


RED DUST HEALING



Red Dust Healing is based on a cultural belief that we are one people, one mob who do not own but belong to this land.

When the dust is settled on our lives, we only get to keep our dignity, our integrity and the love & respect we shared with people

Red Dust Healing - Background

- For too long now some Indigenous men have maintained a state of oppression, whether by choice or circumstance is a matter of perspective and opinion.
- Men need to understand what oppression is and how it has effected their lives.

• MODEL OF OPPRESSION (By Dr Jefferson Edwards & Randal Ross)

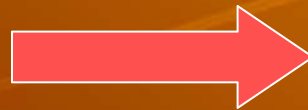
Federal (ATSIC)

Community

House-hold

Family

Individual – Men



Fathers

Family

House-hold

Community

Nation

Background continued

- ✦ Due to the results of colonisation Indigenous men had three key values taken away from them as men,
- ✦ **1) Identity** – their image of who they were was distorted through the harsh practices of assimilation,
- ✦ **2) Responsibility** – men were stripped of their traditional roles which saw them once respond with the ability i.e., to provide by hunting, making tools, shelter, canoes etc and
- ✦ **3) Relationship** – both our men and women were taken away from the families, and the results of this today have left many of our men not knowing how to show emotion and build relationships within their own families and amongst other fellow men.

Background continued

- ◆ Red Dust Healing is written from an Indigenous perspective for Indigenous Men and their families The program is targeted at the heart and not the head
- ◆ The program facilitates the understanding of “Rejection” being the foundation of all hurt
- ◆ Participants are encouraged to examine their own personal hurt and allows them to heal from within addressing family and personal relationships and what may have been life long patterns of violence and abuse.

Background continued

- The program places the participant both in the position of being hurt (victim) and then as the one doing the hurting (perpetrator)
- The program identifies the emotions felt as the victim and then the hurt caused as the perpetrator
- Participants are asked to examine the similarities and effects this may have had on their lives while growing up and question whether they are repeating the same tactics that may have hurt them.

Background continued

- ◆ The program encompasses visual holistic learning modules linking cultures to encourage participants with individual insights into identity, belonging and self belief.
- ◆ The program encourages our men to heal. If our men learn to heal, then we can build stronger family relationships.
- ◆ The program explores ancient traditional practices, the morals, values and principals of these ways and then demonstrates how they fit into today's society.

Background continued

- ✦ An example of this is the program outlines and examines the perspectives of two different laws; LAW versus LORE

Legalities

Attorney Generals

Westminster

Land

Origin

Respect

Elder's

Red Dust Healing - philosophy

- ✦ If we do not know who we are and where we come from, then how do we know where we are going?
- ✦ Healing is a spiritual understanding of self, identity, love, belonging, family, security, hurt, heartache, good times and laughter
- ✦ Healing is a grasp for hope based on love and respect and understanding of ourselves and our supports

Program Content

- ✦ **“Red Dust Healing”** covers areas significant to healing such as
- ✦ Identity, family roles and structure, relationships, Elders, Men’s business, Indigenous history and the impacts of colonialism, drug and alcohol issues, family violence, grievance and loss, stress and mental health issues, anger management, education and employment housing issues, meetings and community contribution and governance.

Case-management and Support systems

- Each person will have an individual case-management plan developed to meet their personal needs.
- Red Dust Healing promotes follow up, links and referrals to relevant services assisting with completion of goal setting or case-management plans.
- The case-management plan can be supported by a buddy and mentor system that can assist and enhance completion of individual case plans.

Case-management and Support systems continued

- The program promotes ownership, self determination, sustainability and autonomy. The program empowers people and communities to participate and contribute to solutions within their communities.
- The program has developed links to employment opportunities through a partnership with North Queensland Water, TTRIMA and BARK (Brothers Act of Random Kindness).
- Other Partners include James Cook University Indigenous Health Unit, JCU Dispute Resolution Program, ATSI Legal Service NO

Project Delivery Design

- ✦ The project will utilise existing mainstream service providers and Indigenous service providers and Indigenous Elders to assist with the delivery of relevant service modules; i.e. Relevant Elders to assist with cultural and traditional ways, Aboriginal health workers for healthy lifestyle and diet etc. Sexual Health workers and D & A workers to assist with case-plans if required etc.

Project Delivery Design

- The program will be delivered to 20 groups two times per group, in the North Queensland Region.
- The program will be delivered by 2 trainers to a group of 8-10 participants over a 3-4 day period. Daily time envisaged would be between 9.30am and 3.30 pm with lunch, morning and afternoon tea provided.
- The second training would be completed within a 4 to 6 week period after the initial training block.

