

Foundation Studies in Culture “Indigenous Engagement” Training Program

Department of Child Safety
Training and Specialist Support Branch

BACKGROUND

- **The Foundation Studies in Culture – ‘Indigenous Engagement’ Training is a two day competency based program that was developed in direct response to recommendation 5.9 of the Crime & Misconduct Commission Report.**



- **The Foundation Studies in Culture ‘Indigenous Engagement’ training program was developed from a unit of Competency identified from the Australian Quality Training Framework.**



- **The competency, HLTHIR4A ‘Work Effectively in a Cross Cultural context with Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people’ has elements and performance criteria that link directly to the learning outcomes for the Foundation Studies In Culture training program.**

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- **Identify appropriate communication strategies to meet the needs of Aboriginal clients and Torres Strait Islander clients and colleagues**
- **Articulate implications and make connections between Aboriginal history and Torres Strait Islander history and the position of Indigenous people today**
- **Demonstrate an understanding of Aboriginal culture and customs**



- **Demonstrate an understanding of Torres Strait Islander culture and customs**
- **Apply specific communication techniques to assist in resolving conflict**
- **Identify key criteria for developing a culturally appropriate framework for practice**
- **Contribute to the development of relationships based on cultural diversity**
- **Identify strategies for resolving cross-cultural misunderstandings**



PURPOSE

The training is designed to increase the Department's capacity to address the over representation of Indigenous children in the Child protection system by developing a skilled workforce who are proficient in delivering;

- . Culturally appropriate**
- . Responsive, and**
- . Accessible**

child safety services to Aboriginal children and families and Torres Strait Islander children and families



TRAINING CONTENT

The training content incorporates

- **Aboriginal history**
- **Torres Strait Islander history; and makes direct links to child safety practice.**



The training is underpinned by two key learning styles which reflects the Aboriginal worldview and Torres Strait Islander worldview;

- (1) Holistic (or integrated) which encourages learners to make the connection and relate it to the whole concept, as apposed to looking at concepts in an isolated manner.**
- (2) Imaginal learning is understood as being relatively unstructured and consists of thoughts, images and experiences of learning.**



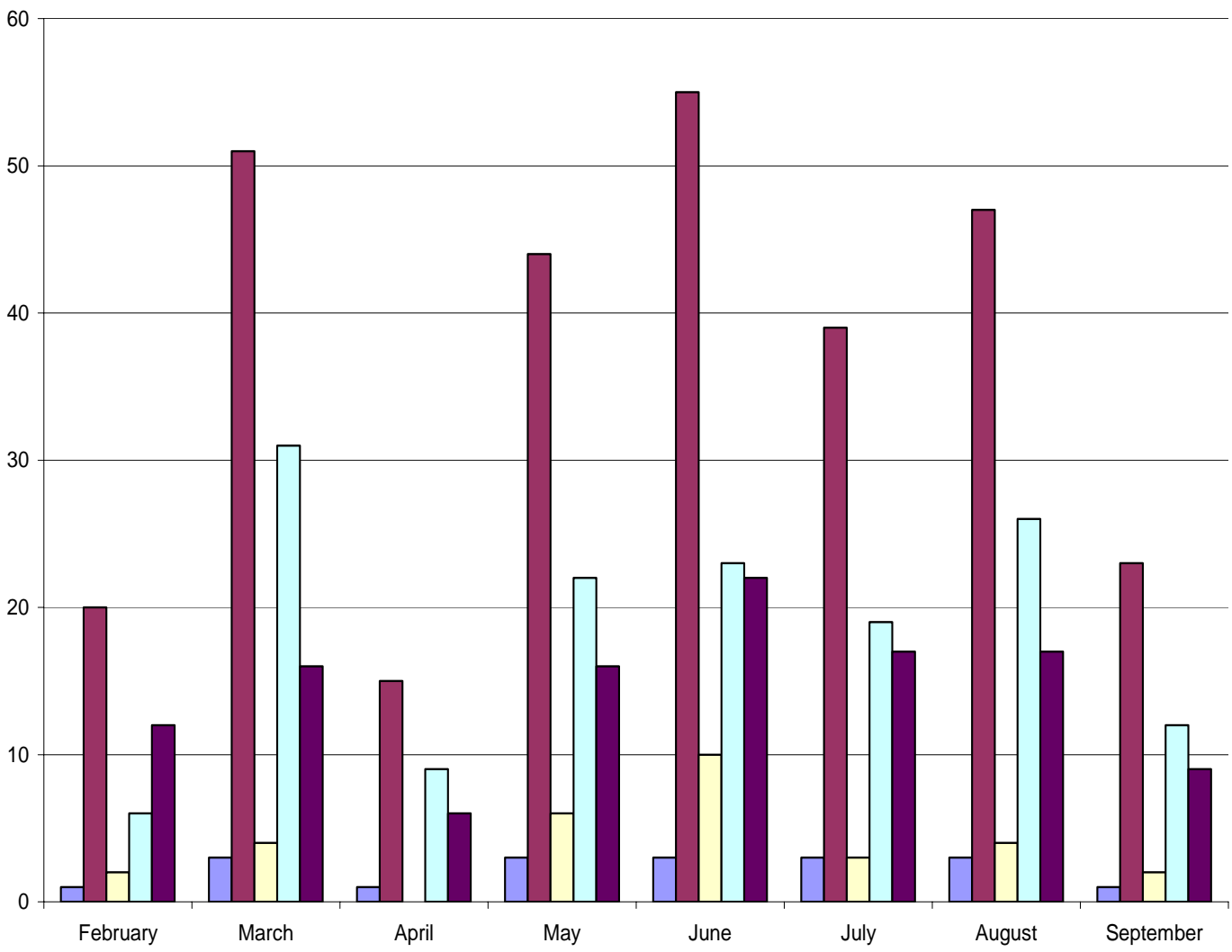
PROGRAM CALENDAR

- The training commenced in February 2006 and is being delivered to staff in the following areas:
 - . Brisbane
 - . Mt. Isa
 - . Cairns
 - . Townsville
 - . Rockhampton
 - . Mackay



- **Twenty one programs have been delivered to date with a total of 318 staff trained**
- **A further nine programs are planned for the remainder of the 2006 calendar year. During this time it is anticipated that a further 180 staff will be trained.**





■ Total Programs
■ Total Participants
■ Indigenous
■ CSO
■ Other

