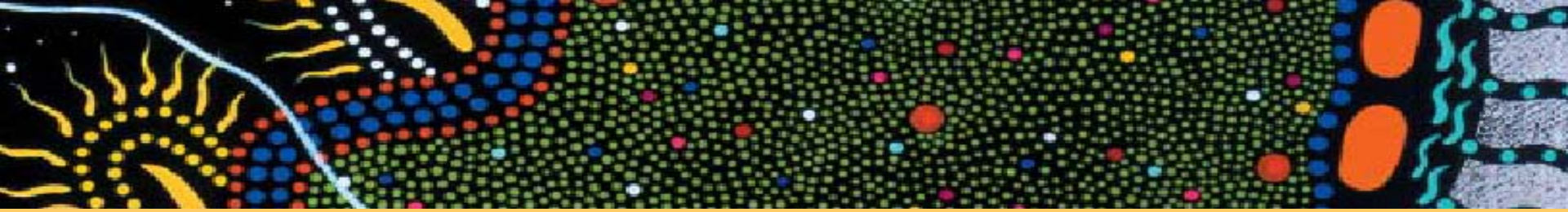


Aboriginal Midwifery Program

North Coast Area Health – Coffs Harbour



Team Members

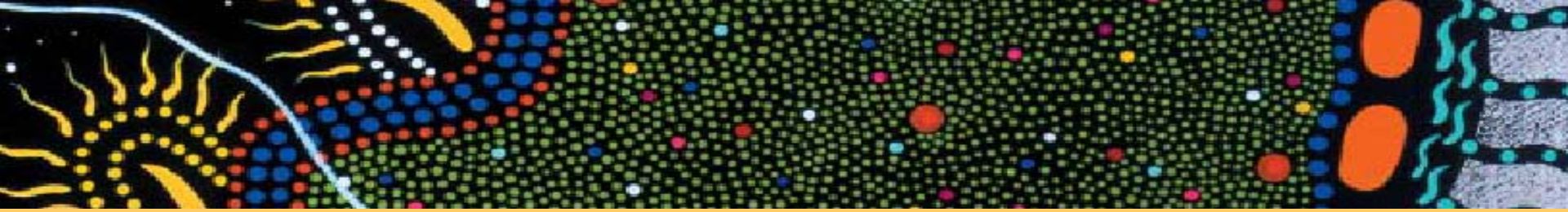
Lisa Kelly – Aboriginal Health Education Officer / Coffs Harbour

Lyndell Williams - Community Midwife, Aboriginal Health / Coffs Harbour

Kate Skinner - Community Midwife, Aboriginal Health / Coffs Harbour

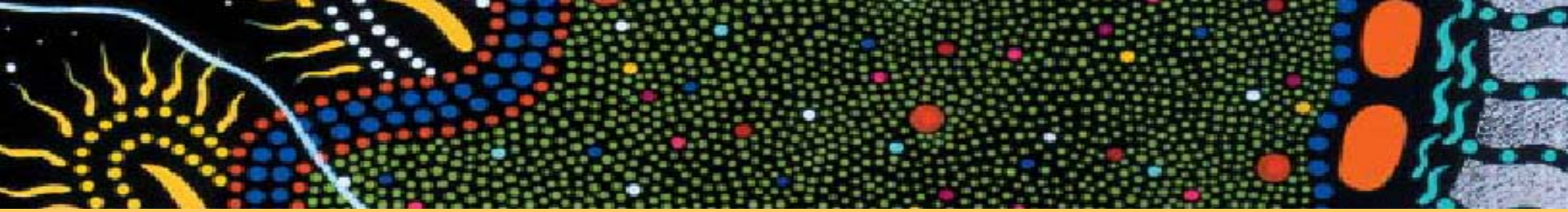
Robyn Rudner – Community Midwife, Aboriginal Health / Macksville

