Indigenous Worker Wellbeing

Case Studies

Instructions
Please read the case study below, and then in your group, look at the questions at the end and record the group’s thoughts on butcher’s paper, so your group can then share their ideas with the rest of the workshop participants.

Case Study 4

A government drug and alcohol service receives recurrent funding to employ one Aboriginal drug and alcohol counsellor, within a team of 10 counsellors.

In 2 years, there have been 6 different people employed in this position. The 6th worker looks like they are also going to resign after only 6 months in the position.

The current worker is feeling tired because she has the greatest number of client cases. She also feels frustrated because she regularly has to deal with complaints from the community about the continual change in workers they have to deal with.

Questions

Thinking about what steps could be taken to help improve the situation, so that the service is able to support the worker, please discuss the following questions:

1. What could her colleagues do?
2. What could management do?
3. What could the organisation do?
4. What else could be done?
This Case Study forms part of the ‘Feeling Deadly: Working Deadly’ Resource Kit on Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Worker Wellbeing developed by the National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction (NCETA) and funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing. For further details and the suggested citation please see the document ‘About This Kit’ in the full Resource Kit.

Copies of resources developed as part of the ‘Feeling Deadly: Working Deadly’ kit are available for download from the NCETA website: www.nceta.flinders.edu.au