

## What the project is about

For a long time there have been communication problems between the western health system and Aboriginal clients. This project is about improving health education and health interpreting for Aboriginal clients so that they can better understand doctors and other health workers and make informed decisions about treatments.

## Who is involved

The Primary Health Care Reform Group in OATSIH has invited Charles Darwin University to work with Laynha Health to plan a major project to improve client health education and health interpreting in the East Arnhem region at – Milingimbi, Galiwin'ku, Ramingining, Gapuwiyak, Nhulunbuy, Yirrkala, Angurugu, Umbakumba, and Numbulwar and in homelands.

In May 2010 we will be contacting the health clinic and interpreters in your community to invite you to participate in this project. Please let us know who are the key people we need to talk to and if you would like us to visit you.

# Client Health Education and Interpreting



## Our website...

We have made a website that explains more about the project and has an online survey.

There are 3 ways you can participate in the planning research:

1. You can go to the website and complete the online survey yourself or with others
2. You can talk with us over the phone and we will ask you the questions and record your answers and comments for you
3. You can request us to visit your community to meet and talk with you

We also have funding for bilingual consultants to conduct interviews with health workers and other community members in their own languages.

[www.cdu.edu.au/hl](http://www.cdu.edu.au/hl)

## Online & phone survey...

There are questions about ways in which client health education and interpreting can be improved in your community through:

- More local training for Aboriginal Health Workers about the biomedical story of the body, sickness and treatment
- Recruiting and training more people for health work and interpreting
- More local training for nonAboriginal staff in health communication and the use of interpreters
- More interpreters available to work in the clinic
- Better health education resources, diagrams, models, multimedia etc
- Better communication practices inside the clinic and between the clinic and the community



We have been asked to present the plan to the Primary Health Care Reform Group by the beginning of June. If it is accepted, we may be invited to conduct the major project with you between July 2010 and June 2011 – and hopefully into the future.

Please visit the website [www.cdu.edu.au/hl](http://www.cdu.edu.au/hl) or talk to Jeff Cook on 89391860 or Michael Christie on 89467338 or Juli Cathcart on 02 66848108

