Caring Communities Program - Project Overview

Organisation: Nindilingari Cultural Health
Name of Project: Palliative Care
Length of Project: 2 years

Project Summary

a) Steering committee = The Partnership Forum of Nindilingari Cultural Health Services and Fitzroy Valley Health Services.

b) Coordinator = Registered Nurse with Aged Care, Indigenous Health and education experience.

c) Working Party = Advisors to Coordinator. Four representatives of local language groups who also work in Health field e.g. Nurses and/interpreters and hospital Nurse with Palliative Care experience.

d) Introduce the work "Palliative" into the community. What it is, what it means, who does it, why it's done and choices available for informed decision making by the client and family.

Project Objectives

1. Refurbish hospital room.
2. Identify multidisciplinary team (is also the Working Party).
3. Develop strategy for special needs of Indigenous people.
4. Identify and organise cross cultural training.
5. Establish a palliative care service.
6. Ensure traditions are respected – from family request.
7. Link Indigenous communities and Health Services about choice.
8. Provide education and training.

Project Activities

1. Form multidisciplinary team as the palliative care providers and advisors to Coordinator.

2. Utilise community radio, notice boards, pamphlet and a competition in schools for logo.

3. Individual questionnaires for working party to address objectives.

4. Liaise with hospital re: setting up of palliative care site – staff and equipment.

5. Coordinator visits the 35 communities in the Fitzroy Valley – introduction, education, set up local contacts.