

AGREEMENT

Assessment and referral pathways:

Living At Home Assessment Agencies & Budja Budja Aboriginal Co-operative

PREAMBLE:

This agreement was developed during the Grampians Region Home and Community Care (HACC) Partnership Project initiated in June 2012 to improve communication and working arrangements between HACC Assessment Service (HAS) agencies and the Budja Budja Aboriginal Co-operative.

It has been agreed to plan for the situation where an Aboriginal person seeks to receive HACC services from a HAS agency. This may be due to:

- ◇ Personal preference of the Aboriginal person - we support choice
- ◇ The availability of the right mix of services
- ◇ Discharge from hospital
- ◇ The problems of distance - it may be necessary to deliver shared care where distance from Halls Gap is a problem.

This agreement is to confirm a commitment that all agencies follow a clear but simple process to ensure that the choices of an Aboriginal person are recognised and, where consent is provided, both Budja Budja and the HAS agency can collaborate through referral, assessment, goal setting and service delivery.

AGREEMENT:

It is agreed that:

- ◇ Either Budja Budja or the HAS provider will contact each other when the Aboriginal person provides consent
- ◇ Arrangements for referral and/or assessment will be done co-jointly or with Budja Budja in an advocacy role, if and when required.
- ◇ Arrangements for proof of Aboriginality is not required by the HAS agencies, however, Budja Budja policies stipulate that proof of Aboriginality is required to access Budja Budja services. NB: Budja Budja provides a General Practitioner service to both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.
- ◇ Contact between agencies will be maintained so that advice on culturally appropriate service provision can be provided at any time, with Budja Budja acting as an information resource
- ◇ Both agencies will collaborate to make links with other programs or agencies - for example special interest groups such as a Men's Shed or arts group

PARTIES:

All Grampians Pyrenees Living At Home Assessment agencies and Budja Budja Aboriginal Co-operative are parties to this agreement. For further information please contact: Carolyn Gargiulo, HACC Diversity Advisor at carolyn.gargiulo@health.vic.gov.au