ACCESS TO APPROPRIATE CARE IS A GOAL OF A PLACE OF HEALING

Cultural Safety

Gaps exist between indigenous and non-indigenous peoples. A significant proportion of the population in this area identify as Aboriginal. The Hunter New England Health area is the size of England and is the third largest health service in Australia. A significant proportion of the population in this area identify as Aboriginal.

The facts are that my people are diagnosed late, when they already have advanced disease. Due to colonisation our people believe that what they feel may be a 'natural' response and 'something they will grow out of'.

No word for Cancer in our language.

Consultative design and building process

Years prior to building NWCC Aboriginal Advisory committee was formed.

Consultation at every step in building purposed built building

Results:

- Bringing the country inside through the colour scheme, art works and consultation.
- Bringing indigenous perspective into the space. "Welcome to Country." House autoclave facility.
- Social workers meet and discuss the needs of the local indigenous community. They offer support to those who are remote.
- Welcoming message in Githabilyd language in the foyer, and Australia’s 3 National flags at reception desks.
- Essential to ensure NWCC is localised and Culturally safe.
- Staff received Cultural awareness training, delivered by a prominent Elder.

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