

# SMOKING AND INDIGENOUS PREGNANCY

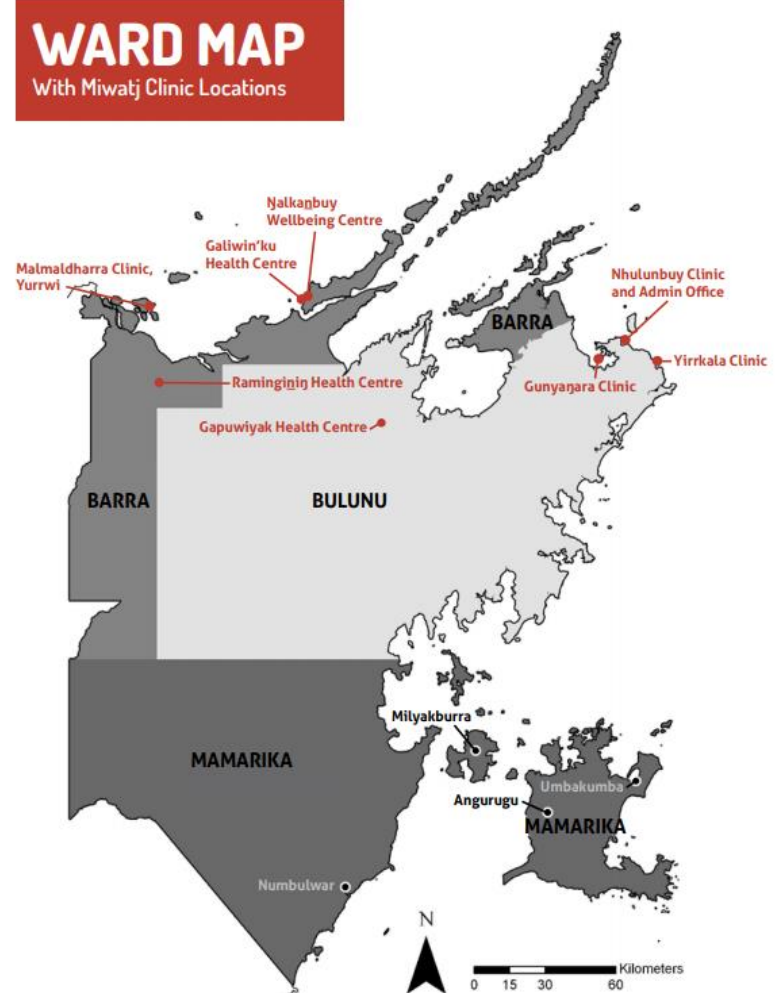
What is happening in North East Arnhem Land

# BACKGROUND – MIWATJ HEALTH



## North East Arnhem

- Far north-eastern corner of the Northern Territory, the region covers an area of 33,359 km<sup>2</sup>.
- Total population 10,271 (2017) with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples making up 93.6% of the population (2016).



## Miwatj Health

- Miwatj Health Aboriginal Corporation established in 1992.
- Governed by a Board representing the **Yolŋu**, **Anindilyakwa** and **Nunggubuyu** people of the region.
- Comprehensive primary health care and a range of population health programs, including NDIS and social and emotional wellbeing.
- Miwatj employs 269 people, of whom over 50% identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.
- Miwatj Tackling Indigenous Smoking program currently employs 10 Yolŋu community workers.



## STRATEGIC GOALS

From our external and internal analyses, and taking into account our Mission, Vision and Values, we have identified a number of priorities and have brought these together in our strategic goals.

