

From the field: QIFVP Community Presentations

Three years ago, Olsen and Lovett (2016) noted that violence within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities has attracted much attention from a variety of quarters, including the media. However, these authors (Olsen & Lovett, 2016) hastened to add that less was known about the actual experiences and perspectives of Indigenous people themselves. In reviewing the viewpoints of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the authors reached a conclusion that “Indigenous communities want to play a more significant role in shaping program and service responses” (Olsen & Lovett, 2016, p. 2).

With this in mind (as it had been in other QCDFVR Forums), a core feature of this year’s Queensland Indigenous Family Violence Prevention Forum was the celebration of the contributions made around the state by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander practitioners responding to family violence. Across the two days of the May event, various locations and approaches were showcased. Sadly, it is beyond the scope of this Re@der to explore these six presentations in any depth but in summary, attendees were able to learn more about:

1. **The Storylines Project:** the perspectives of a male support service worker based in Mackay
2. **Strong Families, Strong Community:** a collaborative whole of community approach to family violence presented by three Cunnamulla practitioners
3. **Social Justice Interagency Services:** government and non-government services working together to address family violence in the Torres Strait
4. **Murrigunyah Family and Cultural Healing Centre:** a community based sexual assault support service based in Logan and two contributions from the north west,
5. **A Collaborative Approach to Service Delivery:** a Health Justice Partnership undertaken in Mount Isa, and
6. **The work of DATSIP Mount Isa** as reflected in the role of the Domestic and Family Violence Project Officer.

Once again, the Forum organisers thank these presenters who so generously worked with QCDFVR in the planning and facilitation of these Community Sessions.

Reference

Olsen, A. & Lovett, R., (2016) *Existing knowledge, practice and responses to violence against women in Australian Indigenous communities*. Landscapes: State of knowledge, Sydney: ANROWS.