Sue Rogers – Community Midwife, Aboriginal Health / Macksville



Mission Statement

To improve access to appropriate antenatal, intra-partum and post-partum care for Aboriginal women



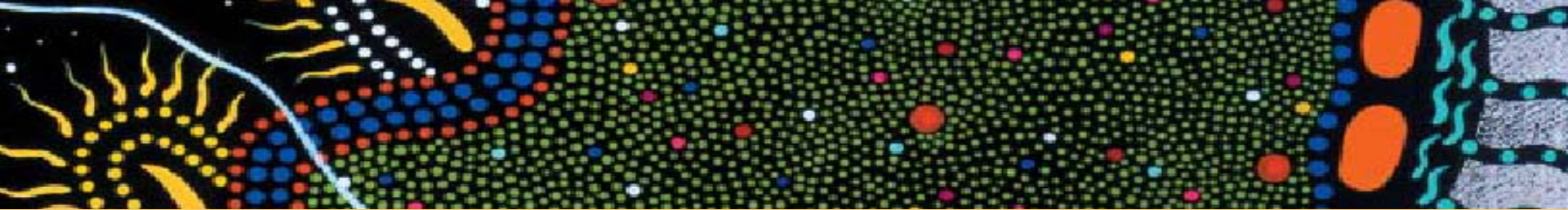
Customer & Expectations

Customers -

- Pregnant Aboriginal women
- Non-Aboriginal women with Aboriginal partners residing in local area

Expectations -

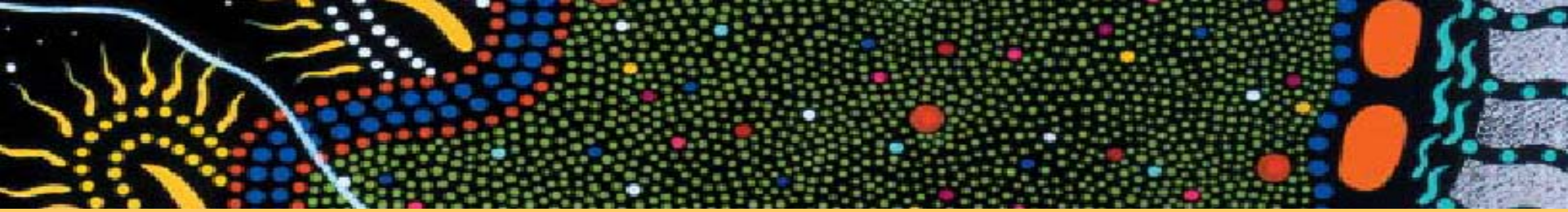
- To reduce risk factors associated with Aboriginal perinatal morbidity and mortality



Diagnosis

	Aboriginal women	MNCAHS Aboriginal Women	Non-Aboriginal Women
Perinatal mortality rate	17.9 / 1000 births	NA	9.7 / 1000 births
Low birth weight < 2500 gms	11.9%	8.7%	6.4%
Present > 20 weeks for 1 st antenatal visit	22.4%	14.7%	13.0%
Smoked during pregnancy	55.9%	57.3%	17%

(NSW Health Aboriginal Perinatal Health Report, 2000)



