

Midwest Aged and Indigenous Palliative Care Planning Project

Geraldton Palliative Care Service

Western Australia Country Health Service

Department of Health and Ageing - Local Care
Planning Program.

Rural view of Midwest



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Hubby and Canola



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“Where did I leave the ute?”



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The Midwest

- The Midwest Region is significant to regional Western Australia for numerous reasons including its size, almost a fifth of the State at 472,336 km². The Region is boarded by the Pilbara to the North, the Wheatbelt in the South, Goldfields to the South and East and the Indian Ocean to the West. It is known for its mineral rich resources as well as its agricultural, fishing and tourism.
- 60,000 population. The Aboriginal population comprising of about 7209.



Geraldton-Greenough



- 424km from Perth or a 4½ hour drive
- The City of Geraldton-Greenough is situated on Champion Bay on a spectacular stretch of coastline known as the Batavia Coast and the mysterious Houtman Abrolhos Islands - scene of the famous Batavia mutiny and home to one of nature's most spectacular marine areas.
- A port city, Geraldton-Greenough is the administrative centre of the Mid West's diverse industry base from a world leading rock lobster fishery to agriculture, gold and ore production. Other industries include mining, fishing, manufacturing, construction and tourism

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Geraldton-Greenough



- Geraldton /Greenough population estimated 35022. The statistical estimate for 2006 for Geraldton includes Greenough. The estimated resident population of the Midwest is around 60,000 people with the majority of the region's population residing along or near the coast.
- The Aboriginal population of Geraldton Greenough is 11%.
- This is compared to 3% State wide and 2.2% Nationwide

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“Knew I had left it here somewhere”



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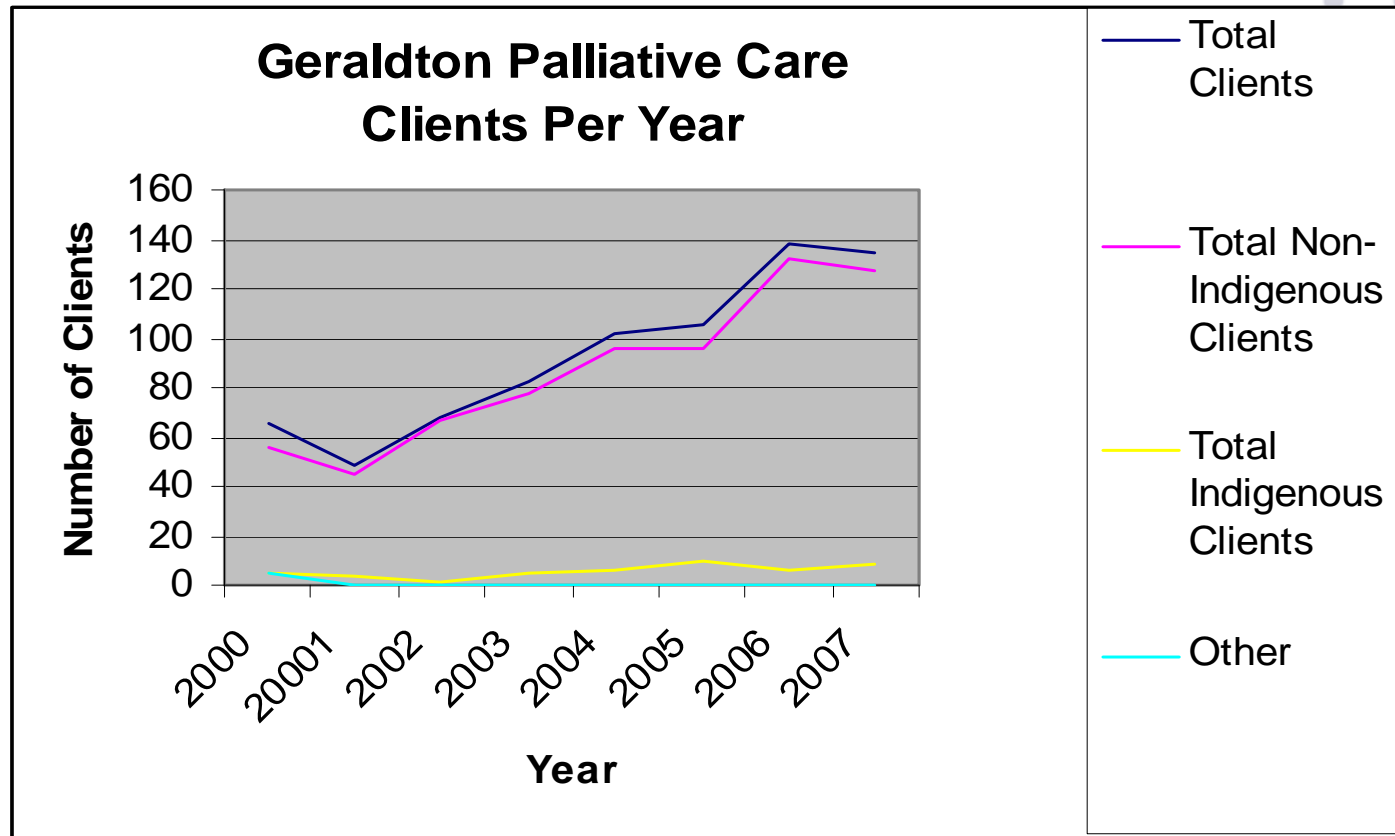


Aims of the Project



- The Midwest Aged & Indigenous Palliative Care Planning Project commenced in June 2006.
- The primary aim of the project was to; *“ enhance the delivery of quality palliative care to all clients who reside in Residential Aged Care facilities within the Midwest region*

View of Palliative Care in the Midwest



Funding



- Department of Health and Ageing - \$154,818.00
- This was further supplemented in June 2007 by \$15,000 for the purposes of 'WA Networking Support' with the Broome LCPP.
- An oversight; The funding application submission did not include allocations for resource development, events, training or evaluation. Additional funding for these were sought from external sources when possible.

Objectives



- Development of a care pathway/s to promote the seamless transfer of palliative clients between care settings particularly at the discharge point.
- Introduce specific processes that will meet the needs of local Aboriginal patients.
- Facilitate training for staff to deliver culturally appropriate palliative care to Aboriginal clients in aged care

Objectives continued



- Develop localised carer information packs and promotional information
- Facilitate networking among other care planning project organisations funded under the Local Palliative Care Grants program in WA

Successes of Project



- Landmark work in isolated environments:
 - Geographically
 - Professionally/organisationally
- Processes used to engage indigenous clients
 - Guide to Culturally appropriate care

Successes of Project



- Provider Advisory Group established
- Audit of current issues
- Transition pathway between RACF's and Acute care facilities.
- "Just in Case" medications program at RACF's
- Palliative Approach Pathway incorporating indigenous cultural considerations and accompanying training package

Successes of Project

- Indigenous Women's Cancer Support Group (IWCSG)



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Future Successes



- Development of DVD and brochures
- Tele-conferencing facilities in RACF's
- Promoting a culture of collaboration among management of involved stakeholders
- Implement policies to ensure longevity of completed projects
- Foster support in Indigenous Communities

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Contact



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HMAS Sydney Memorial - Geraldton



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