




**‘Culture, Evidence & Practice’-
being, knowing & doing’**

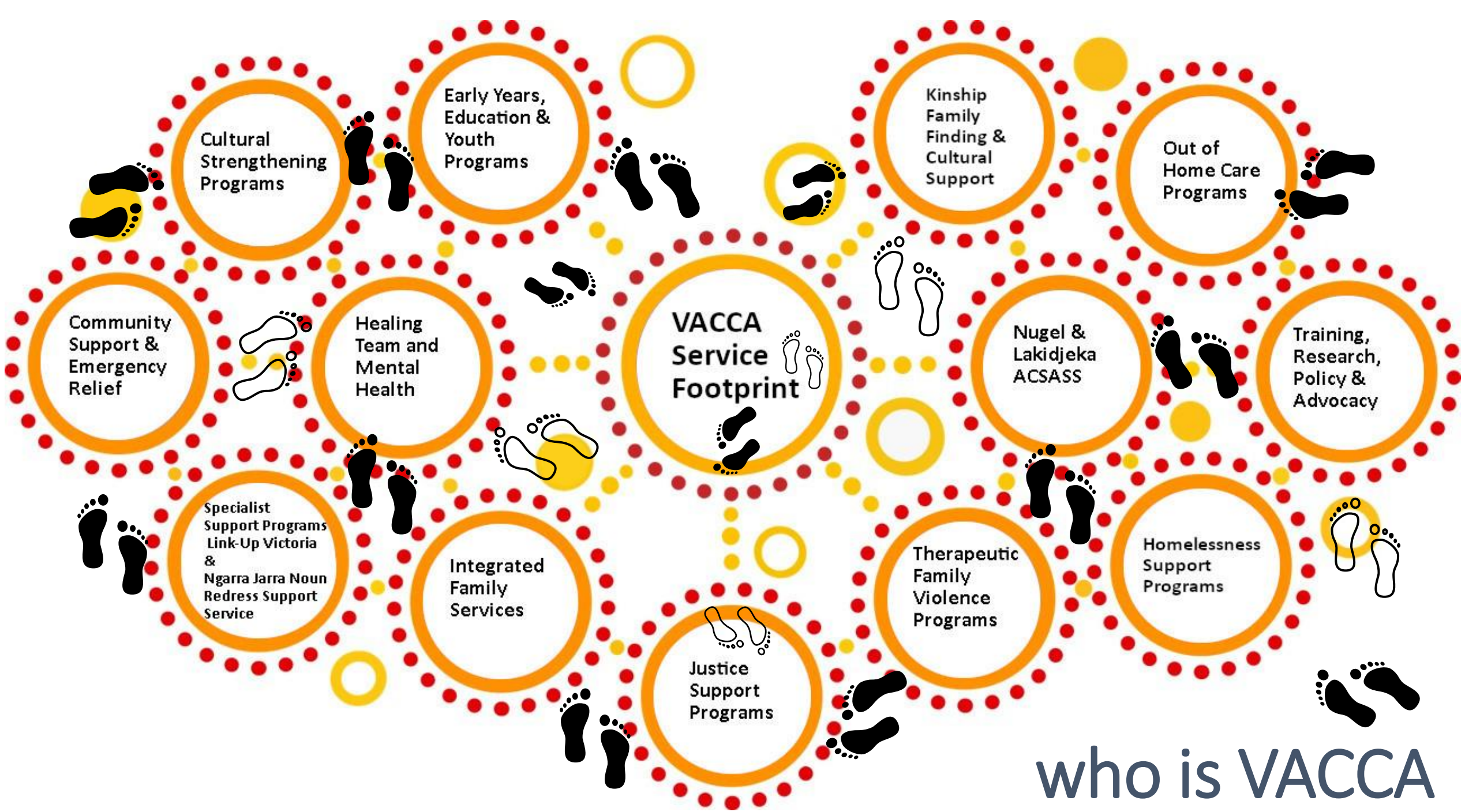
‘how self-determination informs best practice’

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Gunditjmara | Wodjabeluk

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Taungurung |

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a kangaroo skin and a bundle of green branches. The kangaroo skin is dark brown and appears to be a young animal. The branches are long and thin, with small green leaves. The background is blurred, showing a crowd of people in various colors, suggesting an outdoor event or festival.

