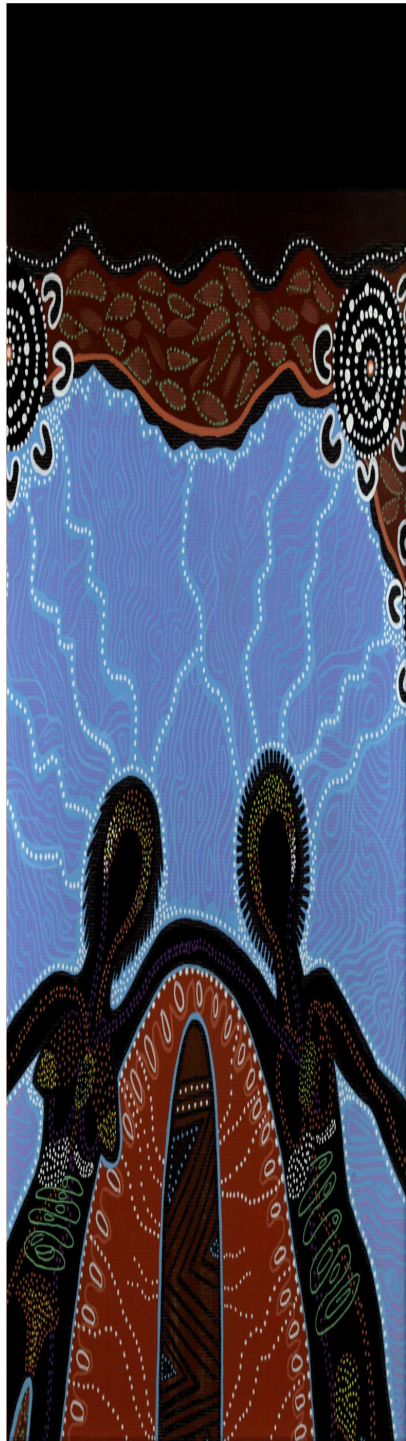


Building Partnerships for Prevention

VACCHO and Anex



Yiaga ba wadamba

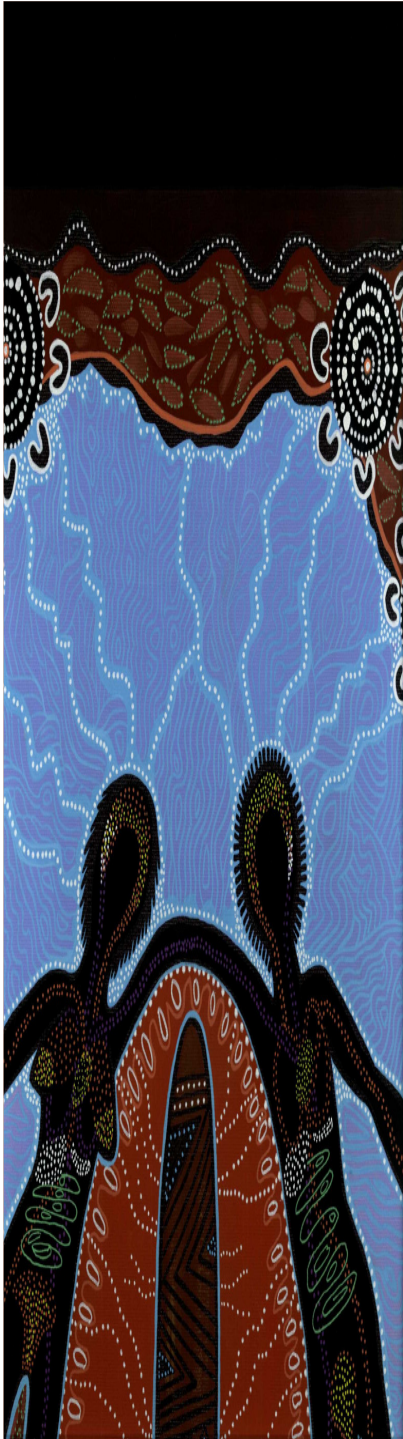
The Find and Renew Projects

1. *Action Research - Addressing HIV risks related to injecting drug use in Victorian Aboriginal Communities (DHS funded)*
2. *Partnerships for Better Outcomes for Aboriginal Injecting Drug Users (DoHA-RHSET grant)*



