

A stylized, light-colored illustration of a plant with several leaves and a cluster of small, round buds or flowers, positioned on the left side of the slide against a dark brown background.

# BMDAMH + SWD HOSPITALS RECONCILIATION COMMITTEE

Closing the Gap on Aboriginal  
Health in the Upper Blue  
Mountains



# The Beginning;

- Early 2012.....
- Hospital staff identified that there was an underrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders within the hospital patient numbers
- Approached by the local Aboriginal community with the aim of forming a reconciliation committee within the hospital- they had identified a lack of knowledge and understanding of services within the hospital
- Hospital wanted to do something for Reconciliation Week on both sites – multicultural health also wanted to undertake some promotion



# Building the committee...

- Committee would be co- chaired by representatives from the community -Sue Tate and Kerrin O'Grady
- Meet six times a year
- Hospital Executive Rep would attend every meeting + provide secretarial support

## Membership would consist of

- Local Aboriginal community
- Interested hospital employees + Education rep
- Volunteers



# The Aim...

- To increase the awareness of the services and to increase the utilisation of those services by the Aboriginal and TS Islander communities
- to make the hospital as welcoming as possible to the Aboriginal and TS Islander community to increase their engagement with services
- Ultimate Aim - to “Close the Gap” in health outcomes today.



# The Committee leading group





# The Wonderful Dental Clinic

- 2010-2011= 79 clients
- 2011-2012= 122 + 43 clients
- 2012-2013 =188 + 66 clients
  
- Unable to attend 100 - 2012-2013
- Failed to attend 73 - 2012-2013
  
- Upper mountains FTA has decreased post reconciliation involvement. However, Penrith area remains an issue for the service.



# RECONCILIATION WEEK – June + Aug 2012





# NADOC WEEK – OCT 2012

- Welcome to country, story circle and afternoon tea was held. Community health included on SWD NADOC celebrations
- Invitations offered to hospital staff for the local NADOC Ball -1 x Hospital staff attending 2012
- 3 x Hospital staff attending 2013





# ANZAC DAY DISPLAY 2013+ READING OF NAMES



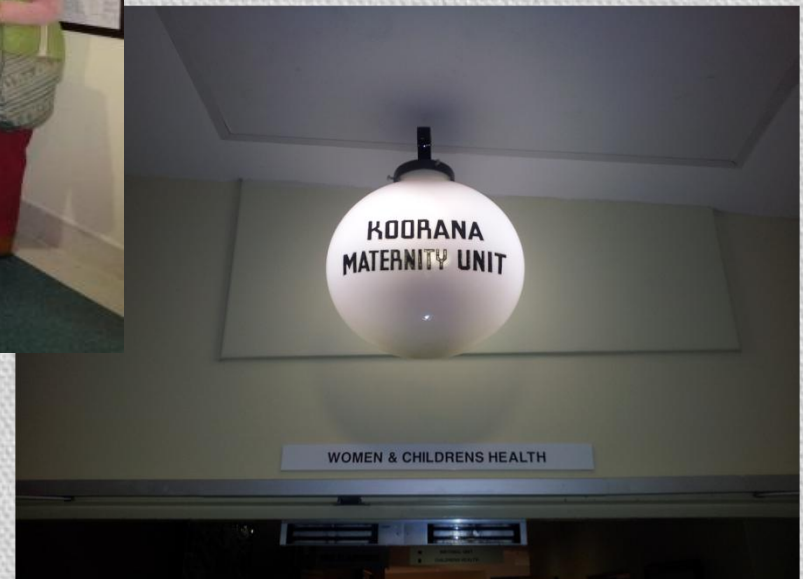


# Health & Wellbeing Connections Community & Health Forum May 2013– the dancers





# Renaming of Women's & Children's Services - 'KOORANA'- bring forth the young





# “Moving On” Group 2013- 4 participants missing





# Continuing to move forward....

- Maintaining the committee as people change positions within the organisation and the community
- Keeping the energy flowing during high work levels and community issues
- Sustaining what we have already achieved
- Looking to the future and what we need to work on – Reconciliation Garden, future forums, child playground, linking to aged care services, further enhancing dental services
- What new needs are being identified – are we seeing them?