

# Evaluating and Supporting Suicide Prevention: Addressing Social and Emotional Wellbeing



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## Introduction

- Fifth National Plan for mental health.
- Close the Gap measures aren't met.
- Suicide rates among teens is high.
- 18 initiatives featured in 2014 ATSIPEP.

## Objective of Internship

- Update the Center of Best Practices for Suicide Prevention for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander website.
- Support strong suicide prevention initiatives and encourage stronger programs.
- Implement skin infection prevention program through community workers.

## Work profile

- Telethon Kids Institute is a research institution aimed at improving health of young children and mothers.
- I worked on Indigenous suicide.
- Incorporated new evaluations into the initiatives showcased.
- Visited rural communities for Healthy Skin Project implementation.

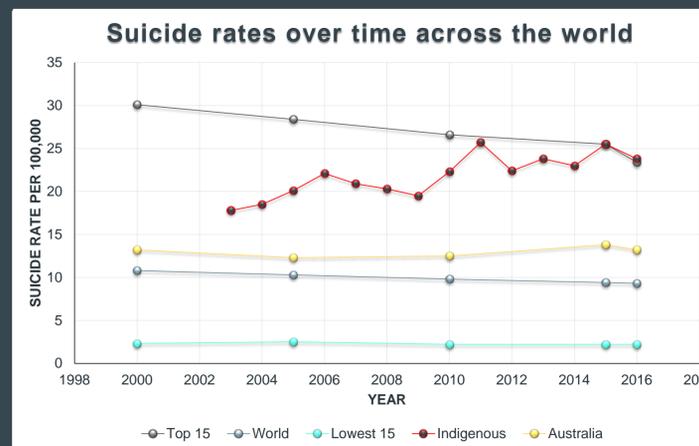
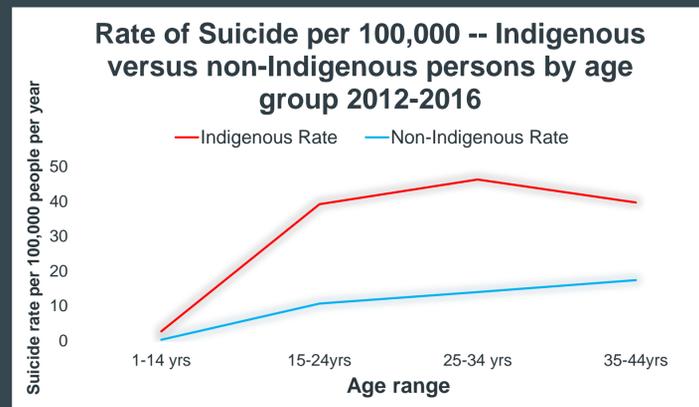
## Reflection

- Presented statistics to show the need for more funding for suicide prevention initiatives.
- Ensured the progress of the initiatives.
- Understood the health inequalities even within a country across ethnicities.
- Contextualized history, policy, and on-site consultation into health.
- Realized the wide variation among these suicide prevention organizations.
- Understood how the determinants of health intersect.



Pictured above is the office I worked in along with another intern, Ellen, and my supervisor, Roz.

Pictured right is the community we worked in to address skin infection. Jigalong has one of the highest skin infection rates in all of Western Australia.



Figures above demonstrate the urgent need for suicide intervention.



## Looking ahead

- Through my experience, I really enjoyed the policy work and the process of working with suicide initiatives to address health disparities. I hope to do more work in health policies in the future.

## Questions

- How do we encourage more suicide prevention organizations to show efficacy of their programs?
- What are good metrics for the evaluation of the Healthy Skin Project?

## Conclusion

- Health is complicated!
- The process to addressing health concerns is never streamlined and straightforward.

## Acknowledgements

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