

ARC Linkage Grant Awarded

Pathways to better practice. Developing human resources in child protection services for rural and remote communities with Indigenous populations in Western Australia and Queensland.

This study, will be conducted across two states, and funded as an Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage with two Government Departments as partners – the W.A. Department for Child Protection and the Qld. Department of Child Safety. The Australian Research Council, will contribute to national benefit in three key areas:

- the health and wellbeing of Indigenous children;
- the skills shortage in rural areas
- intergenerational change in professional disciplines.

A three year project, commencing in 2008, it will address the serious and escalating problem of providing child protection services to Indigenous children and their families in rural and remote areas. Service delivery to rural and remote environments in Australia is a high cost exercise and to date, little research has been conducted to understanding the complex nature of professional (non-medical) interventions in communities with high proportions of Indigenous families and children.

The study proposes to integrate expert advice from a senior practice panel as well as an international consultant – Ms Flo Frank – from Canada. [See Publication](#)

The project will be undertaken by Professor Daniela Stehlik (Curtin); Professor Lesley Chenoweth; Dr Donna McAuliffe & Dr Clare Tilbury (Griffith).

Further information on the project, the appointment of two PhD students and future activities will be posted on a regular basis.

October 2007.

Links:

<http://www.griffith.edu.au/school/hsv/>

<http://www.childsafety.qld.gov.au/>

<http://www.community.wa.gov.au/>