

National Rural Health
Alliance, Public Seminar,
November 2005

Indigenous Affairs in Remote Australia

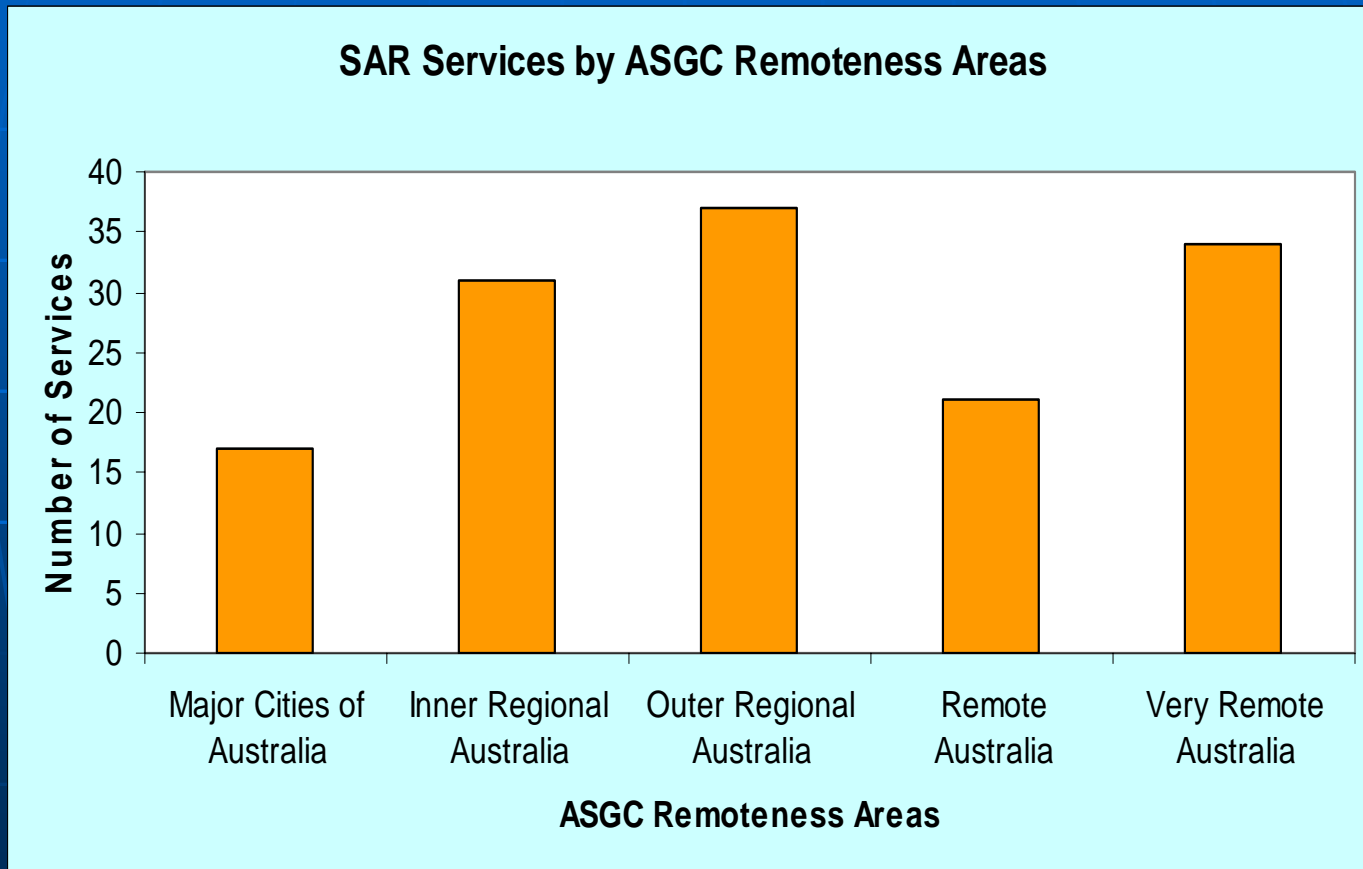
Mr Henry Councillor
Chair

National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation



Where are ACCHSs?

