



CAIRDE:
CHALLENGING ETHNIC MINORITY HEALTH INEQUALITIES

16th of September 2009




KEY ACTION AREAS



Impact on Policy



Individual Advocacy
(Health Information and Advocacy Centre)

Collective Action
(Ethnic Minority Health Forum)



ADVOCACY

INDIVIDUAL HEALTH ISSUES


➔


- ✓Lack of Health Information
- ✓Medical/ GP visit Card
- ✓Language
- ✓Communication difficulties
- ✓Financial problems/Cost of healthcare
- ✓Health rights and entitlements
- ✓Access to health services
- ✓Social welfare



ADVOCACY

HEALTH INFORMATION AND ADVOCACY CENTRE


➔


- ✓Health information provision
- ✓Link to appropriate health services
- ✓Health rights and entitlements
- ✓Medical/GP visit cards
- ✓Support in accessing health and related services
- ✓Applications for welfare benefits
- ✓Support in lodging appeals
- ✓Support in making complaints
- ✓Referrals to other organizations and services




ADVOCACY

IN 2008 CAIRDE REACHED 10,181 PEOPLE FROM ETHNIC MINORITIES


➔


- ✓3898 people from ethnic minorities visited the Health Information and Advocacy Centre
- ✓504 people required extensive one-to-one advocacy work
- ✓3394 people had significant information needs



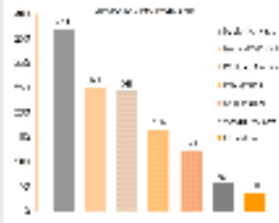
ADVOCACY ISSUES (2008)

ACCESS ISSUES

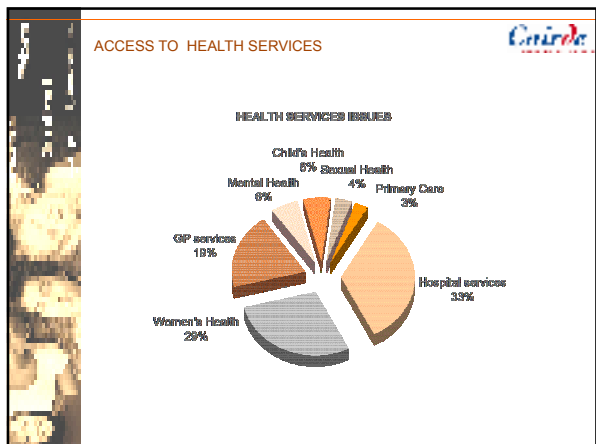
- ✓30% Health services
- ✓20% Medical/GP Visit card
- ✓20% Social welfare

OTHER ISSUES

- ✓13% Immigration status
- ✓10% Employment
- ✓4% Accommodation
- ✓3% Education



Issue Category	Percentage
Health services	30%
Medical/GP Visit card	20%
Social welfare	20%
Immigration status	13%
Employment	10%
Accommodation	4%
Education	3%



- MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES 
- Equity of access to health services:
- ✓Hospital services and 'ordinary residence'
 - ✓Maternity services and Maternity and Infant Scheme
 - ✓Medical card
 - ✓Access to social welfare and other support
- Capacity of minority ethnic communities in health:
- ✓Empowerment through health information/ health knowledge
 - ✓Identifying and analysing issues for themselves
 - ✓Acting collectively to effect change (health policy, healthcare delivery)