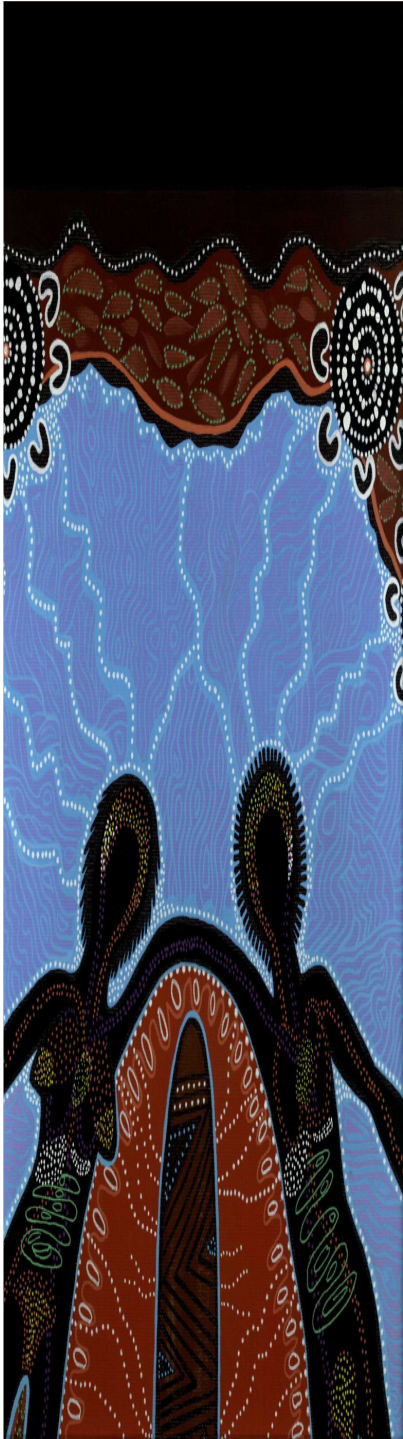
Aim of the Partnership

- The overarching aim of the collaborative work is to improve the health of Aboriginal Victorians, particularly those who inject drugs
- Focus is on Blood Borne Viruses (BBVs)/ Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) including Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).