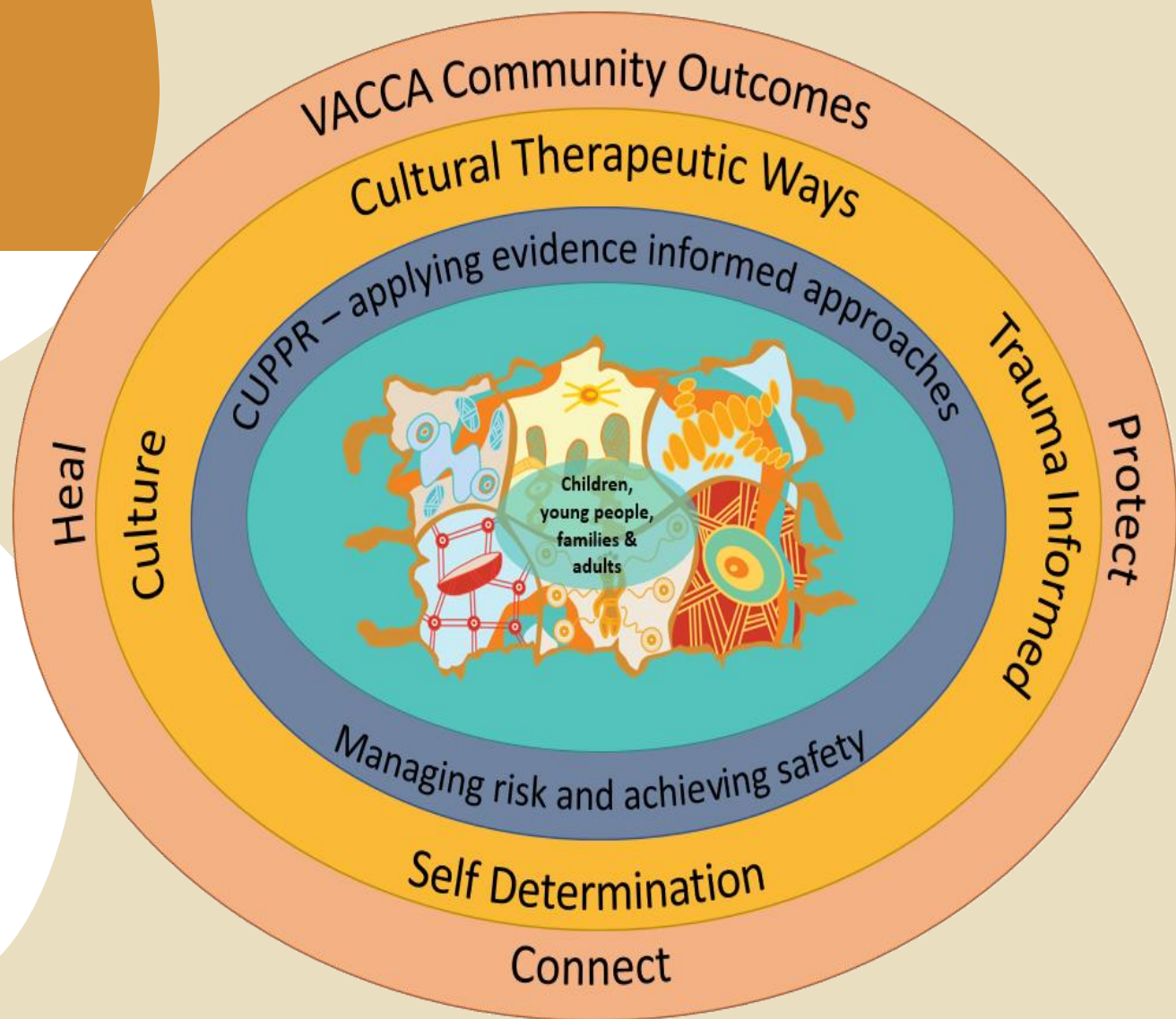
We Acknowledge Traditional Land
we speak upon, and traditional
owners as keepers of that land
We acknowledge our elders past,
present and emerging and our
people here with us today
We acknowledge VACCA and our
ACCO's and the Aboriginal voice.



who is VACCA

PROTECT

Our Way's & Our Values



Culture = being

The background features a stylized map of Australia in the upper right corner, with various colors and patterns. Below the map, there are several black footprints on a brown ground-like surface, suggesting a path or journey. The overall design is vibrant and culturally inspired.

Culture can be defined as all the ways of life including arts, beliefs and institutions of a population that are passed down from generation to generation. Culture has been called "the way of life for an entire society." As such, it includes codes of manners, dress, language, religion, rituals, art.

A culture is a way of life of a group of people--the behaviours, beliefs, values, and symbols that they accept, generally without thinking about them, and that are passed along by communication and imitation from one generation to the next. Culture is symbolic communication.

‘Culture is a living, experience, it is a knowing deep within us, and we know we belong to it as it is always calling us home and connecting us to each other – it is Our Aboriginal way of life, it is what guides us to connect to where we belong, and who we are – Culture connects us to our Identity and guides us to how we exist in this world...

Evidence = knowing



What is the simple definition of evidence?