Prioritising the Information

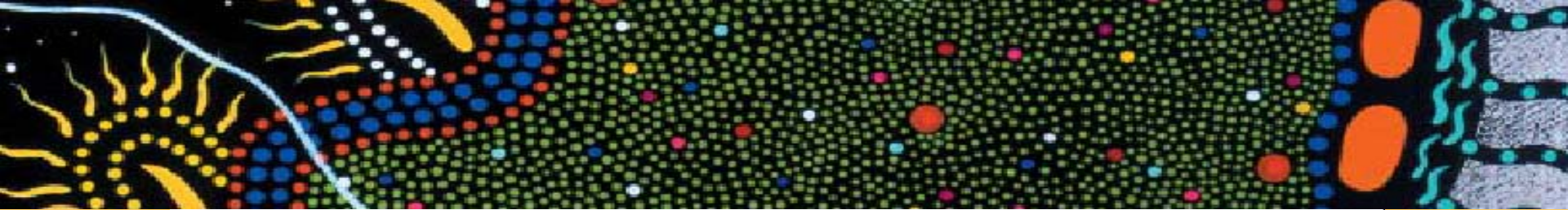
The Aboriginal Perinatal Health Report



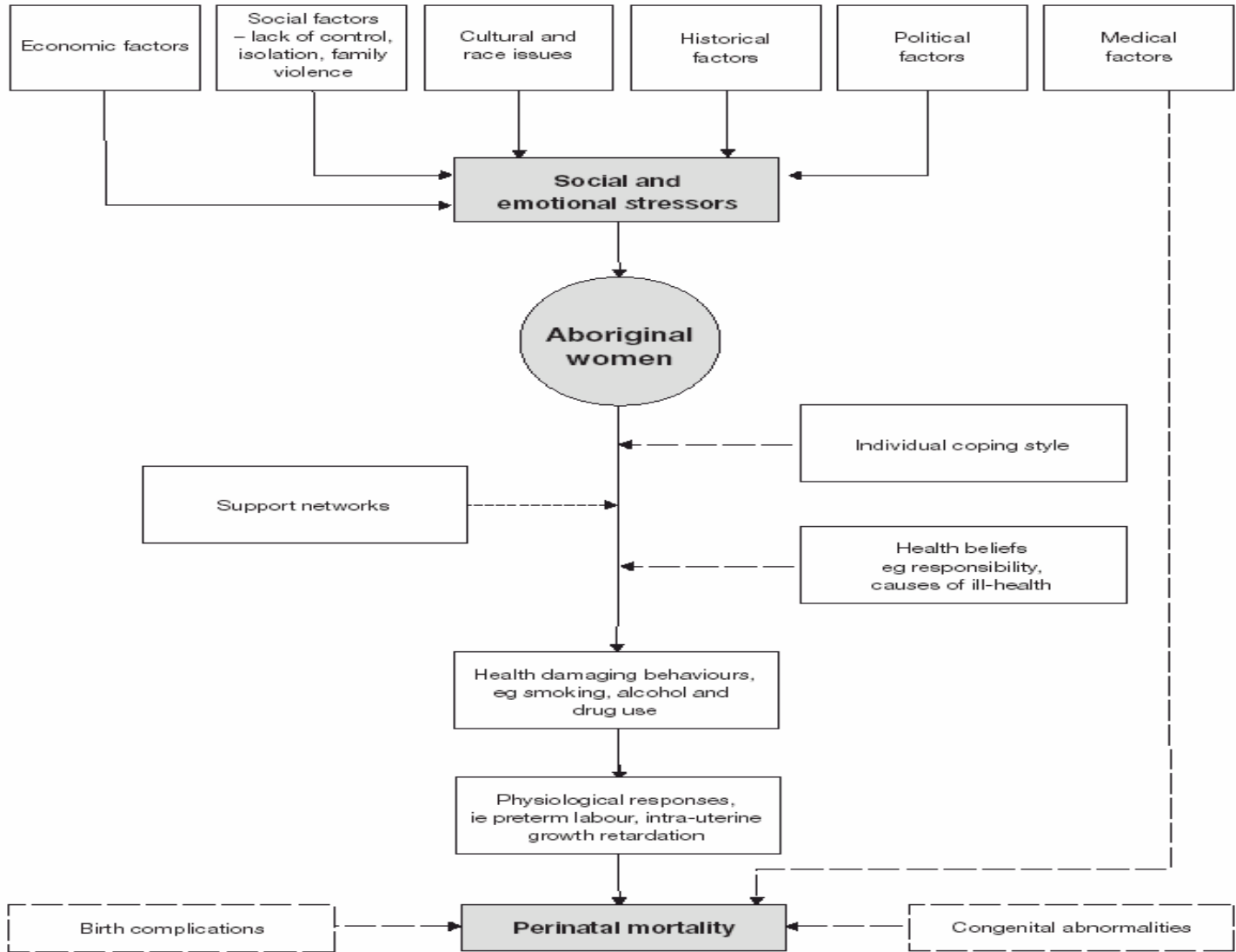
NSW Aboriginal Maternal and Infant Health
Strategy framework