The Strategic Goals for Miwatj Health for 2018-2020 are:

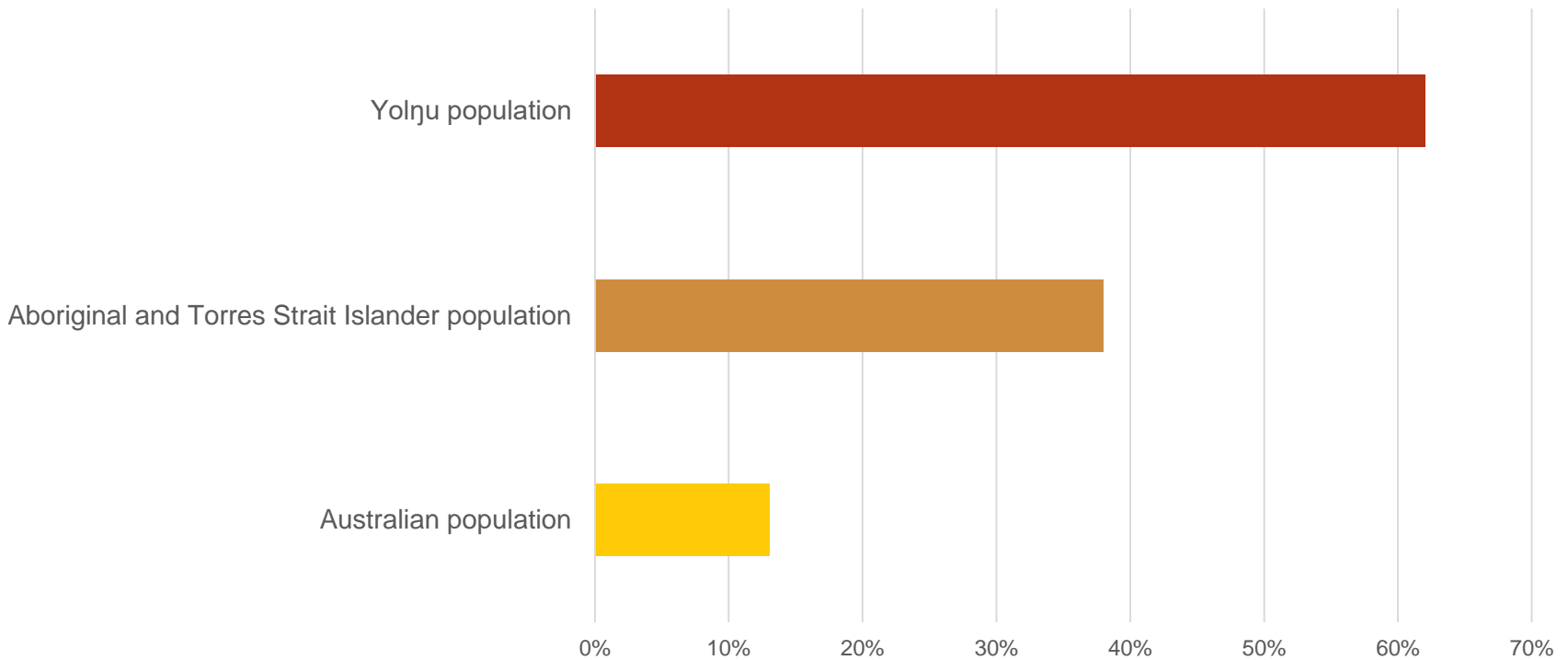
- 1. We will continue to deliver best practice, evidence-based services following a comprehensive, population health and rights-based approach.***
- 2. We will extend our service coverage across the region, responding to community needs and strengthening capabilities, consistent with our Mission.***
- 3. We will respect and engage with Aboriginal forms of authority and decision-making in all our activities and extend community involvement to empower Miwatj mala to guide how healthcare is provided.***
- 4. Further develop and demonstrate organisational culture and systems to drive efficient performance.***
- 5. Become an employer-of-choice to attract and retain quality staff.***
- 6. Support the empowerment of the local Aboriginal workforce with meaningful career pathways and progression.***

