**Transcript**

***Kylie Johnston – The REACH partnership: building the evidence for HIV prevention***

I work on the REACH partnership project which is a, a collaborative project with the HIV agencies based in Victoria and it’s a research and practice initiative which, so works with these HIV organisations to build their capacity around evidence building and undertaking evaluation.

There are several outcomes of the REACH partnership. One is to I guess build and strengthen the evaluation culture within an organisation and support staff to contribute, I guess, to the evidence base around HIV prevention. Also to develop monitoring and evaluation tools that can be used across the HIV sector. And, also using this to inform policy development and also help the government to make decisions about HIV prevention programs. And also contribute to the evidence base at a national and international level.

I guess one of the, the biggest outcomes for this project and how it would, I guess, impact on the community is actually enhancing the existing HIV prevention projects as well as informing the development of future projects because it’s not just HIV prevention for a specific population. We’re actually working with organisations that work with gay and bisexual men, culturally and linguistically diverse communities, people living with HIV including women as well. So, it’s, it’s really helping them to enhance and provide appropriate HIV prevention programming.