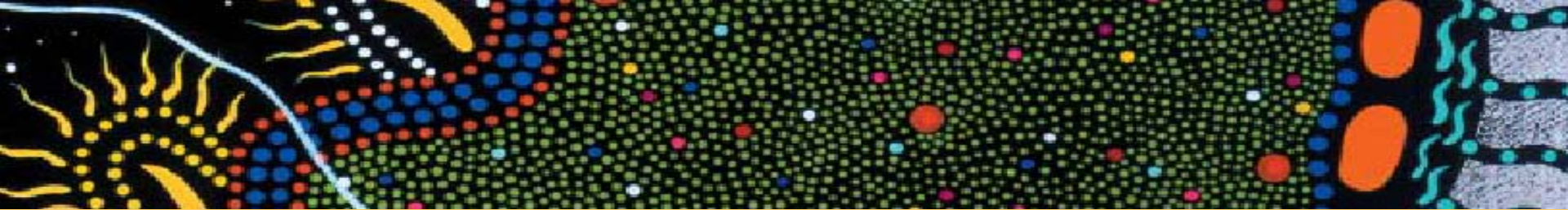


Annual Outcome Evaluations & Annual Reports



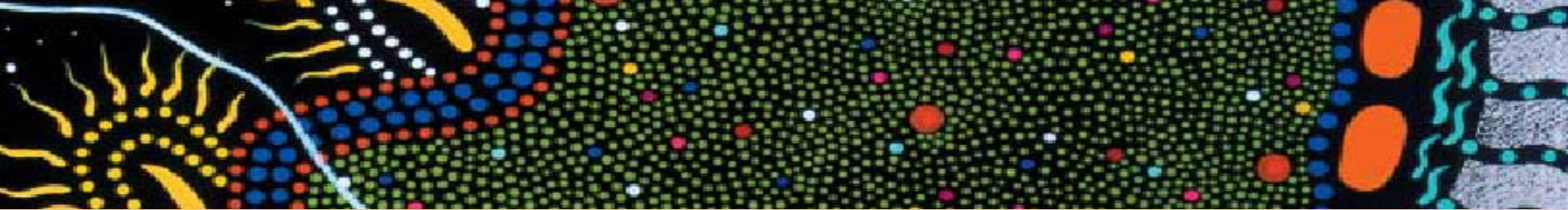
Primary Health Care Model





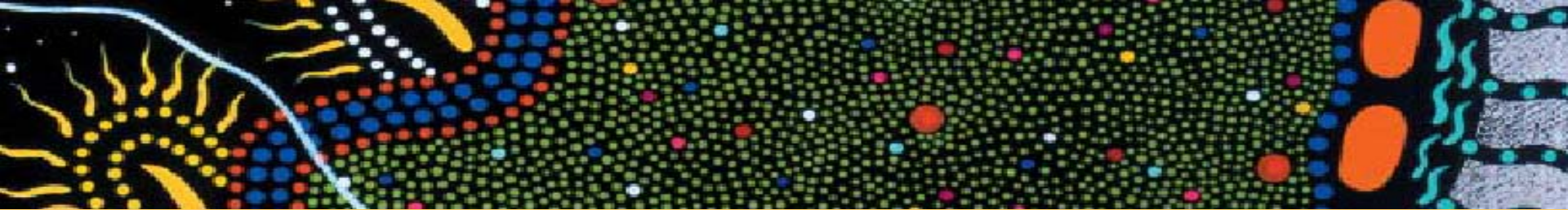
Interventions

- Consultation with local Aboriginal communities and MNCAHS
- Partnership with MNCAHS & Galambila to establish Aboriginal Midwifery Program at Galambila
- Development and implementation of a midwifery model of care (primary health care, community based program)
- Promotion of service - flyers, introductory letter, self promotion