# SMOKING STATUS – A COMPARISON



## Estimates of smoking prevalence

Population aged 15 and over



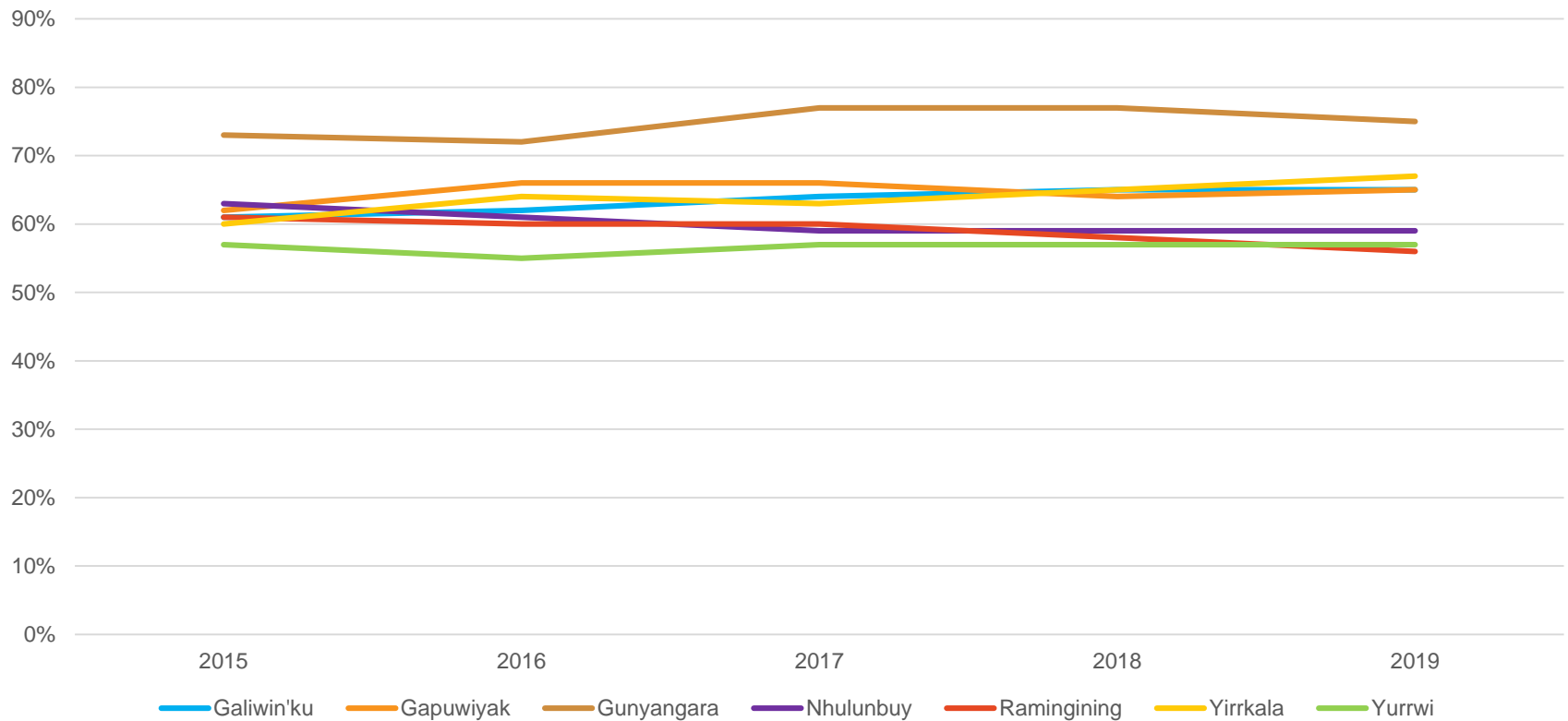
Data sources:  
Combined Communicare data 2019  
National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey, 2018-19: Smoking. ABS, 2019

# SMOKING STATUS IN OUR REGION



## NT AHKPI 1.16: Smoking status recorded

**Status: Smoker**  
1 January 2019 - 31 December 2019



Smoking status is recorded for ~67% of population >15 years old (2019)

# SMOKING STATUS IN OUR REGION



*Communicare*

*Miwatj Health and Marthakal Health*

## **nKPI PI 11 - Smoking in Pregnancy**

*Report to 31/01/2020 for <All Locality Groups> and Communicare Current Patients, <All Encounter Places>*