Project Delivery Design

- ◆ The Buddies/Mentors will support and encourage participants to complete case-plan goals. This will give the participants the opportunity to follow through with case-plans and with relevant service providers in between the two training blocks

Outcomes and Performance Measures

- ◆ Projected Outcomes Include:
- ◆ Better understanding of self and allow men to address the hurt within their lives
- ◆ Improved self esteem
- ◆ Identifying the linking of emotions and feelings with behaviours and actions
- ◆ Realization and knowledge that support is available through networks and services to assist participants and families
- ◆ Families are linked to service providers

Outcomes and Performance Measures

- ◆ Indigenous Men will have an understanding of identity and learn to self evaluate matters that impact on their own personal lives
- ◆ Development of future role models and fathers
- ◆ Restore relationships within families

Outcomes and Performance Measures

- ◆ Strengthening current partnerships
- ◆ Increasing capacity of Indigenous men to contribute, plan, implement and evaluate a variety of strategies, projects and programs in their community.
- ◆ Improve relationships between fathers and sons
- ◆ Develop and enhance support networks for Indigenous men.
- ◆ Assist to mend family relationships

Performance Measures

- ✦ Feed back forms and interviews from participants
- ✦ Completed case-plans and links to agencies and support networks
- ✦ Participation levels throughout the program, maintained by attendance sheets.
- ✦ Feedback from local organizations and family members
- ✦ Participants to be involved in co-facilitating future training
- ✦ Formation of a partnership committee to implement and guide the project
- ✦ Black tracking – retracing your steps, self evaluation process.

RDH Outcomes Achieved

- ◆ **Cleveland Youth Detention Centre at Townsville**
- ◆ 41 participants completed the program
- ◆ 4 clients did not complete the program
- ◆ 1 was released and 1 had a court appearance and 2 chose not to complete the program.
- ◆ 3 facilitators were mentored through the program
- ◆ Management of Cleveland has asked for some of their staff to be trained in the program before the end of the year. Negotiations are currently being discussed
- ◆ Total 44 completed program

RDH Outcomes contd.

- ◆ **Kirwin High School**
- ◆ 14 participants completed the program
- ◆ 2 did not complete the program
- ◆ 1 facilitator was mentored through the program
- ◆ Kirwin High has now acquired funds and has already run a follow up to the program. The facilitator trained in the program has run the follow up. Kirwin High has indicated that they will continue to run the program at the school.
- ◆ Total 15 completed program

RDH Outcomes contd.

- ◆ **Flexible Learning Centre Townsville**
- ◆ 8 students completed the program
- ◆ 2 did not complete the program
- ◆ 3 facilitators have been mentored through the program
- ◆ Flexible learning staff has now been trained in the delivery of the program
- ◆ Total 11 completed program

RDH Outcomes contd.

◆ **Magani Malu Kes Townsville**

- ◆ 3 students completed the program
- ◆ 1 student chose not to complete the program
- ◆ 1 facilitator has been mentored through the program delivery
- ◆ Total 4 completed program

◆ **Cunnamulla Reference Group**

- ◆ 5 participants completed the program
- ◆ 1 Cooma Elder and 1 facilitator have been mentored through the program
- ◆ Total 7 completed program

RDH Outcomes contd.

- ◆ **Townsville Aboriginal and Islander Health Services**
- ◆ 5 Participants completed the program including health and social workers.
- ◆ **ATSICLS (NQ) Legal Services**
- ◆ 5 Indigenous Field Staff and the Chief Executive Officer of the organisation completed the program.
- ◆ A "**Cultural Awareness**" version of the program was also conducted for 17 staff members of ATSI Legal Services with positive feedback.

RDH Outcomes Achieved

- ✦ 90 people have now completed the program with some outstanding results.
- ✦ Some interviews conducted with participants have been conducted for visual feedback.
- ✦ The main reason why this program has had success is that it is targeted at the heart and not the head. The program allows for numeracy and literacy issues, it is flexible to cater for all ATSI men young and old, Cultural Awareness modules for non ATSI people. The program has also been run with a mixed group of ATSI and Non ATSI young people. The program creates an environment that allows for confidentiality to be kept

Thanks for your time

◆ WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME IN ATTENDING THIS PRESENTATION.



Spread Out and Stick Together,
RANDAL ROSS and TOM POWELL

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Presentation updated 19th November 07