NDRI invites you to

Aboriginal children and mothers in the justice system

Free public seminars with
Ms Jocelyn Jones and Dr Mandy Wilson
National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University

Wednesday, 30 July 2014 @ 1.00-2.30pm
National Drug Research Institute Seminar Room
Curtin University Health Research Campus,
Level 2, 10 Selby Street, Shenton Park, WA

1.00pm: Exploring the pathways to contact with juvenile justice: developing a profile of the risk and protective factors to support a strategy for change

The over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people in detention remains high. This project is a WA population-level study that uses linked data from a range of discreet government administrative databases. This seminar will outline: i) associations between, birth and maternal characteristics, gender differences, child protection, parental incarceration and contact with Juvenile Justice among a cohort of children born in WA, and ii) protective factors that prevent a child from coming into contact with the justice system.

1.45pm: “It turns me into an animal. So I’m not the same”: the experiences and concerns of Aboriginal mothers in prison

The NHMRC funded project, the Social and Cultural Resilience and Emotional Wellbeing of Aboriginal Mothers in Prison, explores the experiences of Aboriginal women incarcerated in WA and NSW. This seminar will focus on WA data collected through in-depth interviews with 84 Aboriginal mothers in prison across the state. The seminar will privilege the women’s stories and describe the impact incarceration has had on their lives and those close to them. Other key findings to be presented include the role of AOD use in women’s offending behaviours and the impact of substance use on their families and children, and women’s experiences as victims and/or perpetrators of violence.

With a background in Nursing and a Masters in Applied Epidemiology, Jocelyn Jones has extensive experience working in the health sector in both Aboriginal community controlled health services and in a senior management positions with the WA Department of Health. She has also worked with Aboriginal people and in Aboriginal communities in various research projects; has been a senior research officer at the Office of the Inspector of Custodial Services and was responsible for conducting assessments of Aboriginal prisoner health services, focus groups with prisoners and staff and prisoner questionnaires. Ms Jones has contributed on various national committees, including the NHMRC Indigenous research panel, and is a PhD candidate at the Telethon Institute of Child Health Research.

Dr Mandy Wilson is a Research Fellow in the Indigenous Research team at NDRI. An anthropologist, she taught the anthropology of gender and sexuality at the University of Western Australia before taking her full-time research position. She works on a variety of projects that reflect her interests in Indigenous health, including current projects exploring justice and substance use issues with a particular focus on young people and women.

RSVP to (08) 9266 1600 or ndri@curtin.edu.au by Tuesday 29 July, 2014. Please state if you are only attending one of the two seminars.