Evidence is anything that can be used to prove something — like the evidence presented in a trial, or the trail of bread crumbs that is evidence of the path Hansel took through the woods

What does having evidence mean?

Evidence is anything that you see, experience, read, or are told that causes you to believe that something is true or has really happened. Ganley said he'd seen no evidence of widespread fraud. Synonyms: proof, grounds, data, demonstration More Synonyms of evidence

What describes evidence?

The Oxford Dictionary defines evidence as: 'the available body of facts or information indicating whether a belief or proposition is true or valid'. Collins Dictionary includes the following: 'data on which to base proof or to establish truth or falsehood'

Best quality

"Least biased"
Generally Western Evidence

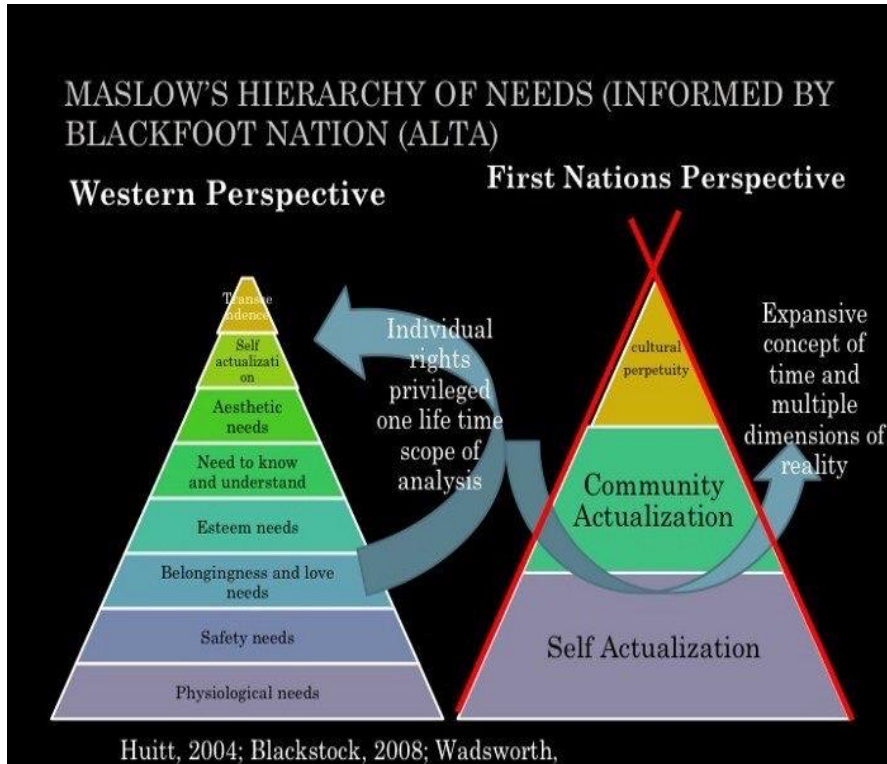


Least quality

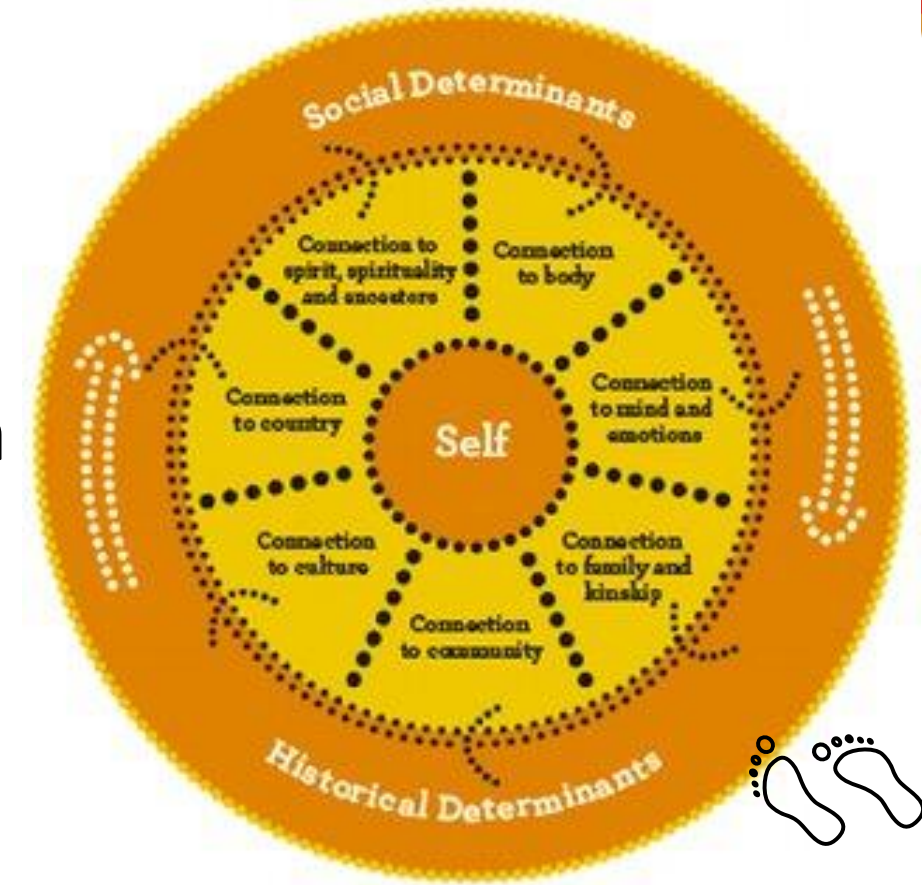
"most biased"
Aboriginal Evidence

Evidence & Decision making

knowing & doing



- Evidence
- Practice Wisdom
- Values



Practice = Yinga = doing...



YINGA is a culturally safe visual representation of the 6 priority determinants of Aboriginal Health, Wellbeing and Safety.

1. Connection to Community (top panel left)
2. Connection to land rivers and country (top panel, middle)
3. Mind and Emotions (top panel right)
4. Connection to family (bottom left panel)
5. Connection to body (bottom middle panel)
6. Spirituality (bottom panel, right)



Practice = doing...



VACCA Community Outcomes Survey



- The VACCA Community Outcomes Survey is an outcomes measurement tool used within Family Services at VACCA.
- The tool is informed by the Cultural Therapeutic Ways Framework and provides opportunity for families to provide feedback on service provision at VACCA and to explore areas in which they would like to focus on to achieve their goals.
- Data is captured and used to shape existing programs to ensure community needs are being met and the child and families voice is heard



Culture Evidence & Practice

= being, knowing & doing.

Cultural Elements = doing.



- Deep Listening
- Connecting to Community and Culture
- Empowering Narratives



- Understanding the impacts of intergenerational Trauma
- Connecting to Mentors
- Responding to Racism
- Self-advocacy



Close

13. Comprehensively review with the family and other key support service contacts to determine whether the family has reached their goals, and
 - Connect with other services; and/or
 - Move towards self-management.
14. Use the VACCA measurement tool on exit.

Review Progress

10. Review progress of the **family's work toward their goals** against identified **outcomes** monthly. This should be done with the family and in supervision with your Team Leader.
