INDIGENOUS PEOPLES’ FORUM PROGRAM

National Convention Centre, Canberra – Tuesday, 2 September 2003

MAKING PROGRESS HAPPEN: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

The theme of NAIDOC Week 2003 was “our children, our future”. Today, in a different setting it is a time to weigh up the past: what have we have learnt about indigenous mental health and emotional well being over the past 10 years and what have we have done about it? It is also a time for us to examine the pathways ahead. Speakers from Australia and New Zealand will examine what we have learnt, what we can take forward into the next 5 years, and how we can do this together for the future mental health of indigenous people.

The forum will hear from a number of speakers, followed by time for audience participation and discussion during the final session.

Program

1:30pm Opening ceremony & welcome to country
1:45pm Presentations
3.00pm Afternoon tea
3.30pm Presentations continue
4.30pm Discussion of issues arising from presentations
5.30pm Close

Convenor            Tracey Whetnall, an Eora woman from Dharrawal nation.
Welcome to Country  Eric Bell, Ngunnawal Elder, will welcome delegates

Speakers

Maurice Walker, Project Officer, Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, “The Bringing Them Home Program funded by OATSIH”

Ray Minnicon, representative of stolen generation, “The Kinchilla Home Return”

Paul Brandy, Drug and Alcohol Assessment Team ACT, “Mental Health and Comorbidity”

Arawhetu Peretini, Manager, Maori Mental Health, Ministry of Health NZ.