

Project Brief

Data management in Aboriginal HACC-funded agencies

Aim

To improve the capacity of Aboriginal HACC-funded agencies in Victoria to collect good quality data for the HACC Minimum Data Set and to fulfil other HACC reporting requirements.

Background

The HACC Program in Victoria funds some 22 Aboriginal agencies to deliver HACC services. During the last 12 months, the average participation rate of these agencies in the HACC Minimum Data Set (MDS) and the HACC Quarterly Output Collection has not been satisfactory. A likely reason is that the client information management systems used by these agencies have not been satisfactorily integrated with the agencies' business processes. There may also be a lack of staff expertise regarding PC-assisted information management in small community agencies.

The HACC MDS is a national client-level data collection. All HACC-funded agencies are expected to participate by maintaining client records that are periodically updated with the type and quantities of HACC services used. Each funded agency transmits an electronic file of de-identified client records every 3 months to a data repository held by the Department.

Suggested method

The essence of the project is working closely with the relevant agencies and with the HACC Data Collection team in DHS. Deliverables include the implementation of a strategy to enable all HACC-funded Aboriginal agencies in Victoria to meet HACC reporting requirements including MDS reporting. A successful strategy will favour self-reliance in the medium term, with backup support through the HACC data help desk. A report on the current state of MDS data on Aboriginal HACC clients will be part of the project. The project may lend itself to the involvement of traineeships. The project may take around nine months. A more detailed project brief is available from DHS. Contact Justin McDermott on 9616 8424 or email Justin.McDermott@dhs.vic.gov.au.