Caring Communities Program - Project Overview

Organisation: Frontier Services
Name of Project: Territory Care – Central Australia
Length of Project: 2 years

Project Summary:
Territory Care is an action research project targeting Residential Care facilities and identified indigenous communities of the Central Region in the Northern Territory.

The focus of the "Territory Care" project is to identify, empower, train and support both professional and non-professional workers involved in the care and support of palliative care patients. This project has the bi-polar focus of appropriately identifying and supporting three (3) indigenous communities based in the Central Australia catchment region to be consulted with regarding family wishes for "looking after" a terminally ill family member. This will encompass the negotiation of the best and most appropriate palliative care training option/s to support the family and the palliative care patient in the community and/or in the residential care facility.

Project Objectives:
1. The outcome of "Territory Care" will be the ongoing linkages established within the residential care facilities and the targeted indigenous communities that enable this project t continue once funding has ceased. The objective is to achieve this sustainability through the establishment of best practice.

Project Activities:
1. The "Territory Care" project comprises of two (2) phases:
   - *Phase 1:* Focus on the consultation with and the identification and empowerment of participants within residential aged care facilities (i.e. nurses, allied health professionals, palliative care team members, care workers) and the three (3) targeted indigenous communities (i.e. family, aboriginal health workers, the clinic). A benchmark will be established relative to the existing knowledge base of participants.
   - *Phase 2:* Once this benchmark has been established the project will focus on *Phase 2* which will blend research outcomes with and hopefully parallel the Australian Palliative Aged Care (APAC) Project guidelines and training competencies in the Central Region.

2. A project officer has only recently commenced the start-up of the project with the immediate objective of finalising the project plan and key performance indicators (KPI's) for *Phases 1 & 2* of the project. Upon completion of this objective, coordination will commence to augment a focus group for the term of the project.

3. The activities of "Territory Care" will essentially gravitate around training and benchmarking with the appropriate focus group to ensure the correct direction of the project and the measuring of negotiated KPI's against stated project objectives and strategies. Consultation and empowerment will form a large component of this project.