The vast majority are located outside major cities of Australia!



Ref: 2003-04 Service Activity Reports

A sunset over the ocean with dunes in the foreground. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the scene. The sky is filled with soft, orange and yellow clouds. The ocean is dark, and the dunes in the foreground are silhouetted against the light.

Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services Council

Model of

Regionalisation

services for remote communities

Kimberley Community Controlled Health Services in the Kimberley

- Broome Regional Aboriginal Medical Service (**BRAMS**)
- Ord Valley Aboriginal Health Service (**OVAHS**)
- **Yura Yungi** AMS
- Derby Aboriginal Health Service (**DAHS**)
- **Jurrugk** Health Service
- **Nindilingarri** Cultural Health Service
- **Beagle Bay** and **Bidyadanga** Community clinics

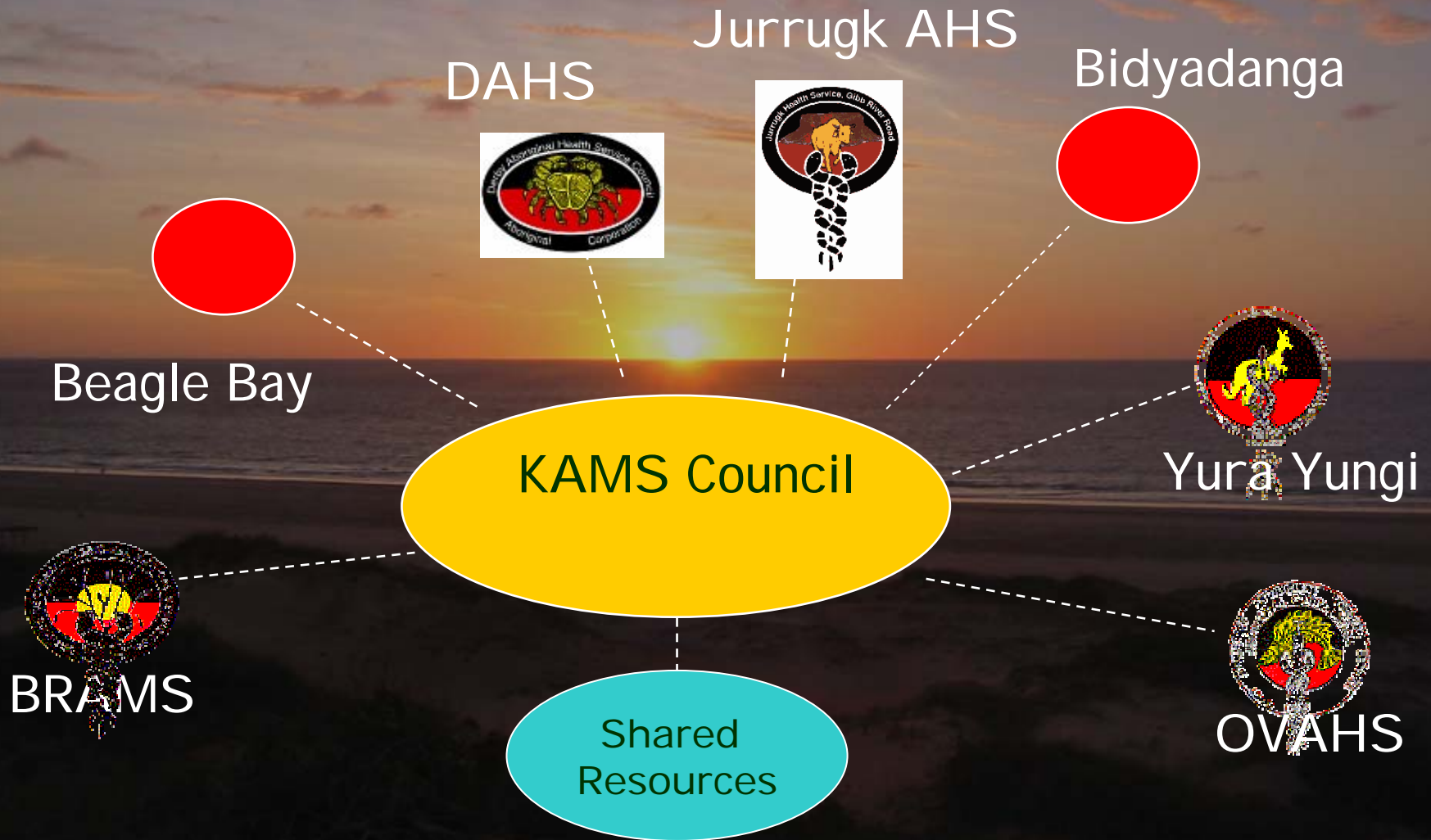


Remote community health services

- Glen Hill
- Duncan Highway communities
- Ringers Soak
- Lamboo
- Jarlmadangah Buru
- Doon Doon Station Community
- Pandanus Park Aboriginal Community