	15-19	20-24	25-34	35+	ALL AGES
1. Current smoker	4	21	26	5	56
2. Ex-smoker	3	1	4	2	10
3. Never smoked	2	9	6	2	19
Current smoker	44.4%	67.7%	72.2%	55.6%	65.9%
Ex-smoker	33.3%	3.2%	11.1%	22.2%	11.8%
Never smoked	22.2%	29.0%	16.7%	22.2%	22.4%

*Communicare*

*Miwatj Health (Gapuwiyak and Ramingining)*

## **nKPI PI 11 - Smoking in Pregnancy**

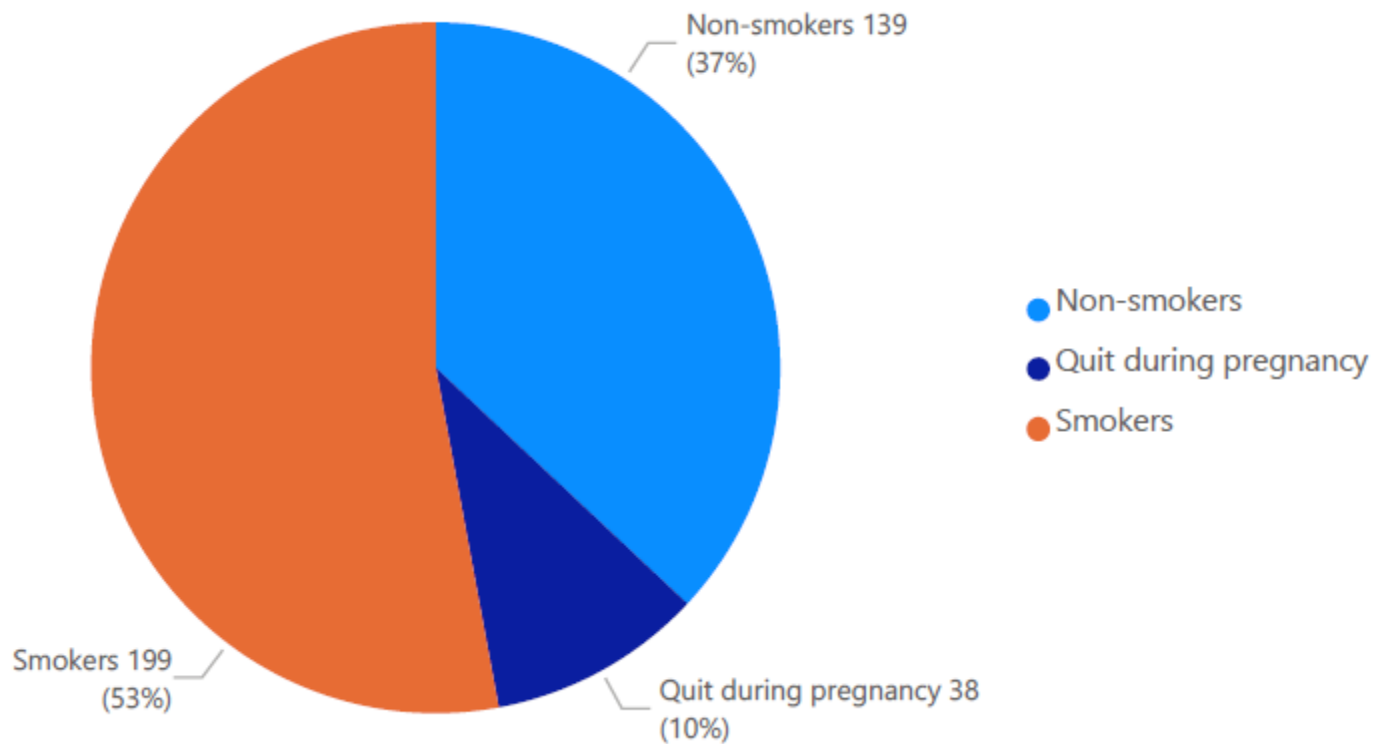
*Report to 31/01/2020 for <All Locality Groups> and Communicare Current Patients, <All Encounter Places>*