Interventions

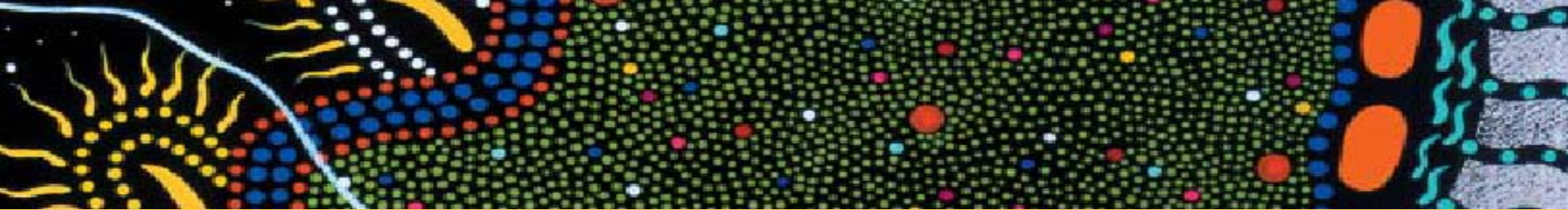
- Transport service available to clients
- Development and implementation of education programs
- Development of resources for Aboriginal women
- Provision of alternate modes of antenatal education
- Promote and increase access to culturally appropriate and sensitive antenatal and postnatal care



Outcomes

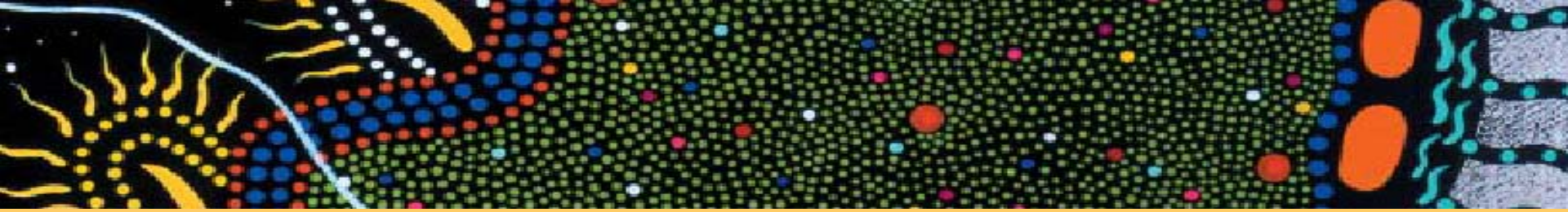
- 83% of Aboriginal women initiate breastfeeding, 67% continue breastfeeding after 6 weeks *
- Increased uptake in contraception*
- Decreased smoking by women*
- Increased attendance for regular antenatal care
- Increase in early presentation for antenatal care < 20 weeks

* Highest in the NSW



Future Scope

- To maintain and continually evaluate and improve the current model of care
- Development of breast feeding video (Aboriginal specific resource)
- Women's Art Camp
- Birthing and culture artwork
- Continuation of education programs



Sustainability

Links with:

- NSW Aboriginal Health Strategy Plan, 1999
- NSW Aboriginal Maternal and Infant Health Strategy Framework
- NSW Framework for Maternity Services
- MNCAHS
- Galambila Health Service



Constant Connection – Cover Artwork by Alison Buchanan

'Keeping in touch with our ancestor spirits is the only way to relax our body and minds. When connected, fresh food should always be in abundance, the fresh food makes us feel fresh and alive. If we stay connected no stress will affect the newborn baby and the baby will develop to its full potential. Constant connection is full of love for all.'

– Alison Buchanan