fung) Wong

INTRODUCTION

The "Willum Warrain - Connecting with the Mob" project focussed on further developing and implementing the "Willum Warrain Marketing Guideline" designed by the previous occupational therapy student project managers. The project involved researching promotional methods, developing promotional resources, and creating handover guides for the implementation of these strategies.

OBJECTIVE

The overall project vision was to increase the Rosebud and Rye's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population's engagement in culturally meaningful occupations at Willum Warrain to improve their overall health, wellbeing and cultural connections. It was identified that Willum Warrain had limited involvement from the Rosebud and Rye Indigenous community, due to various potential barriers such as lack of efficient public transport, lack of awareness of Willum Warrain, and associated cultural stigma.

METHOD

The student project managers reviewed the "Willum Warrain Marketing Guideline" and identified practical social marketing strategies that could be further developed and implemented at Willum Warrain. The project managers liaised with the project sponsor, formed professional relationships with stakeholder agencies, and completed additional research to inform the development of these deliverables. However, as a result of COVID-19 and the associated restrictions, the project managers were required to make changes to the initial deliverables which resulted with the creation of the final four deliverables: promotional handout materials, Instagram guide, Open Day guide, and Website guide.

RESULTS

While deliverables were unable to be fully executed as intended, Willum Warrain now has the resources to implement these developed strategies once Victoria's social and economic situation improves. Results will be seen once COVID-19 restrictions ease, allowing for free movement within the community and therefore allowing the target population to engage in Willum Warrain's services.

CONCLUSION

The project managers highly recommend the implementation of these deliverables to assist in bridging the gap between Willum Warrain and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population in Rosebud and Rye.



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Title: Environmental improvement project

Presenters: Harry Begg, Lily Traeger-Haig

INTRODUCTION

Bunjilwarra is a Koori Youth Drug and Alcohol Healing Centre, located in Hastings, Victoria. Throughout the resident's healing journey, health is viewed holistically, where the program incorporates a blend of cultural and western approaches.

OBJECTIVE

The occupational justice vision of the project was:

"To empower residents to further engage in purposeful therapeutic activities to help alleviate emotional distress and disruptive behaviour."

The aim of the project was to achieve this vision by transforming the cultural room into a multipurpose space, to increase opportunities for occupationally meaningful and therapeutic activities.

METHOD

The project's deliverables were informed by an ideas poster, a best practice review and an options weighting criterion, which was completed in collaboration with the project sponsor and cultural lead at Bunjilwarra. The project involved 4 deliverables:

1. Bring in objects that are suited and will enhance the cultural room.
2. Create a list of additional objects/resources, with possible places they could be sourced from.
3. Source and apply for grants and funding opportunities for cultural room and walk/run track.
4. Create session plans for activities that can be delivered in the cultural room by residents and staff members.

The Most Significant Change (MSC) method was used to guide the evaluation of the project.

RESULTS

The MSC evaluations highlighted that the project has, both indirectly and directly, promoted beneficial outcomes for the community at Bunjilwarra. These fall predominantly under two main categories:

- Increase in overall utilisation of the cultural room;
- Increase curiosity and interest.

CONCLUSION

Valuable progress was made towards increasing the utilisation and engagement within the cultural room. Following the changes made, the space currently promotes more opportunities for individual and group-based activities to take place, within a safe environment. Hence, these outcomes highlight the progress made towards achieving the project's occupational justice vision.