- Beagle Bay
- One Arm Point
- Lombadina
- Looma
- Balgo
- Warmun
- Bidyadanga
- Gibb River Aboriginal Communities



KAMSC Governance



Pool Resources

- Are shared among members for:
- **efficient and sustainable**
 - eg: accounting services, medical supplies, HR, OH&S, IT support.
 - Policies and procedure standardisation
 - Administration and local state and national advocacy
- **specialised** functions
 - AHW training,
 - Regional Centre SEWB,
 - Health promotion unit,
 - Population Health
 - IT infrastructure
 - Project Ferret (Patient Information Recall Systems)
 - Rural and remote Med student training.

Accounts

- Centralised accounts processing and reporting
- Payroll for 210+ staff employed by 6 organisations
- Manages >70 individual grants from >10 funding agencies across 6 organisations



1 accountant
6 book-keepers



KAMSC Council Members

Computerised systems ('Health planner' & 'Ferret') to drive comprehensive primary health care for populations

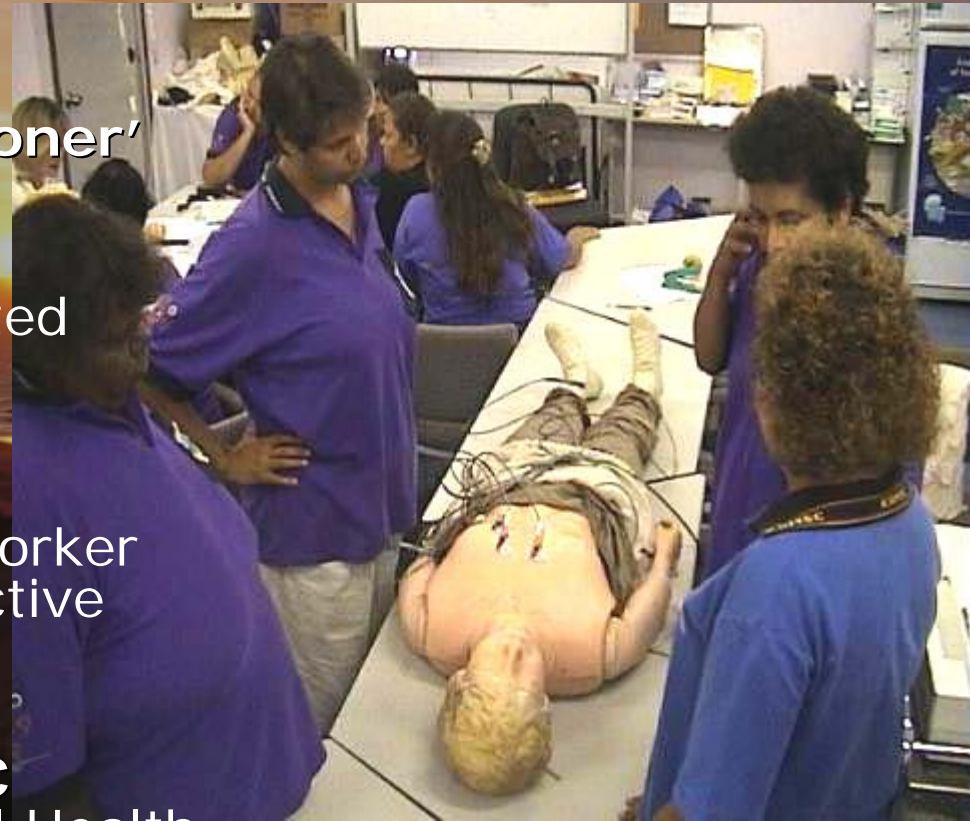
partnership in development of 'Ferret' to replace Health planner