	15-19	20-24	25-34	35+	ALL AGES
1. Current smoker	2	2	6	2	12
2. Ex-smoker	0	0	1	1	2
3. Never smoked	1	4	1	4	10
Current smoker	66.7%	33.3%	75.0%	28.6%	50.0%
Ex-smoker	0.0%	0.0%	12.5%	14.3%	8.3%
Never smoked	33.3%	66.7%	12.5%	57.1%	41.7%

# SMOKING STATUS IN OUR REGION



## Recorded smoking status during pregnancy



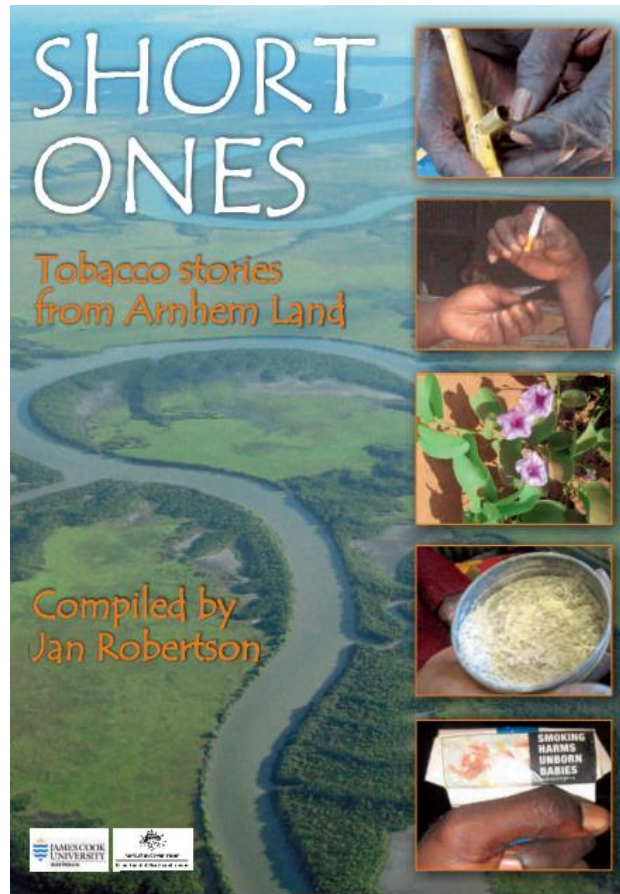
Communicare data from 1 January 2018 – 23 December 2019

Note: Patient may be counted more than once if different status recorded at the same location, or if same status recorded at different location.

# THE DARALI STORY



## The history of tobacco in East Arnhem



Short Ones: Tobacco stories from Arnhem Land (2011)