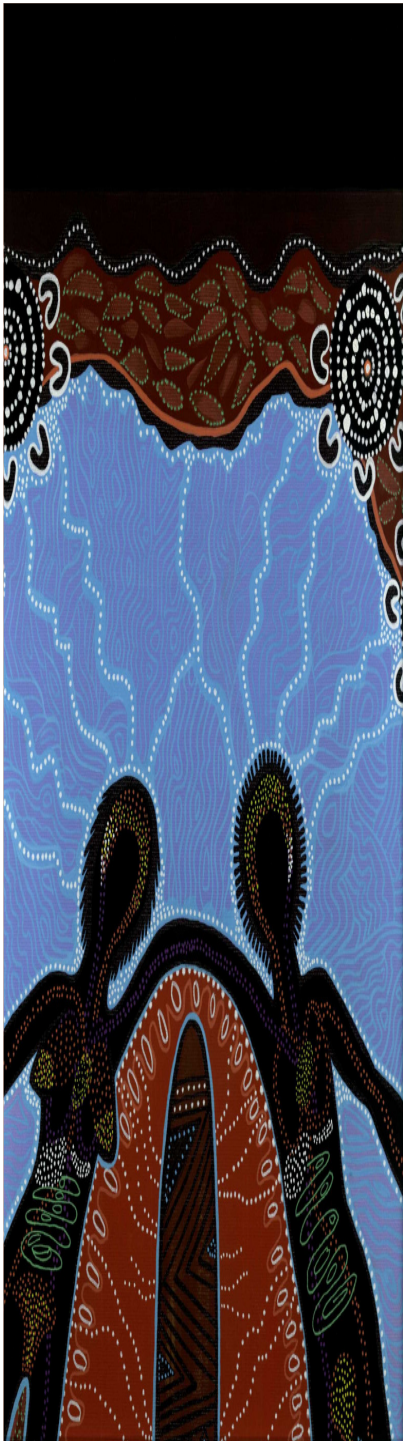
Aim of Projects

- Identify HIV incidence, prevalence and associated transmission risk in Aboriginal Injecting Drug Users (IDUs)
- Develop strategies to effectively address these barriers and improve access to harm reduction strategies and sexual health services, including reducing the stigma associated with injecting drug use, BBVs and STIs
- Build partnerships in regional areas between mainstream services and ACCHOs to enable collaboration
- Provide workforce development opportunities to enable better service delivery through collaboration
- Establish networks



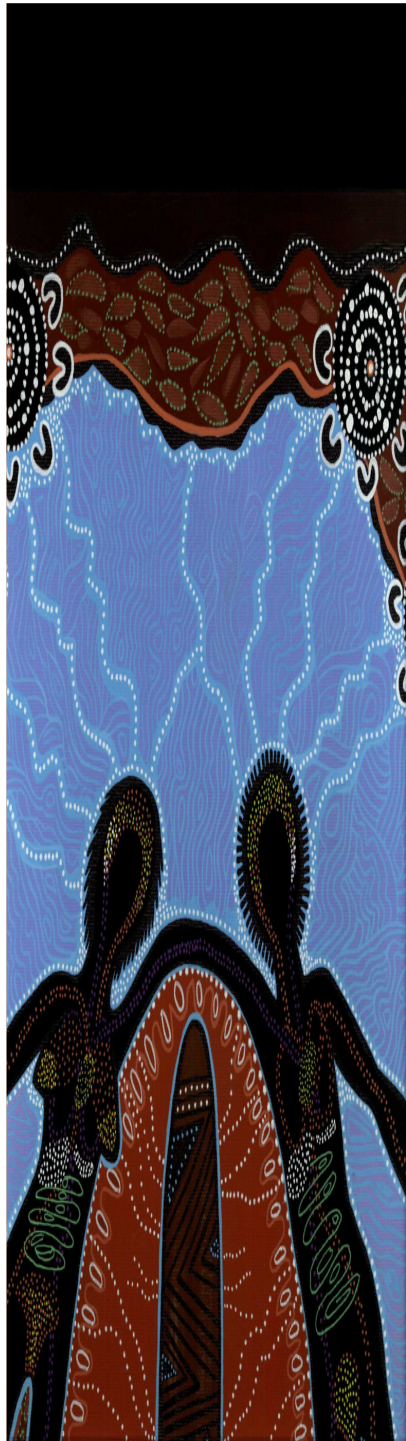
HIV and Aboriginal Communities

- In 2006 the rate of Hepatitis C was
 - 163 per 100,000 for Indigenous people
 - 52 per 100,00 for Non-Indigenous people (Age Standardised)
- In 2006 the rate of HIV diagnosis for both groups was around the 5 per 100000



HIV exposure 2002-2006

	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous
Male Homosexual	37%	65%
Women	30%	11%
IDU	18%	3%



The Canadian Experience

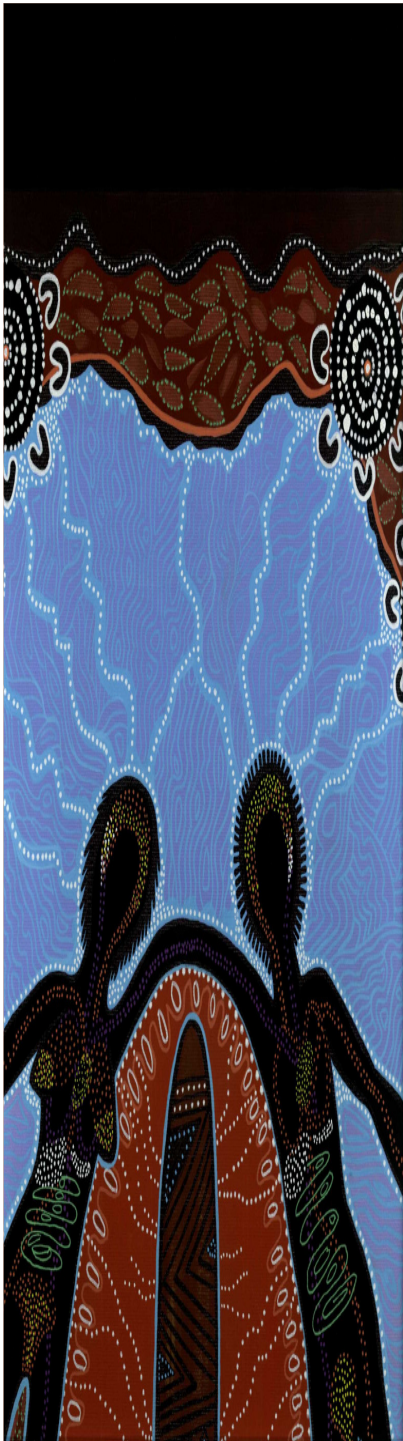
- In Canada the Indigenous population is 970,000 or 3% of total population.
- Australia it is 490,000; or 2.4% of total population.