- Developing **electronic care plans**
- **Regional support in Patient Information and Recall System**
- Delivery of **national training in PIRS**



Aboriginal Health Worker training

- **Aboriginal Health Worker** education and training since 1983
- Advocating for the '**Aboriginal Primary Health Care Practitioner**' model of AHW
- Articulated training and accredited competency-based curricula
- Key role in **state and national reviews** of Aboriginal Health Worker training from a regional perspective
- Remote regional input into the **development of draft AHMAC position** on future of Aboriginal Health Worker training and roles.



CUCRH: Academic Pharmacist

- Funding for **part-time academic pharmacists** in University Centres for Rural Health (through Pharmacy Guild)
- Negotiations with **Combined Universities Centre for Rural Health** (Geraldton) to base the position in with the KAMSC Training Centre
- Part time **retail pharmacy**, part-time **academic support**, part time **Section 100 support**

Combined Universities Centre for Rural Health



Regional Centre for SEWB

- **Training and support** of SEWB and other workers
- **Data-collection,** protocols, resources
- **Interagency** linkages



Innovation in Aboriginal health promotion

- Regional resource,
- Community need health promotion,
- Theatre 'No Prejudice'; 'Change of Heart';
- **Playback theatre-for-counselling** ('Moving stories')



Aboriginal population health

- Use of **eye-cameras** in remote areas to prevent **diabetic blindness**
 - Camera loaned from company (95)
 - AHW's trained with help of Lion's Eye Institute
 - Initiative since duplicated around the country with special purpose OATSIH funds