## Darali: The tobacco story of Arnhem Land (2014)

Miwatj YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o840vRzvAuw>



## MIWATJ PROGRAM AIMS

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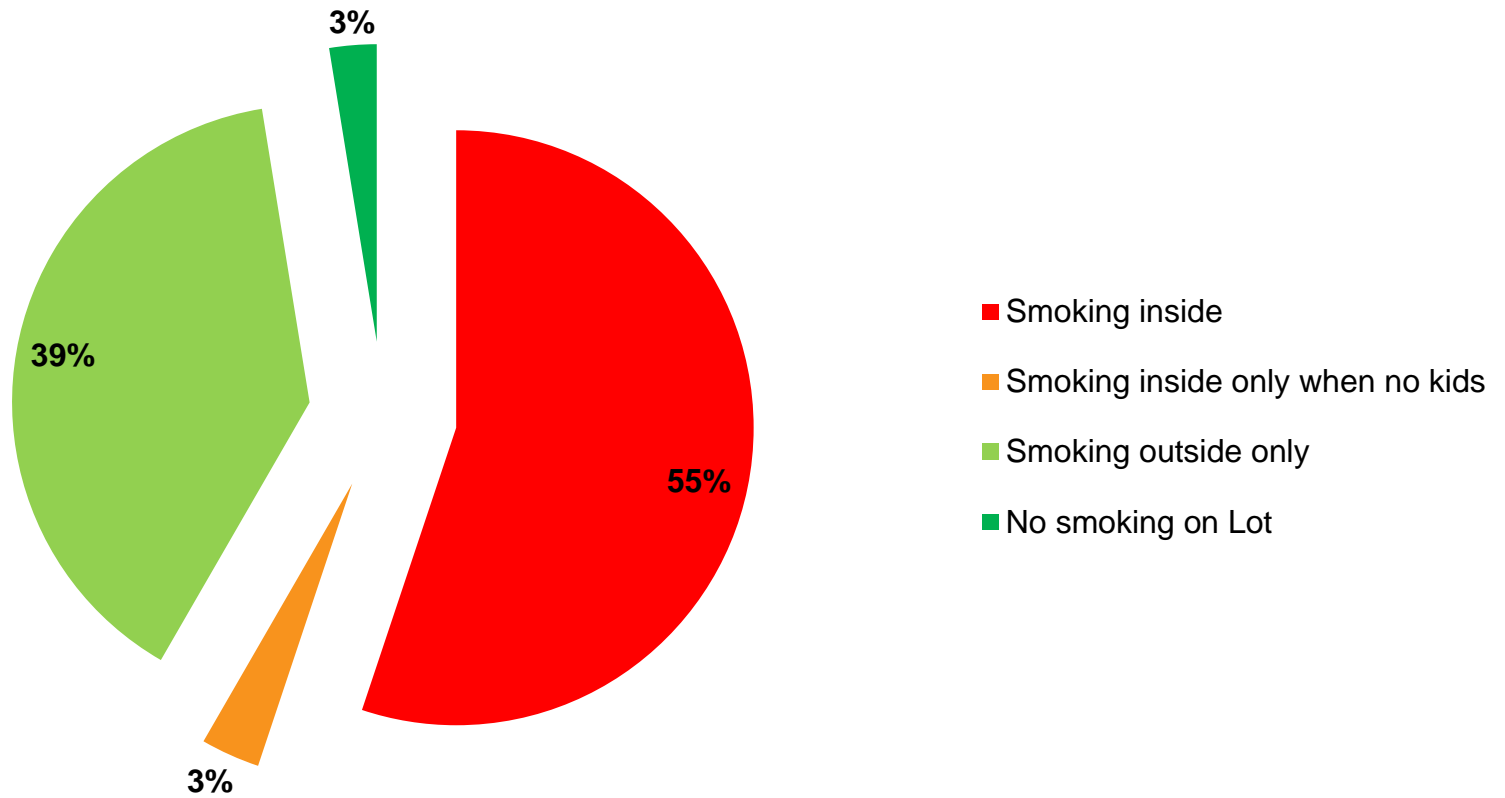
### TIS Activity Work Plan (September 2019 – June 2022)

- 1. De-normalising tobacco with an evidence-based population health approach**
- 2. Develop holistic approaches to Tackling Indigenous Smoking through cross-program collaborations within Miwatj**
- 3. Developing and supporting smoke free homes and smoke free cars in communities**
- 4. Smoke free workplaces and smoke free community spaces**
- 5. Priority focus on antenatal care and parents**
- 6. Priority focus on youth**
- 7. Contribute to increased health literacy for the Miwatj region**

