

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Partnership



Aim

1. Facilitate co-design of project materials and methods
2. Work with communities in the development of training
3. Contribute to presentations and publication of research outcomes
4. Undertake research activities.

How was this achieved?

- Created an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Liaison Research Assistant position
- Dedicated commitment to community collaborations.

The partnership resulted in inclusive, productive and engaging research for the Autism CRC School Years program, that was for the benefit of Indigenous students, families, teachers, educators and education staff.

What we achieved

Facilitated co-design project materials and methods

- Liaised with project members, community elders, leaders and members of school communities, particularly for the following Autism CRC School Years projects:
 - Secret Agent Society-Whole of Classroom
 - Structured teaching
 - Early Years behaviour support program
 - School connectedness
- Advised on cultural considerations when developing resources and constructing the Autism Teen Wellbeing website autismteenwellbeing.com.au
- Involved in the provision of creative and alternative programs to promote student equity, diversity, inclusive learning and parent and community engagement embedded in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and multicultural educational initiatives
- Established connections and collaborations with key stakeholders including:
 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander team at Positive Partnerships
 - Community organisations at Queensland University of Technology (QUT)
- Established a communicative network to discuss cultural issues and access of information relative to Indigenous engagement.

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What we achieved



Translated knowledge with the community

Worked with communities in the development of training, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Liaison Research Assistant:

- collaborated with communities, research project leaders and Autism CRC School Years Program Director to develop culturally sensitive resources
- played a lead role in the Faculty of Education, QUT Indigenous Vacation Research Experience Scheme (IndigiVRES) program
- supervised two IndigiVRES students
- received an Equity award for:
 - launching the Faculty of Education IndigiVRES in 2017
 - the successful development and management of this scheme with exceptional outcomes
 - for successfully encouraging Indigenous students to engage in research with confidence and promoting a future research pathway for the student
- supported Indigenous students to:
 - collaborate with external partners
 - develop classroom educational resource publications
 - analyse data, share findings and engage in a robust, engaging and a trustworthy partnership between schools and the research team.



What we achieved



Presented & published

- Presented and published research outcomes to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- Co-presented workshops and school resources to schools.
- Facilitated three main publication outcomes:
 - Beetson, D. & Schloss-Waters, S. (2018). Deadly History: A teacher resource to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students on the autism spectrum. Positive Partnerships.



- Literature Review 1 – A social model and nation-building approach: Supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children on the Autism spectrum – D. Beetson
- Literature Review 2 – On-line resources: Supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in understanding Autism and disability – S. Schloss-Waters
- Research activities contributed to Autism CRC School Years publications.

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What we achieved



Research activities

Undertook research activities including:

- data collection
- data analysis
- preparation of manuscripts for publication.



Who did the research?



positive
partnerships



Find out more

Download the final report and executive summary on the Autism CRC website:
autismcrc.com.au/report/atsi-community-partnership

Access resources created through the partnership:

- [Deadly History teacher resource on Autism Teen Wellbeing](#)
- [Resources for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People on Positive Partnerships](#)