Facts you may not know

Today, the 11.5 (males) and 9.7 (females) year life expectancy gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians remains one of the starkest indicators on inequality in Australian society.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples score low on every social economic indicator. Indigenous babies are up to 3.1 times more likely to die in their first year than non-Indigenous babies.

Indigenous people suffer 8 times higher diabetes complications, and 4 times higher pulmonary disease than non-Indigenous people.

In 2011, suicide rates were 10.1 - 37.2 per 100,000 people, compared to 7.8 - 12.9 per 100,000 for non-Indigenous people.

In 2008, just over twenty-seven percent of Indigenous people aged 15 and over lived in overcrowded housing. This increases to fifty-eight percent in remote communities.

In 2008, just over forty percent of Indigenous people aged 18-24 were neither studying nor employed or in the labour force, compared with nine percent of other Australians.

In 2006, 37.6 percent of the Indigenous population was aged 14 years or less, compared to 19.1 percent of the non-Indigenous population.

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David Liddiard  CEO

Following a successful sporting career as a NRL player, he established the National Aboriginal Sporting Chance Academy (NASC) which provides real opportunities for Indigenous youth in sport and education.

In addition to his role as Executive Director of NASCA, David has spearheaded initiatives which provide practical support to corporates and businesses with workplace participation strategies for Indigenous talent. He has been involved in state and national initiatives which focus on economic development and leadership capacity building and has presented to panels and forums at state and national events. David was awarded a Churchill Fellowship in the area of Minority Supplier Diversity. He has initiated numerous projects with many organisations to secure better opportunities for Indigenous Australians.

His recently launched business CorporateConnect.AB, established in June 2010, actively pursues opportunities to link the corporate sector and Indigenous enterprise and employment opportunities.

Having experienced first-hand what benefits sport, education and a healthy lifestyle can have for individuals and communities, David has for more than twenty years committed himself to working with Aboriginal youth and communities. The emphasis of David's activities is on young people, and he understands the value of using sport as a means to connect them. His belief is that ‘education is the key’ and he works tirelessly for opportunities for youth to have effective transition from school to work.

Coffee Cup initiative

Through CorporateConnect.AB, and specifically through the recent initiative of the Indigenous design coffee cups, Davids hopes to continue and extend the work which he has been doing on a pro bono basis for many years and with the resources of CorporateConnect.AB over the past two years specifically.

David continues to receive weekly requests from Aboriginal communities and individuals for support with their youth engagement and employment needs. Most of these are immediate and do not always fall inside the guidelines of funded programs. If a grant is potentially available, the paperwork and delay in response is sometimes too difficult for community members to deal with.

Although CorporateConnect.AB is a commercial enterprise, we have made the commitment to allocate up to ten days each year of our time and resources to assisting the communities, remote and also urban, with their requests for support if it aligns with our core business. We prefer to fly ‘under the radar’ with these activities, but some of our corporate partners are comfortable with being named in their support of what we do in this regard.

The coffee cup initiative is where we hope to commit a set amount annually to this type of work. We invite any of our corporate partners to share these activities with us and to visit the communities where these activities take place.

Our manufacturing partner Huhtamaki and our distribution partner BUNZL support the work of CorporateConnect.AB.

Our website provides more details about ordering our coffee cups. Visit www.ccab.net.au

CCAB Pro bono community activities

- Procuring sports equipment for two remote communities to assist with providing much needed sports gear for Aboriginal youth during school holidays who would otherwise be bored and get up to mischief!
- Assisted two Aboriginal entrepreneurs (one in an urban area, one in a regional area) who wanted to set up a business providing cultural awareness to develop brochures promoting their products and services. Our Admin team has the graphic design skills which were out of the reach of the two individuals to either do or to pay someone to do on their behalf.
- Provided the chance for several youth from remote communities to travel to Sydney and be hosted by our corporate partners and do work observation so that they had an opportunity to see what a job involves first hand. In the remote communities where these youth live, there are few jobs, no real employment prospects and generational unemployment. They have to leave their community to work and need the inspiration that such an experience can provide to make it.
- A remote community needed some help with making a community event a successful fundraiser and we were able to provide gifts and prizes which we collected from some of our corporate partners and sent out to them. It was a great event and achieved the desired result.
- Good quality brand label clothing was collected by us and delivered to a community where there was a specific and urgent need for teenage youth. The sought after labelled clothing is hard for them to buy, but their access to television reminds them of what others readily have.
- A remote community youth centre was provided with books and DVDs which we collected and arranged for transport out there when we noticed after a visit that their resources for youth activities were sadly limited. Two large boxes full of quality books and DVDs were delivered to the grateful recipients.
- David has also been able to transition eight youth and young adults into full time and part time employment in Sydney through his efforts in meeting with employers and supporting the candidates who approached him through his reputation and network of personal connections.