Wauchope District Memorial Hospital

Aboriginal Allied Health Cadet Program

Ann Bodill - Executive Officer/Director of Nursing
Simone Smith – Allied Health Assistant Trainee

May 2014
Wauchope District Memorial Hospital
Aboriginal Allied Health Cadet Program

The Context
# Wauchope District Memorial Hospital
## Aboriginal Allied Health Cadet Program

### Population Demographic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>State</th>
<th>MNCLHD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population growth</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>1.35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 65s population</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>19%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Projected population growth (2006 to 2016)</td>
<td>&gt;55yrs 27.0%</td>
<td>&gt;55yrs 38.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&gt;65yrs 32.4%</td>
<td>&gt;65yrs 42.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aboriginal population</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Socio-economic disadvantage</td>
<td>1003</td>
<td>Range 901 – 976</td>
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Wauchope District Memorial Hospital

• 30 bed hospital
• 26 inpatient beds
• 4 Day procedure chairs

• 50% of admissions to WDMH are transfers from facilities within our LHD,

• The average length of stay is 15.7 days

• Hospital occupancy 85%

• Average patient age is 74 years
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Falls Risks

- Lack of Allied Health – all disciplines
- Inconsistent therapy
- Falls comprising 31% IIMS
- Falls rate higher than state average
- Patient population at high risk for falls

Mobility Program
The Proposal

**Allied Health Assistant Trainee**

- Offsets: wage supplement $6K, S&W saving of $17K AIN, and reduced falls $23K
- Reduced LOS, Falls incidents and severity, enhanced multi-disciplinary therapy

**Cost benefit analysis**

- Closing the Gap (Aboriginal Employment 1.8% / Target 5%)
Wauchope District Memorial Hospital Aboriginal Allied Health Cadet Program

The Partnership

Employment Agency

- recruitment and assessment service
- workplace induction program
- regular workplace monitoring and on-site training program
- WH&S training, assessment and management system
- training administration services
- support to resolve workplace problems
- TAFE and RTO booking and liaison service
- on the job skills tracking and recording system

Trainee
Wauchope District Memorial Hospital
Aboriginal Allied Health Cadet Program

The Results

Mar 13: 9.00 falls/1000 bed-days
Nov 13: 6.62 falls/1000 bed-days
Jan 14: 1.20 falls/1000 bed-days

Falls severity reduced
• Falls incidence reduced every age group esp. 85+
• Decrease in weekday falls

7 months into the program,
Falls Prevention Network Forum
23 May 2014
Simone Smith - Allied Health Cadet

Employment based traineeship:

Work at Wauchope District Memorial Hospital

Employed by Nova Skill
Falls Prevention Network Forum  
23 May 2014  
Simone Smith - Allied Health Cadet

- Occupational Therapy assistance
- Speech pathologist assistance
Falls Prevention Network Forum
23 May 2014
Simone Smith - Allied Health Cadet

- Physiotherapy assistance

- Dietician assistance
As a part of my job it is important we ensure the safety of falls risks. As a prevention to stop the falls here are some of the following duties and regulations implemented:

- Aware of current care plan and mobility status
- Ensure patients are wearing non–slip socks, proper foot wear and suitable clothing.
- Ensure safe arrangement of bedding, furniture and equipment
- Ensure pelican belt are used by patients and other staff
- Reporting variations of patients wellness to physiotherapists and nursing staff
- Tidy up of equipment in store room and other areas of the hospital
- Ensuring chairs are adjusted to the right height and labelled with the following patients name that each chair is suitable for.
- Ensure patients boards are up to date with their mobility status.
What have been some of the challenges?

What are my plans for the future?