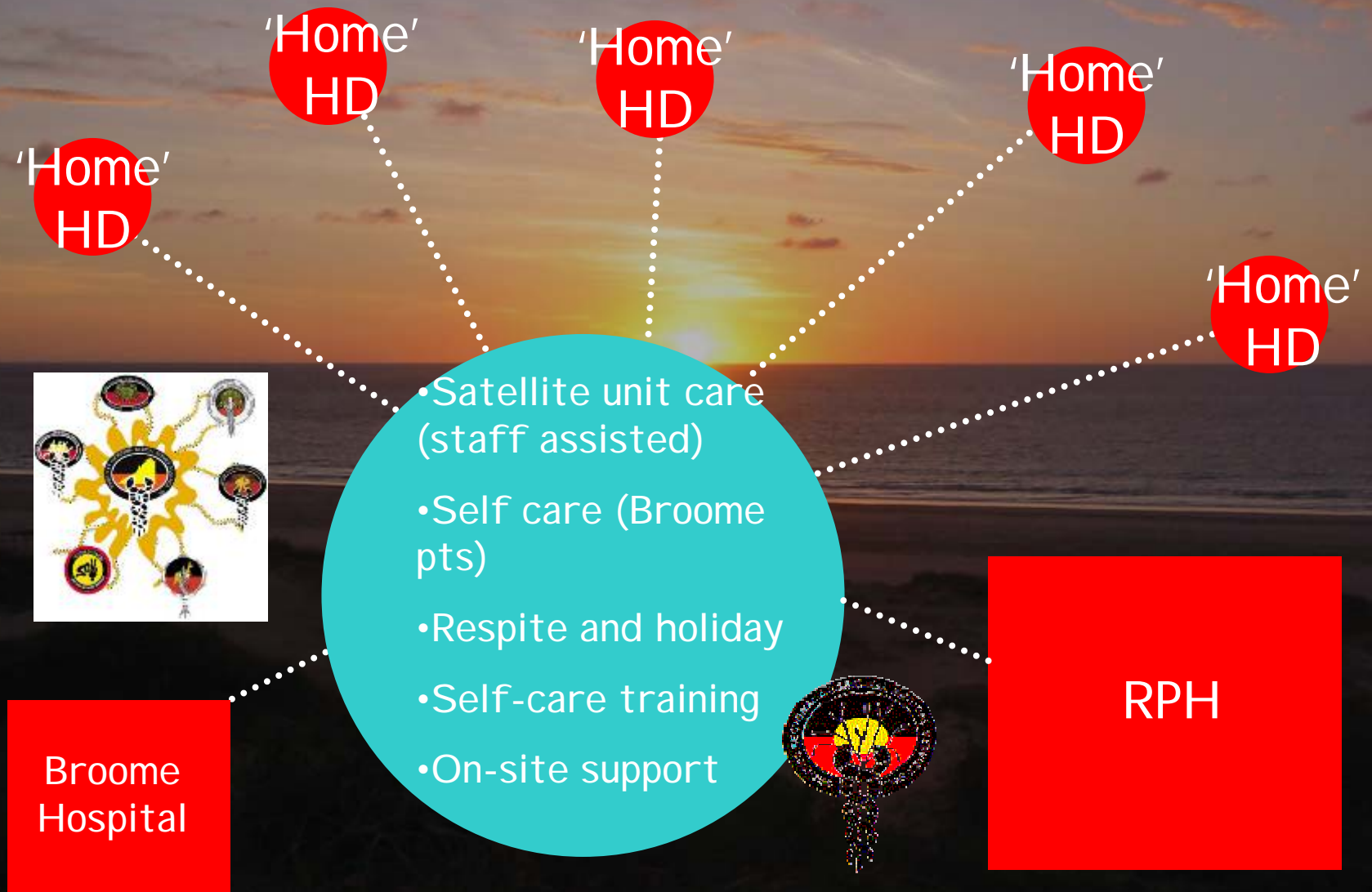
Medicines supply



- 'Section 100'
 - a way for **prescription medicines** to be **supplied free** in remote Aboriginal health services (subsidised by Commonwealth government)
 - Regional agreement in implementing in state-run clinics



