

Media Release – Information sharing inspires healing

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Edith Cowan University's Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet, in partnership with The Healing Foundation, is developing a healing portal on the HealthInfoNet website. The healing portal will engage users from a broad range of areas including health, justice, child protection and family violence and will include a free on-line yarning place to encourage a rich exchange of knowledge and information.

At the heart of the portal and yarning place is the connection with culture, knowledge systems and information sharing.

The Healing Foundation CEO Richard Weston said "The portal is an opportunity to access information about what is working when it comes to healing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Sharing best practice examples of healing initiatives and creating an online environment for the exchange of ideas will promote positive changes for our communities."

HealthInfoNet Director Professor Neil Drew said "We look forward to working on this important project and supporting the efforts of the Healing Foundation. The healing portal and yarning place will bring together a wealth of information including cultural ways of healing, trauma, Stolen Generations and healing for children, young people, men and women".

The Healing Foundation is a national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisation with a focus on community led healing solutions. Building culturally strong, community designed and delivered pathways to healing the Healing Foundation:

- funds and supports healing programs targeted at communities, families and individuals
- builds the evidence and knowledge base for best practice in Indigenous healing
- builds leadership and the capacity of communities and workers to respond to trauma through education and training

The Healing portal will be established in early to mid-2015.

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About the HealthInfoNet: The Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet is a massive Internet resource that informs practice and policy in Indigenous health by making research and other knowledge readily accessible. In this way, the HealthInfoNet contributes to 'closing the gap' in health between Indigenous and other Australians. Working in the area of translational research with a population health focus, in which it is a world leader, the HealthInfoNet makes research and other information available in a form that has immediate, practical utility for practitioners and policy-makers in the area of Indigenous health, enabling them to make decisions based on the best available evidence.