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Supporting Information

Supplementary methods

**This appendix was part of the submitted manuscript and has been peer reviewed.
It is posted as supplied by the authors.**

Appendix to: Dudgeon P, Chang EP, Chan J, et al. Evaluation of the Cultural, Social and Emotional Wellbeing Program with Aboriginal women in the Boronia Pre-Release Centre for Women: a mixed methods study. *Med J Aust* 2024; doi: 10.5694/mja2.52354.

1. CONSolidated critERTia for strengthening the reporting of health research involving Indigenous Peoples (CONSIDER) statement guidelines

Guest Editors of the 2024 Indigenous Health Special Issue acknowledge the Indigenous expertise that informed the establishment of the CONSolidated critERTia for strengthening the reporting of health research involving Indigenous Peoples (CONSIDER) statement.

Authors should indicate how they have supported ethical publishing and reporting practices by providing the details of the research practices aligned with this publication in accordance with the CONSIDER statement. The reporting should not exceed two pages. This reporting will be published as online supplementary information.

Detailed items can be accessed in the publication: <https://bmcmedresmethodol.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12874-019-0815-8>

Governance
<p>There is a Multi-Institution Agreement which governs the relationship between the research institution and Indigenous-governing organisation, Langford Aboriginal Association. This agreement specifies the amount payable to Langford Aboriginal Association.</p> <p>The evaluation and delivery of the Cultural, Social and Emotional Wellbeing Program was governed by a Community Reference Group convened by Langford Aboriginal Association, comprising of Aboriginal Elders and community members, and representatives from the Western Australian Department of Justice. The evaluation of this delivery, including data analyses and interpretation, was led and governed by the Indigenous first author.</p>
Prioritization
<p>The delivery of the CSEWB Program with Boronia Pre-release Centre for Women (Boronia) was driven by community-identified needs: two members of the Community Reference Group initiated this delivery to meet the needs of Aboriginal women in Boronia. The development of the CSEWB Program was informed by the National Empowerment Project (NEP) https://www.nationalempowermentproject.org.au which is based on extensive community consultations across Australia. The NEP explicitly recognises and commits to respecting Aboriginal cultural values and principles and promoting local relationships.</p> <p>The CSEWB Program was delivered and evaluated by Aboriginal facilitators from Langford Aboriginal Association, providing shared values and cultural understanding.</p> <p>This research adopts a holistic and whole-of-life view of health that encompasses the social, emotional and cultural wellbeing of the whole community, and distinctive cultural and spiritual relationships and connections. It focuses on strength and resilience of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.</p>
Relationships (Indigenous stakeholders/participants and Research Team)
<p>This research adopted an Aboriginal Participatory Action Research (APAR) methodology. The APAR is a strengths-based and culturally appropriate approach that privileges participation by the relevant community, based on their collective experience and social history. This research project complies with ethical guidelines for research involving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (NHMRC, 2018) and has been approved by Western Australian Aboriginal Health Ethics Committee (HREC875). Participants were inmates at Boronia. The research team is led by the Indigenous first author and a senior Aboriginal community researcher and includes Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal researchers, all working within Indigenous-led organisations.</p>
Methodologies
<p>Reporting of the data respects participants' privacy and confidentiality by ensuring the information is non identifiable. The Stories of Most Significant Change (SMSC) technique was used to assess the outcomes of the Program from the participant's perspective which facilitates the inclusion of Indigenous worldviews. The SMSC has been found to be a culturally appropriate evaluation methodology, as it is appropriate for the storytelling or yarning nature of many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.</p>
Participation
<p>Participants are 18 years and above and provided individual informed consent to the evaluation and analysis of data collected, including the use of unidentified direct quotes. An information session was held in Boronia to introduce the CSEWB Program where flyers were handed out. Flyers were also available in the Boronia library. Participation was also through word of mouth from those who had attended the information session.</p>

Capacity

There was training and adequate funding for the recruitment of Aboriginal community consultants as co-researchers, which built the capacity of Aboriginal facilitators and staff at Langford Aboriginal Association.

Previous deliveries of the CSEWB Program within Western Australian communities have shown that the process of consulting with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people about social and emotional wellbeing, empowerment and healing is in itself beneficial and empowering to all participants, affirming and valuing their knowledges.

The capacity building of participants, and the flow on effects within their families and communities hold immeasurable value and benefit.

Analysis and interpretation

The analysis and interpretation of the data prioritizes Aboriginal researchers' views and opinions, and adopted a strengths-based approach underpinned by Indigenous values and worldviews. Data was analysed by two pairs of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal researchers and where there are discrepancies, Aboriginal researchers' views and opinions were prioritised.

Dissemination

Reports will be disseminated to Aboriginal stakeholders and publicly available on all partner organisation websites.

2. Reflexive thematic analysis

Reflexive Thematic Analysis of the responses to the Stories of Most Significant Change (SMSC) was conducted to understand the success factors and mechanisms of change from participation in the CSEWB Program.

For this reflexive thematic analysis, coders followed the six-phase process outlined by Braun and Clarke (1). First, coders read the data multiple times to get a sense of the data. Second, coders identified interesting and/or repeated ideas in each element of the SMSC (i.e., title, story, and the “why”) for each participant, to develop first level codes of these themes. These codes represent ‘the most basic segment or element, of the raw data’ (2). Each interesting and/or repeated idea may be given more than one code. Third, coders merged first level codes of similar essence to potential themes. At this point, codes were either, (a) categorized into a theme/sub-theme, (b) categorized under a ‘miscellaneous’ theme, or (c) discarded, and overarching themes were developed. Fourth, coders developed a thematic map. At this stage, coders re-examined the first level codes to ensure that they accurately represent and substantiate each theme. Subsequently, coders discarded themes that did not have sufficient responses or re-categorized the first level codes. Fifth, coders finalised the thematic map, and created names and definitions that accurately capture each theme. The manuscript presents and describes the overarching themes developed at the last stage of the reflexive analysis.

References

¹Braun V, Clarke V. Using thematic analysis in psychology. *Qual Res Psychol* 2006 Jan 1;3(2):77-101.

²Boyatzis RE. *Transforming Qualitative Information: Thematic Analysis and Code Development*. Sage, 1998.