Kidney dialysis - regional model



KAMSC Centre for Aboriginal Training, Education and Research



WAGPET



GP Registrar education and training



University of WA



Medical Undergraduate education and training

James Cook University



Integrated education and training program

Aboriginal Health Worker education and training



Other - public health, allied health, pharmacy

Kimberley Aboriginal Health Planning Forum

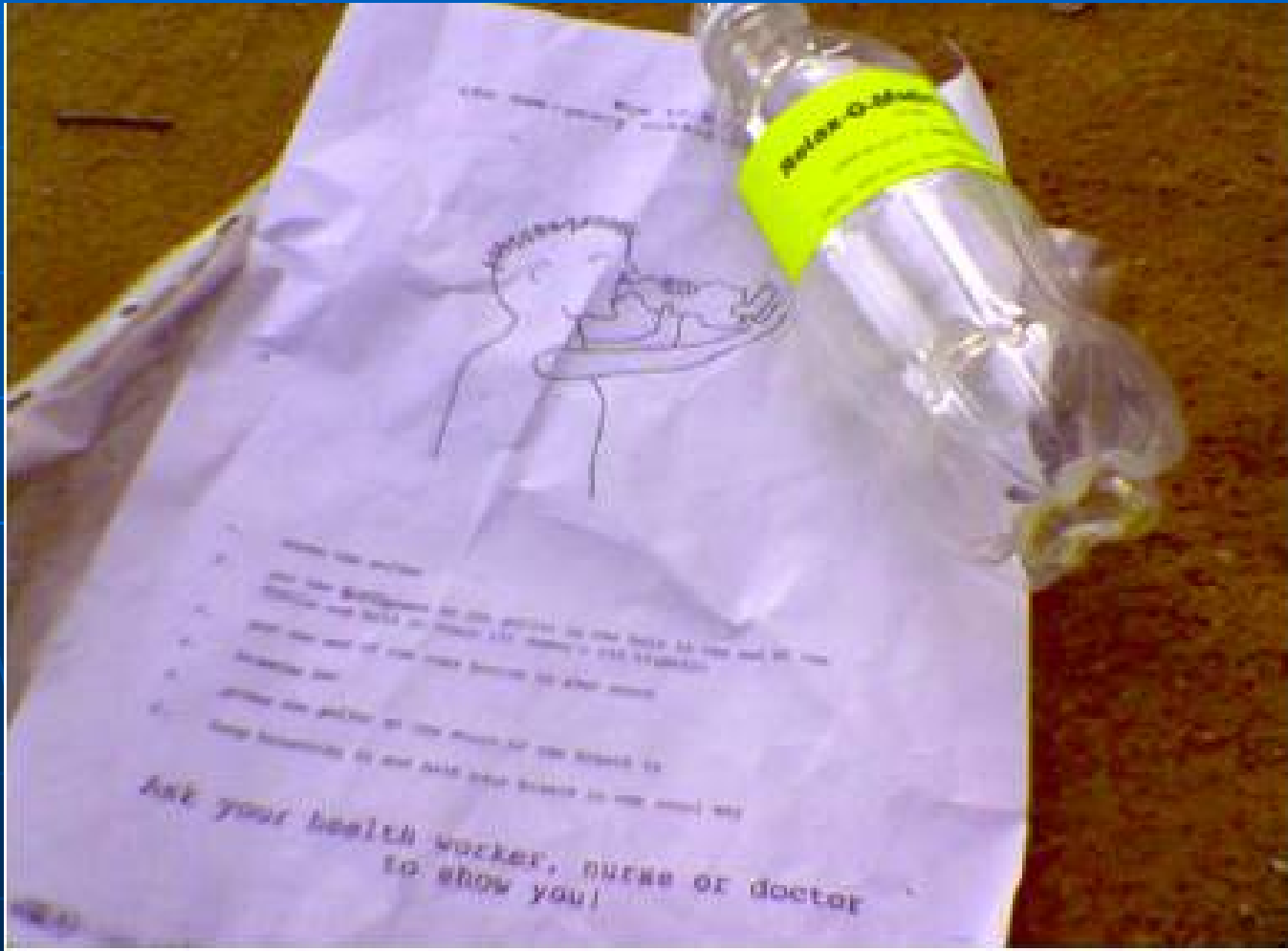
- Kimberley Aboriginal Health Plan Steering Committee - Formed in 1998

Kimberley Regional Aboriginal Health Plan signed off by all parties in late 1999

- Forums continued to meet 4-6 a year since 1999

Plastic coke bottles as spacer devices

NACCHO is looking at policy options to make spacers more accessible!



Pharmaceuticals

- Section 100 supply of medicines has been a huge success in remote areas
- Advocating for extension of S100 to rural and urban locations
- Australian Pharmaceutical Advisory Council approved in June 2004
- Special drugs list being developed for medicines not currently on the PBS, such as severe scabies and antifungals (largely relevant to remote areas)
- Asthma spacer devices? Not being accessed especially in remote areas- being made with plastic coke bottles.

Healthy Community

- A key factor to improving the health status of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is access to real culturally appropriate Aboriginal Health promotion and a highly trained workforce. This means that the workforce must be able to address the cultural and spiritual needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as well as addressing the specific health needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.