

Who's Looking at You"

Presenters: Joshua Tuiono and Vel Radford, Gippsland & East Gippsland Aboriginal Co-Operative

Background: GEGAC is an Aboriginal Community controlled organization with a medical clinic that provides services to 2144 people

This population includes 84 people with diabetes, many of whom have complex comorbidities. We were aware of community needs and gaps in service provision, so the opportunity provided by The Australian College of Optometry and the Indigenous Eye Health Unit of Melbourne University was important to our community and resulted in a great experience for community and staff.

So how did it happen??

1. Engagement with community / GEGAC staff / management and external stakeholders. Identifying target groups / what GEGAC can offer and why we were doing it, proved to be the key to achieving positive outcomes.
2. Conversations with and gaining support from external sponsors and stakeholders.
3. The results on the day, suggested very good community engagement and interaction with between community members, GEGAC staff and staff from The Australian College of Optometry and the Indigenous Eye Health Unit Melbourne University. This was confirmed by a post event survey. GEGAC staff also benefited from the instruction and guidance provided.
4. Currently there is two staff members actively involved in using the Retinal camera with more keen to up skill.
5. Future Plans and Challenges: maintain the momentum within GEGAC and the Community, provide opportunistic and planned Retinal screening for both GEGAC clients and the Aboriginal community who attend partner Services.

Working with External stakeholders including the East Gippsland Primary Care Partnership and Primary Health Network to:

- Develop service provision
- Ongoing staff education
- Develop usable data to support ongoing service provision.