

Initiatives to Reduce Aboriginal Over Representation in the Criminal Justice System

Project Summary

A project with the Koori Caucus, AJA4 Steering Committee, Koori Justice Unit and The Australian Centre for Social Innovation

About

This project is about building upon existing evidence and knowledge of what works, unlocking initiatives to significantly impact on over representation. A selection of 5 interconnected innovative initiatives have been selected and designed to work with families, community and system actors to remove barriers from the current system while working toward a self-determined justice system.

Outputs

The fundamentals of each concept have been designed and documented to support Caucus and KJU to further the opportunities

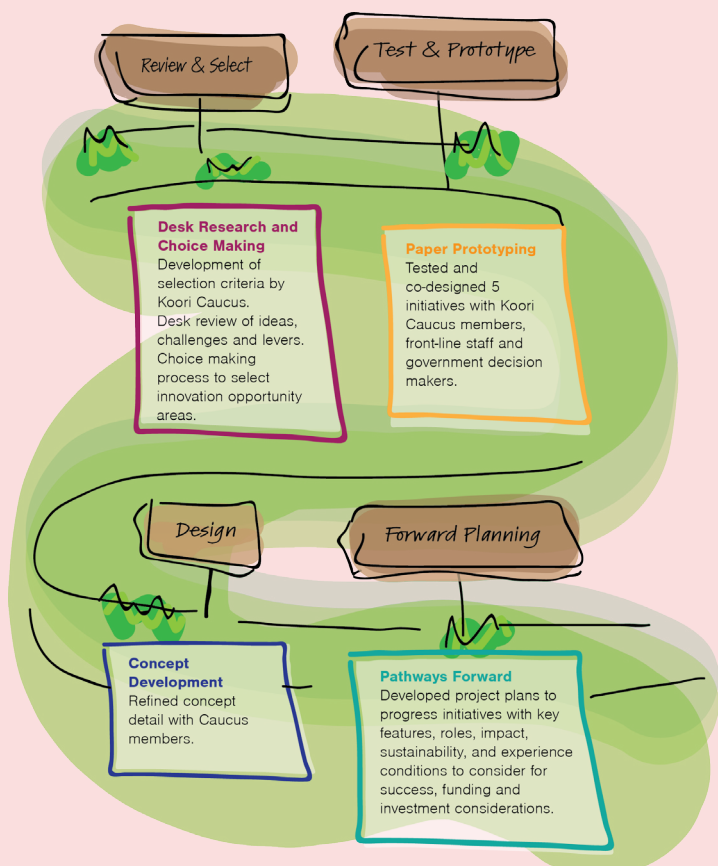
- key features, roles and audience
- project plans to progress the initiative from concept to implementation
- impact, sustainability, and experience conditions to consider for success; key questions and assumptions to be answered
- funding and investment considerations

What's next

- Integrate initiatives into Koori Caucus and AJA4 work
- Identify who will own, lead, drive and govern the work moving forward
- Utilise the project plan to progress the 5 innovation initiatives forward

Process & Approach

This project followed a four stage process to build on existing work done by the Aboriginal Justice Forum and advance innovation in self-determination work.



Our Mob, Our Choices –A Family Centred Centre



A family-focused, holistic and restorative support model

A family-focused, intensive wrap-around model that can be applied at every stage of the continuum, from prevention to response. Identify what can be adopted and adapted and what will need to be developed. Ensure it has a joining up mechanism to connect multiple systems around a family.

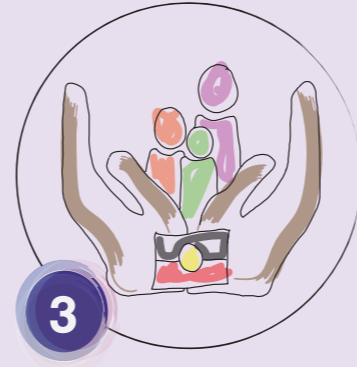
Aboriginal Social Justice Caucus



Community-level self-determination of most concerning criminal justice issues

A methodology and approach to foster community-led identification of issues, design of solutions, implementation and ongoing learning. Build the runway toward a self-determined, Aboriginal Community Controlled Justice System through place-based action and data sovereignty.

No Stepping Back: Aboriginal Supportive Pathway Plan



Adapting procedure to reduce unnecessary bail assignments and breaches

A set of approaches and tools intended to reduce the number of Aboriginal people who receive unnecessary or inappropriate bail conditions and the number of Aboriginal people who breach conditions once set. The model emphasises building community and social connection.

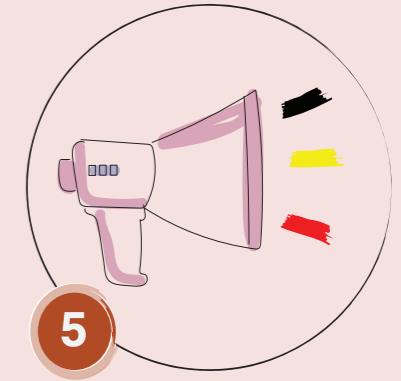
First Contact is the Last Contact



Prevention for Young People: Ensuring the first contact is the last

A model or approach to support to victims and witnesses of crime and neglect to ensure that first time young people come in contact with the system is the last, and preventing unnecessary contact. Amplify the community's role as the first line of defence.

Koori Voices



Koori Driven Media

A media strategy to take the narrative about Aboriginal people back into the hands of Aboriginal people. Amplify Koori Caucus Voice and influence, reinforce positive identity with strong social media strategy and enhanced Caucus communications role.

Overall strategy

If we

Develop and implement a set of interconnected innovation initiatives to further self-determination and reduce over representation

by

- Developing family focussed holistic and restorative support model
- Establishing a self-determined, Aboriginal led response to criminal justice issues
- Adapting procedure to reduce unnecessary bail assignments and breaches
- Creating a community response to prevent young people from coming in contact with the justice system
- Amplifying Koori voice through Koori driven media

it will lead to

- Progress toward the decolonisation of the criminal justice system
- Building of safer futures for Aboriginal people
- Reduction of intergenerational engagement in the justice system

and ultimately

A self determined approach and response to justice

This is an interlinking system of initiatives that collectively work together towards a self determined justice response for all Aboriginal families and individuals across the continuum