Canada

- In 1993, 3% of total number of HIV notifications were for Indigenous people (3600-5100 notifications).
- In 2005, 21% of the HIV notifications were for Indigenous people (60% Women 59% IDU)

Australia

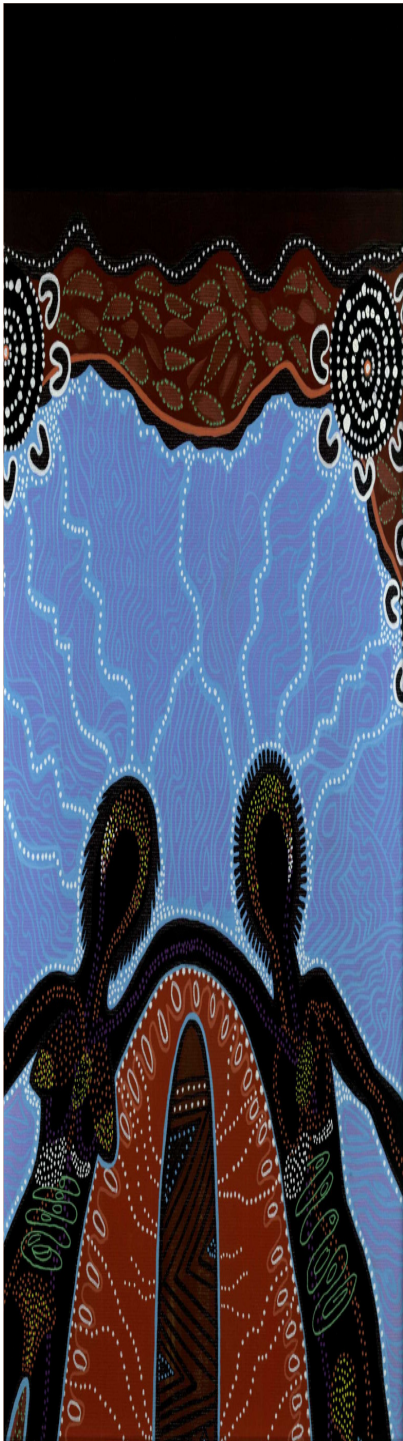
- In Australia 6% of HIV notifications (300) were for Indigenous people.



Project Findings So Far:

ACCHOs

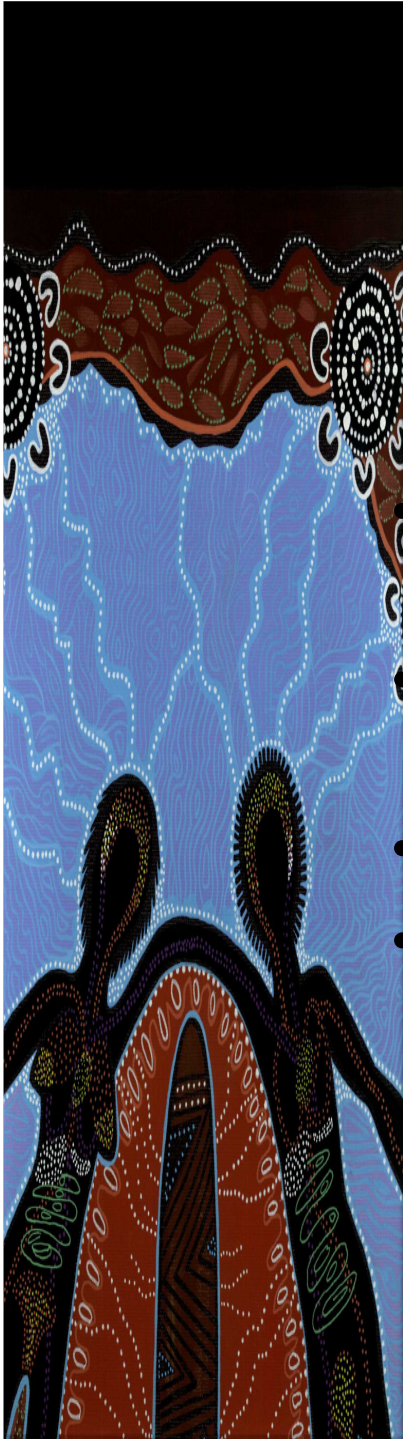
- Yarndi and alcohol most commonly used drugs
- Clients not accessing services for drug use issues
- Some ACCHOs have expressed an interest in providing NSP services
- Holistic approach to Aboriginal health
- High staff turnover affects continuity of service provision



Project Findings So Far:

Aboriginal injecting drug users

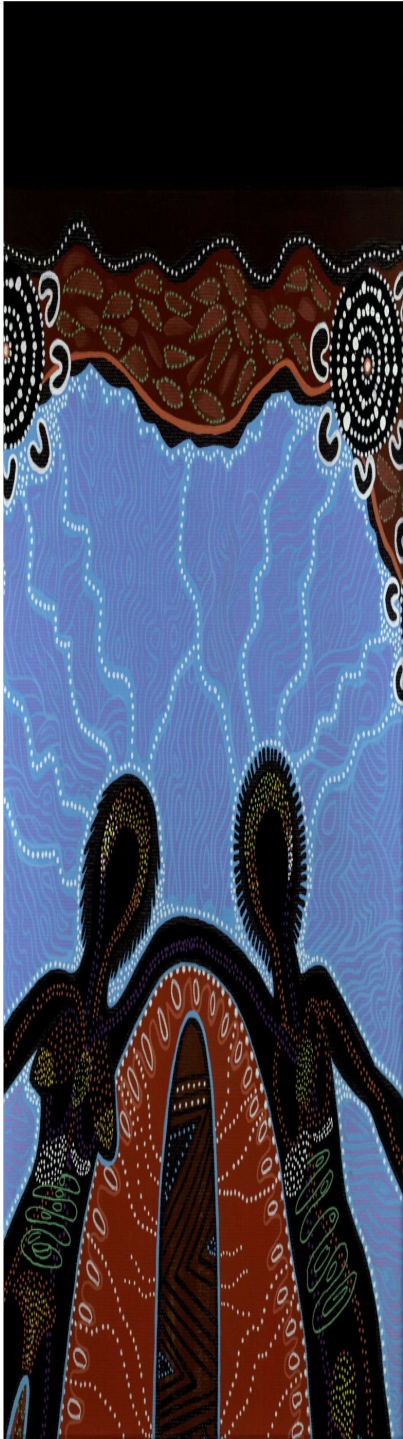
- Difficult to find and recruit clients for project initially – now good network of contacts
- Have now spoken to 38 clients – 40% of whom have been incarcerated
- Risk perception and interpretation of that risk
- Best fit for message uptake



Project Findings So Far:

Mainstream Health Services

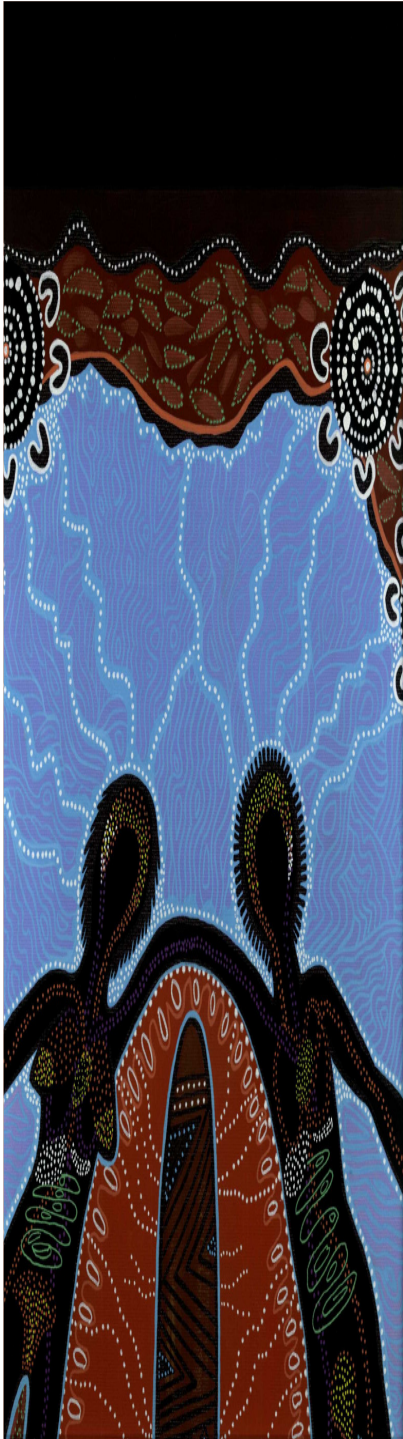
- Networking/collaboration varies from region to region
- 'We welcome everyone' philosophy
- Willing to work with ACCHOs but not sure how
- High staff turnover affects continuity of service provision
- Need for cultural awareness training
- Outreach



The Future

Models that Work

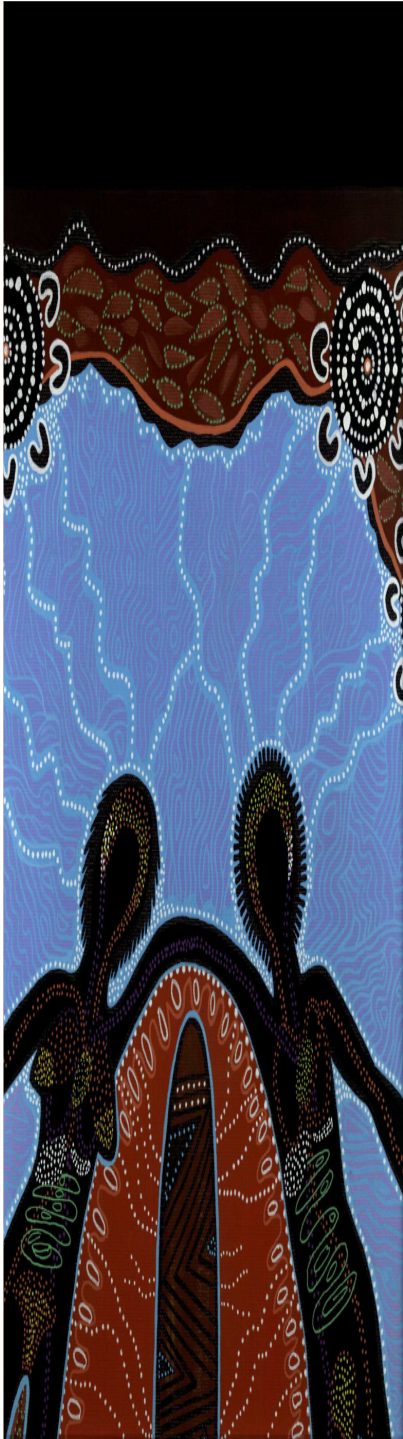
- Long term project
- General Alcohol and other Drugs Training for both sectors
- Blood-borne virus (BBV) training
- Cultural training
- Local collaboration



The Future

Networks/Collaboration

- Formal vs informal networks
- Local champions
- Continued support from VACCHO and Anex



[HTTP://WWW.FINDANDRENEW.ORG.AU](http://www.findandrenuew.org.au)

Thank you

Questions

