

NDRI invites you to

Working together makes us stronger

*Understanding the conditions for deepening relationships
and engagement between mental health and drug and
alcohol service providers and Nyoongar peoples*

Free public seminar with
Dr Michael Wright
National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University, and
Margaret O'Connell
Telethon Institute for Child Health Research, UWA

Thursday, 8 May 2014 @ noon

National Drug Research Institute Seminar Room
Curtin University Health Research Campus,
Level 2, 10 Selby Street, Shenton Park, WA

This seminar presents key findings, and the research process undertaken, for the Looking Forward Aboriginal Mental Health Project. The project is working with mental health and drug and alcohol service providers and the local Nyoongar community living in the south-east metropolitan region of Perth (Armadale to Bentley) to effect positive system change in service provision for Nyoongar families living with mental health issues. Thirteen organisations from the mental health and drug and alcohol service sectors have made a commitment to work constructively with a group of 15 Nyoongar Elders for the next three years. They have committed to change work practices to markedly improve service provision for Nyoongar families living with mental health and drug and alcohol issues in the area. This is a positive story of engagement and new ways of working.

Dr Michael Wright is a Yuat Nyoongar man. His family is from the Moora and New Norcia area. He has worked as a hospital social worker and mental health manager. In 2010, Michael graduated with a PhD that investigated issues of access to services for Aboriginal families whose lives are affected by mental illness. The Looking Forward Project expands on the work completed for his PhD.

Margaret O'Connell is of Anglo-Australian descent and was born in Perth and raised in the southwest of WA. She is an educational designer and action researcher who has worked in the tertiary and further education sectors for over a decade. She has a Master of Education and has experience in project management, strategic development, and training and professional development, particularly in online teaching and learning. Margaret is a Senior Research Officer working on the Looking Forward Project.

RSVP to (08) 9266 1600 or ndri@curtin.edu.au by Tuesday 6 May, 2014