



**CAIRDE:**  
CHALLENGING ETHNIC MINORITY HEALTH INEQUALITIES

16th of September 2009




**KEY ACTION AREAS**



**Impact on Policy**



**Individual Advocacy**  
(Health Information and Advocacy Centre)

**Collective Action**  
(Ethnic Minority Health Forum)



**ADVOCACY**

**INDIVIDUAL HEALTH ISSUES**


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- ✓Lack of Health Information
- ✓Medical/ GP visit Card
- ✓Language
- ✓Communication difficulties
- ✓Financial problems/Cost of healthcare
- ✓Health rights and entitlements
- ✓Access to health services
- ✓Social welfare



**ADVOCACY**

**HEALTH INFORMATION AND ADVOCACY CENTRE**


➔


- ✓Health information provision
- ✓Link to appropriate health services
- ✓Health rights and entitlements
- ✓Medical/GP visit cards
- ✓Support in accessing health and related services
- ✓Applications for welfare benefits
- ✓Support in lodging appeals
- ✓Support in making complaints
- ✓Referrals to other organizations and services




**ADVOCACY**

IN 2008 CAIRDE REACHED 10,181 PEOPLE FROM ETHNIC MINORITIES


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- ✓3898 people from ethnic minorities visited the Health Information and Advocacy Centre
- ✓504 people required extensive one-to-one advocacy work
- ✓3394 people had significant information needs



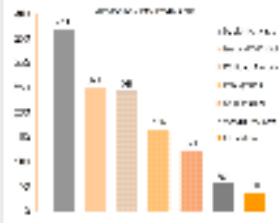
**ADVOCACY ISSUES (2008)**

**ACCESS ISSUES**

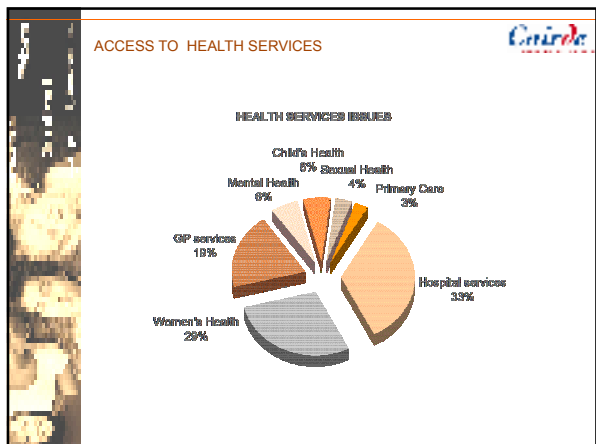
- ✓30% Health services
- ✓20% Medical/GP Visit card
- ✓20% Social welfare

**OTHER ISSUES**

- ✓13% Immigration status
- ✓10% Employment
- ✓4% Accommodation
- ✓3% Education



Issue Category	Percentage
Health services	30%
Medical/GP Visit card	20%
Social welfare	20%
Immigration status	13%
Employment	10%
Accommodation	4%
Education	3%



- MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES 
- Equity of access to health services:
- ✓Hospital services and 'ordinary residence'
  - ✓Maternity services and Maternity and Infant Scheme
  - ✓Medical card
  - ✓Access to social welfare and other support
- Capacity of minority ethnic communities in health:
- ✓Empowerment through health information/ health knowledge
  - ✓Identifying and analysing issues for themselves
  - ✓Acting collectively to effect change (health policy, healthcare delivery)