

Researchers from the Rumbalara Football Netball Club, Viney Morgan Aboriginal Medical Service, Rumbalara Aboriginal Co-operative and Onemda VicHealth Koori Health Unit collaborated on this project to explore factors influencing the wellbeing of Koori community members in northern Victoria. The analysis of thirty semi-structured interviews with a broad range of community members resulted in five major themes: history, relationship with mainstream, threats to wellbeing, connectedness and sense of control, and a number of sub-themes. The results of the research, while not intended to provide a definitive model of Indigenous health, provide a useful working model of Koori health of particular relevance to the local context. This paper explores the factors that have allowed the transition from an academic research exercise to a working model with application to the development of health promotion and community development projects within the community, such as the use of artwork, and describes how the Rumbalara Football Netball Club is incorporating the model into its member and community development framework.