Telehealth: a Game Changer in Laynhapuy Homelands

BR🔘ADBAND
for the Bush Alliance
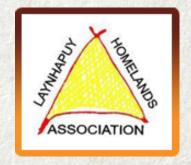Forum VI

LAYNHAPUY HOMELANDS ASSOCIATION

CHARLES DARWIN UNIVERSITY

NORTHERN INSTITUTE
People. Policy. Place.

Marianne St Clair (Northern Institute, Charles Darwin University)
David Murtagh (Northern Institute, Charles Darwin University)

Team Members:
- David Murtagh, Researcher, NI
- John Kelly, GP/Physician, Laynhapuy Homelands
- Jeff Cook, Clinic Manager, Laynhapuy Homelands
- Ruth Wallace, Director, NI
- Payi Linda Ford, Researcher, NI & TO

Laynhapuy Telehealth Project:
Broadband for the Bush Forum

- CDU – Collaboration Grant $50k
- NTG: Regional Economic and Infrastructure Fund $400k – Pilot & Demonstration
- Telstra Health $50k
- Laynhapuy Homelands – vehicles, accom
- eMerge – Katherine
- AMSANT

NT Context:

- 32% population Indigenous
- 79% live in remote communities (ABS, 2011)
- > 100 remote clinics
- Many of these have poor access to internet
- >30 communities with >100 people – no internet! (NTG)
- NTG & Telstra – collaborative program eg Timber Creek => ADSL
- NTG invested in National Telehealth Connection Service (NTCS)

Challenges:

- Remoteness
- Unreliable telecommunications – fixed line comms (microwave phone)
- Lack of adequate broadband
- Clinic staff
- Diagnosing by phone

Very Remote.

Road in wet season.

Road in wet season.

Remote access and wet season.

Once the wet season is in full swing the only access is via chartered plane.

Traditional cultural fire management practices

Initial site assessment.

Initial site assessment.

Initial site assessment.

Equipment delivery.

Satellite dish install.

Equipment Install.
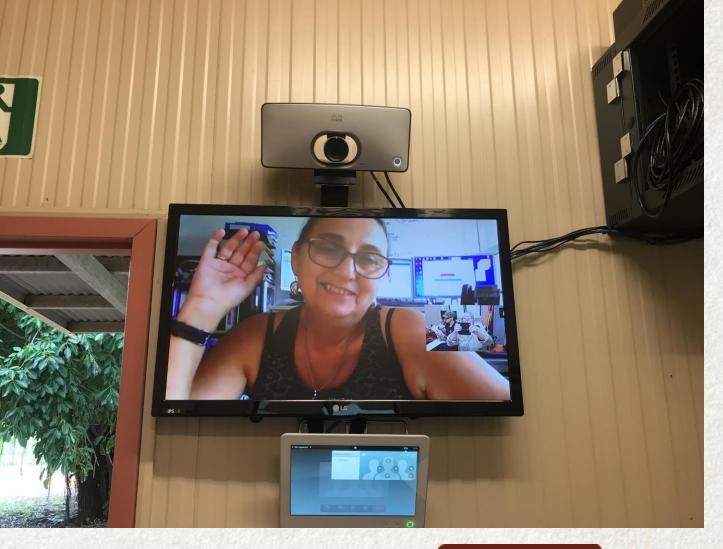
High quality 1.8 meter satellite dish.
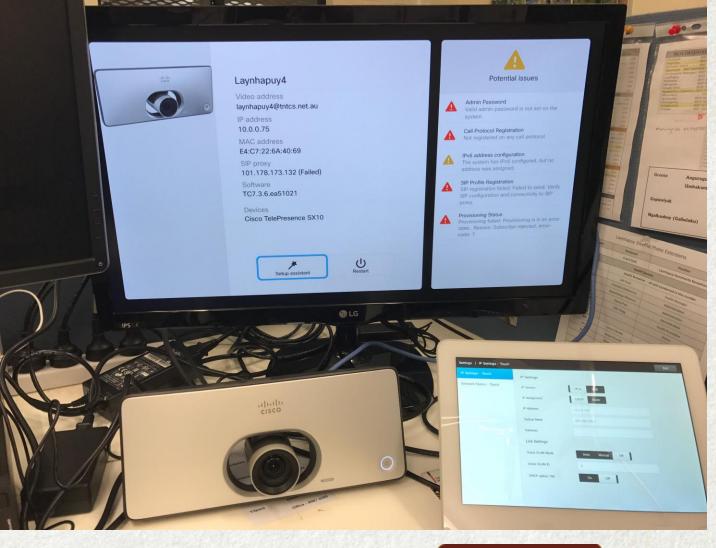
Network and video conference system install.

Extensive remote support provided by project team.

Video conference system
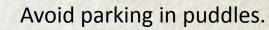Configuration – Yirrkala Office.

Examples:
Spear wound
Cancer – Post diagnosis
MVA

Avoid parking in puddles.

Further commitment from NBN will allow this system to be extended beyond the existing communities.

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Questions?

- Suggestions?

- Thank you! *Dundee Beach, Marianne St Clair*