# SMOKE-FREE HOMES



156 initial home visits during period November 2017 – October 2019



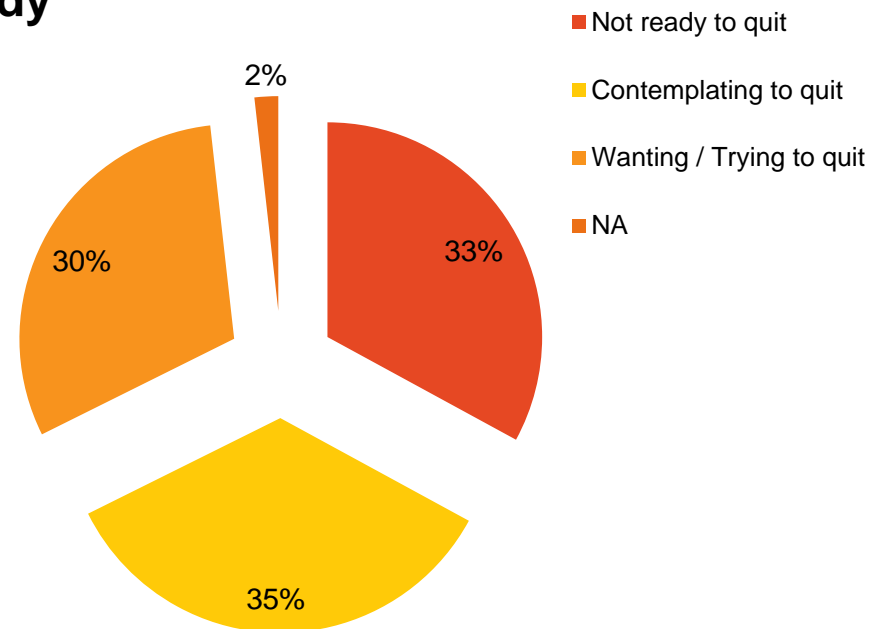
# PRIORITY FOCUS



## Smoking among Yolŋu miyalk

- 337 of 480 women (70%) surveyed between 2017-2019 identified as smokers
- Stress was the most common reason reported among women

### Quit ready



Opportunistic surveying between 12<sup>th</sup> September 2017 – 9<sup>th</sup> July 2019

# PRIORITY FOCUS



## Miyalk TIS Workers

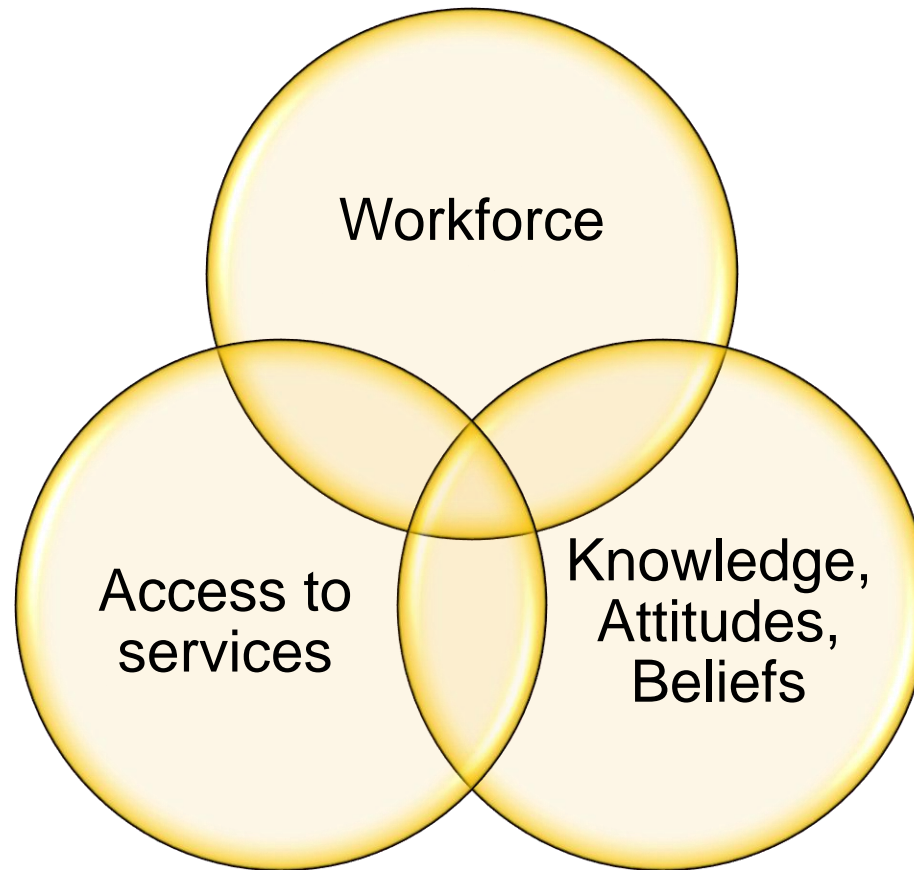


Miwatj TIS community workers, Trudy (above and top right) and Julie (right), providing education on country and in community centres

