More organisations get Tobacco Workers

The Federal Minister has announced that North West, Torres and NPA, Cape York, South West and SEQ will get new teams of Tobacco and Healthy Lifestyle workers. The new teams are joining those already up and running in Qld including Wuchopperen (Cairns), Nhulundu (Gladstone), Institute for Indigenous Urban Health (Brisbane) and GP Links Wide Bay.

SmokeCheck Program—more announcements...

The SmokeCheck Team has been very busy in the later part of this year. We delivered SmokeCheck training at nine (9) sites across the state, from the Torres Strait, Cairns, Central Queensland and Southern Queensland. The total number of participants trained was 74. We would like to take this opportunity to THANK everyone who has helped/organised/assisted/coordinated in the process of SmokeCheck training. We look forward to working with you and new workers all in the New Year.

It is with much sadness that we say goodbye to Pele, Peter & Richard we wish them all the very best in their new endeavours and thank them for invaluable contributions over the years—they will be greatly missed.

Stephanie, Stoddy, Richard, Frank & Natasha

For Me & Bub Project

Hasn’t the year flown by so quickly! We are still busy putting together our training program, developing resources and winning the Oceania Tobacco Control Conference’s Poster Presentation. Yes, we are proud to say our programs poster came in 1st place from a number of posters representing tobacco cessation programs from across the Pacific. We have a quick peek to show you, with the artwork from this poster to be shown on a number of resources we are developing. Check it out….. we hope you like it.

Take care—Kim and Rayna

Stronger 2H and QAIHC partnership to tackle smoking

A new contract has recently been signed-off between Qld Health and the Qld Aboriginal and Islander Health Council. QH is providing funding to QAIHC for a new team of three health promotion positions to help coordinate and support on-the-ground tackle smoking activity in Queensland.
Smoke-free Support Program
With one round of funding finalised and another closing on 28 November our grants program gets stronger every year. With 60 activities funded state-wide already this year, and more to come, it is evident that organisations are still keen to use the funding to help them promote smoke-free messages and lifestyles in their communities. Our partnership with some communities goes from strength to strength and it is great to get feedback like this:

“amazing assistance is provided to our largely unfunded organisation through your SSP funding, without which many community programs would never get off the ground. So exciting to see people really engaged with their culture and I can truly say that they are so busy they don’t even look for a cigarette”

Once again, keep up the good work. Promoting smoke-free at a local level doesn’t happen without everyone out there making it their business!!!
Niamh and Leah

Very inspirational & positive feedback!
To The SmokeCheck Team,
I went to a workshop in Mackay a long time ago & Pele did the talking. Why I am writing to you its now 13 months since I have had a smoke. Thank you for all your follow up letters. I went to Mackay with a group from Miller House Sarina. Thanks to everyone.
Your NON SMOKER, ANN LARGE (Georgie).
Ps: I smoked for 54 years. I am only 63 now. Went cold turkey.

Quitline Enhancement Project
Yaamagara (hello) everyone.
I am happy to announce that Katrina Rae has joined our project team and it’s great to have Kat on board!! This year we have:
- recruited five Indigenous telecounsellors to the Quitline service
- rolled out cultural competence training for Quitline staff
- commenced a cultural checklist (cultural audit) of the Quitline service
- developed culturally appropriate designs for posters, fact sheets and newsletter resources for use by Quitline staff in promotion of the service.

Next year we will continue to establish formal networks and pathways between Quitline staff and Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Health Workers in the Community Controlled Health service area.

We look forward to ‘yarning up’ with you all in the new year. Until then take care and have a safe & Happy Xmas and New Year.
Fred, Katrina, Quitline, & QEP Steering Group.

Quiltline 13 QUIT
Cultural competence training—Quitline staff

SmokeCheck Training Schedule 2012
Please contact us in the New Year to find out about the latest workshops and training! These are just preliminary.

SmokeCheck 1 Day Workshop Herston to be confirmed 1 March 2012
On the 14 August I left Australia for my lifelong dream trip to Ireland. I met my daughter in London, spent two days sightseeing there and we both flew to Dublin for a 2 week tour of Ireland. We went with an Irish Tour company with a local tour guide. We met the most amazing people on tour—we were the only two Australians. Ireland was an absolutely beautiful place to visit, the scenery was just breathtaking and the locals were really friendly.

Ireland is having a tough time of it at the present with the economy struggling and tourism is the only thing keeping them going. We travelled all over Ireland from the north to the south and kissed the Blarney Stone at Blarney Castle. Legend has it if you kiss the stone you will have the gift of eloquence (gift of the gab). Everyone on tour told me not to bother climbing the 100 narrow winding steps to the top of the castle. The team here and anyone who knows me will tell you I already have the Gift of the Gab. It was a scary thing to do though. I didn’t get to see a leprechaun but I’ll always have my wonderful memories of Ireland.

Myra
Merry Christmas

Season's Greetings and Best Wishes for the New Year.

From the Indigenous Smoking Prevention Team, Brisbane.

“Have a safe and Merry Christmas and a wonderful and prosperous New Year!!!!”

Thank you Richard Abednego for a fantastic Christmas card!!