11. Adapt your approach to support going forward based on the continuous assessment, progress and feedback from the family.
12. Update **Child Summary, Family Summary and Footsteps To Our Future** plan every 3 months, using an appropriate **measurement tool** to review outcomes.

Work on goals

8. Use evidence-informed practice to action the goals agreed on in **Footsteps to Our Future** to achieve change and the family's desired outcomes. This will involve:
 - **Common elements** practice techniques working directly with the family;
 - **Building Safety** and wellbeing and empowering the family
 - **Linking up** with specialist and universal services and community supports; and
 - **Creating opportunities** for the family to have the future that they want.
9. Ask for feedback at each visit.



Referral

1. Intake and allocation.
2. First home visit. Authentically engage and connect with the family.

Engagement/Information Gathering

3. Partner with families, develop trusted relationships and gather key information using the **Information Gathering Tool** to yarn and learn about the family, guided by Cultural Therapeutic Ways (3-week to 3-month period).

Assessment/Analysis

4. Analyse the risks, needs, safety and wellbeing of children and families. Using a strengths-based approach, consider the information gathered and develop a **Child Summary** and **Family Summary**.
5. Complete baseline assessments using an appropriate **measurement tool**.

Care Plan

6. Work with the family to identify and develop their realistic goals. Respond to the goals the family wishes to prioritise.
7. Develop a care plan using the **Footsteps To Our Future** template in PARTNERSHIP with the family.



What if we were to determine the what?



What if we were to determine the how?

What if we were... Self-Determined?



Evidence based programs and practice



What we need:

- Program's and practice designed by and for Aboriginal people
- Measurement of outcomes that are important to Aboriginal people
- Aboriginal evidence of what works for Aboriginal people



How can we achieve this?

- Funding that includes Aboriginal led design and evidence development
- Aboriginal Knowledge and Practice Centre
 - Aboriginal led centre
 - Capture, Build and Share Evidence of what works
 - Capacity building and support to the sector

We Thankyou...



***Self-determination is a Human Right
Our Human Right...***



‘Self-determination means the freedom for our people, the Indigenous people of Australia to live well, to live freely by our own values and beliefs, and to be respected, acknowledged and validated by our non-indigenous – as our truth, choice and right’





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