# THE CHALLENGES



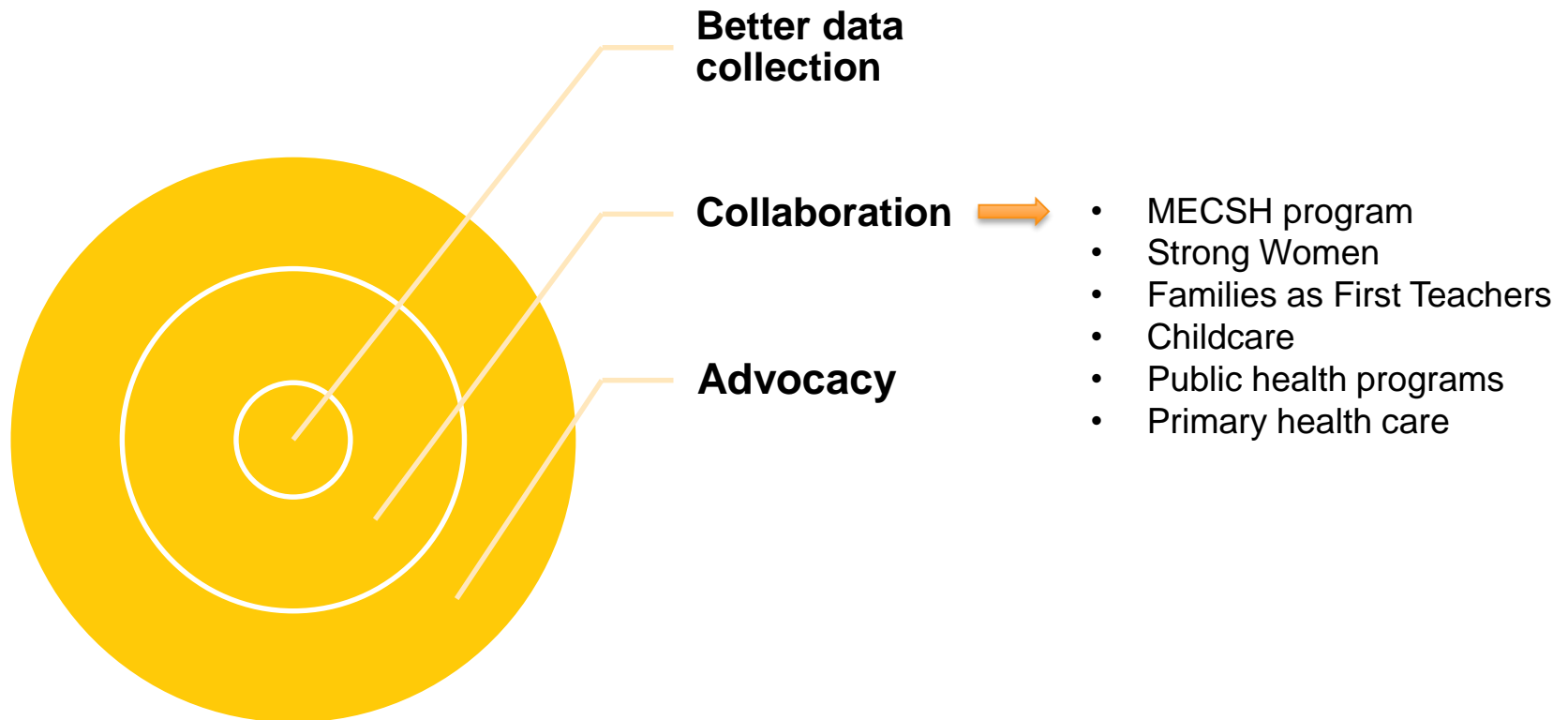
What are the challenges we face in achieving our aims?



# THE NEXT TWO YEARS



How are we going to succeed for this priority group?



## CONTACT

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