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PHC RED PROGRAMME

ACTIVITIES AT MICRRH



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PHC-RED at MICRRH

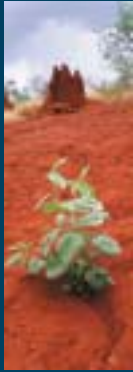
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- Five main objectives are being pursued in the current business plan



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1. Develop partnerships with key stakeholders:

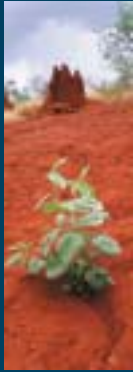
1. Divisions of General Practice
2. University Departments of Rural Health
3. General Practitioners and Primary Care Providers
4. Community representatives

In order to facilitate a coordinated approach to education and research activities



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Divisions

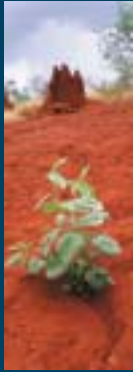
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- Innovative public health registrar training position. Employed by NQRDGP and under MICRRH supervision
- Joint activity with JCU Townsville to target divisions
 - Research needs assessment
 - SPSS training
 - EBM training
 - Evaluation training



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UDRH's

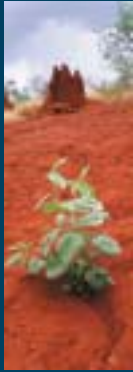
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- Research collaboration is in progress.
First teleconference held 30th August



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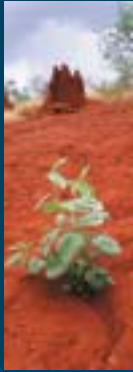
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GP's & PCP's

- P** • Established an EBM interest group
- H** • Discussions with community health and
- C** PCP's re training needs
- R** • Participate in health promotion support
- E** group
- D**





Community Representatives

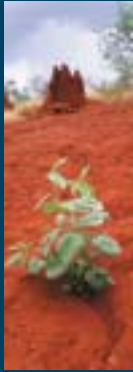
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- Research project on community initiated health projects
 - Progressively interviewing community groups
 - Showcasing their community projects on a ‘community projects’ website
 - Promote research and intervention partnerships



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- 2. Provide advice and support to key stakeholders in the area of Primary Health Care Research, Evaluation and Development in order to facilitate research activity



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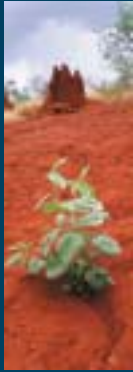
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- Provided advice and support for a needs assessment project to examine aged care requirements in Julia Creek
 - Assisted in questionnaire design
 - Data collection
 - Data analysis





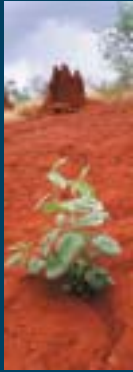
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- Project evaluation
 - Completed the mid point evaluation for the family healing project
 - In the process of collecting baseline information for the Liquor Licensing Restriction Trial
- Developing a graduate certificate on evaluation processes for divisions



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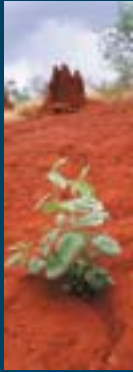
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- 3. Develop and improve competency for key stakeholders in the area of research



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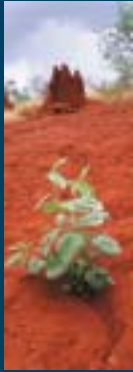
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- In conjunction with the Key Centre for Women's Health Melbourne University Ran a four day workshop covering health promotion and evaluation for local PCP's
 - 25 participants with 16 completing the full course



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- Run a research interest group fortnightly
 - Researchers showcase their research
 - Run research teaching/information sessions
 - Extending the scope by video linking the presentations to divisions (NQRDGP)





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- 4. Build research skills capacity for MICRRH staff so they can provide improved assistance to key stakeholders in the area of research



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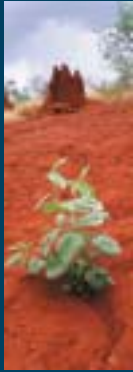
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- Completed a survey of staff research training needs
- Visit by research office staff of JCU
 - Commercial aspects of research and consultancies
 - Applying for funding





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- Three staff members attended EBM trainers workshop in Brisbane
- One staff member attended a Logframe planning workshop
- Sixteen staff members attended the four day health promotion and evaluation workshop
- Ten staff members completed SPSS training workshops



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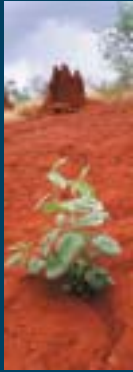
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- 5. To develop multidisciplinary research of strategic use to policy-makers, service planners, clinicians, consumers and, community



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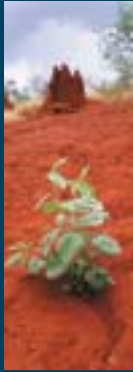
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- Developing a project to examine the incidence of antenatal and postnatal depression of women in Mt Isa



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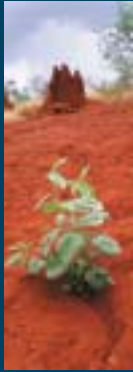
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- Developed and will apply for funding for a research project entitled: Structural factors, which affect the implementation of primary health care at district level
 - Aim to provide policy guidelines to facilitate the implementation of primary health care initiatives within current management structures in N. QLD.





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- Developing a community focused mental health research programme
 - Workshop to explore issues of adolescent mental health
 - Workshop on research planning for mental health
 - Liaising with RFDS on mental health promotion





Highlights & opportunities

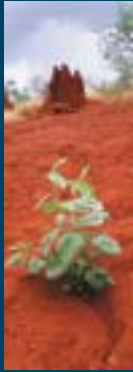
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- Response of PCP's particularly in Community Health, Tropical Public Health and the Division of Allied Health
- Resulted in a strong foundation on which to build community centred research
- Ideally placed to facilitate community research throughout the gulf region



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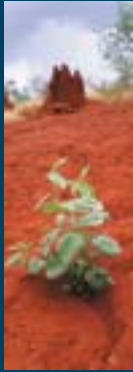
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Issues & problems

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- Permanence
 - High staff turnover
 - Reliance on locums
 - Burnout
 - Small number of people attempting to address a large number of issues





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- Long term commitment & sustainability
 - Many projects are short duration and never fully address the issues for which they were designed
 - UDRH's are in an ideal position to be repositories of community research and guide the direction of rural research over the long term

