

MAWARNKARRA NEWS

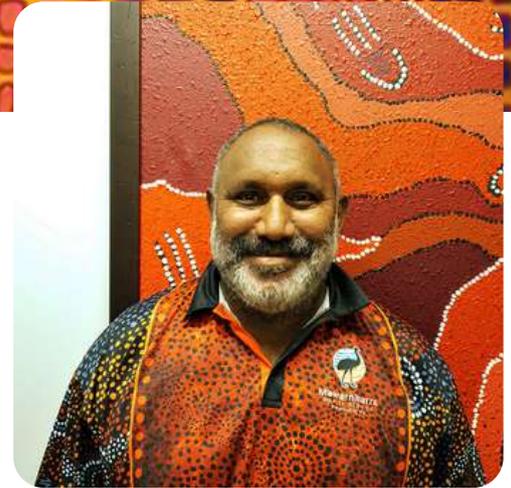
ISSUE 12

November 2021

Wayiba/Wanthiwa/Hello

Welcome to the twelfth edition of Mawarnkarra News.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR MHS CHAIRPERSON, RICHARD ANSEY



The MHS Board and staff attended workshops and Board meetings in Perth last month. Workshops attended were Governance & Risk Management and Business Planning. We also attended Media training and are looking at our media strategy, protocol and action plan/calendar.

A MESSAGE ABOUT THE Pilbara Aboriginal Health Alliance (PAHA)

Interviews for the Executive Officer has been conducted and the successful applicant is Chris Pickett, who commence early November 2021. PAHA is very happy to welcome Chris on board as the Executive Officer. Chris has over 20 years in workforce development and Chief Executive roles within the not-for-profit health sector in rural and remote Australia. Chris has well established networks within the Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Sector in WA and a former organisational member of both the Kimberley and Pilbara Aboriginal Health Planning Forums.



UPDATE FROM OUR CEO

JOAN HICKS

It has been a busy few months for our staff and Board members.

MHS underwent two accreditations last month, Australian General Practice Accreditation Limited (AGPAL) for the clinic, and Quality Innovation Performance (QIP) for the whole organisation.



It's been a massive effort by all staff involved and especially Sarah Ugle our Compliance Officer. A big thank you to everyone involved. MHS will receive both reports in the coming weeks. The next accreditation will be for NDIS which is scheduled for next year.

UPDATE FROM OUR CLINIC

Pfizer vaccination for all clients 12 years and above available at the clinic. Administration of the COVID vaccine is at 23% from 16 years and upwards. Strategies to improve vaccination education and uptake will be handing out printed flyers door to door, engagement of Pansy Sambo as community Elder to help promote the message, our involvement in the Karratha vox – a – thon supporting with transport and a social media campaign. There is worrying high rates of vaccine refusal. The Outreach Mobile Clinic Truck will be setting up in the car park at the Roebourne hall for the upcoming AGM's for our local Aboriginal Organisations to offer the COVID vaccine to any members.

MHS has been offered free access for 12 months for diabetes clients to have access to a Lifestyle App 'Too Deadly for Diabetes'. The app has motivational talks, recipes, simple exercises and videos, education etc.





UPDATE FROM OUR PROGRAMS

There are a number of vacancies within the Programs team which continue to be a challenge to recruit and we are looking at other initiatives to recruit these roles and provide services to the community. We have had candidates offered several roles and accepted, then unfortunately didn't commence.

Tackling Indigenous Smoking (TIS) Update

The TIS team undertook outreach work in Onslow. Leading up to the visit, it was difficult to make contact with stakeholders. The team discussed with local people the opportunity to hold quarterly yarning sessions at Bindi - Bindi to commence building relationships and trust within the community. The plan to host a concert is proposed to put on hold and reassess early 2022.

The TIS team have been revamping the educational resources to use. The team will be doing activities within the school in term 4 and are looking at a session at PCYC to capture some of the school aged children that are disengaged from the school but attend PCYC on a regular basis. The TIS T-shirt designed by the students have arrived. The winners of the competition will receive a certificate and gift voucher which will be presented at the school assembly.

The TIS team and other staff from MHS provided support at the Songs of Peace event by hosting a barbecue and supported community members with transport.

The afternoon yarning sessions at Andover Park concluded in late August. The team are reviewing the sessions and are proposing to move them to the Ngurin Centre in the evenings to create an opportunity for community members that are actively interested in quitting smoking attend to gain further support. The sessions will be run as a group activity which aligns strongly with the funding requirements for TIS. The team are also looking at expanding these sessions to Karratha if successful.

We are in the process of securing free training in the form of the QuitSkills, to be delivered locally in Roebourne. The training will provide both staff and community members the opportunity to complete a nationally recognised training course delivered by CancerSA. We have tentatively secured 23-25 November for Roebourne and 7-9 December for Karratha.

Social Emotional & Wellbeing (SEWB)

The SEWB Team Leader role remains vacant and has been advertised. The SEWB Worker role has been advertised and interviewing of candidates are underway. Both roles are currently vacant

UPDATE FROM OUR PROGRAMS...

Environmental Health (EH)

Healthy Dog day with the City of Karratha commenced on 25 August, but due to a loss in the community it was ceased and rescheduled and then took place on 17 September 2021. Roz Walker attended MHS and has been engaged by the Department of Health to review the Aboriginal Environmental Health Program. Roz outlined many of the challenges that MHS are experiencing in filling the roles is common amongst other organisations with the same contract/service agreement, she is hopeful that the review will highlight this and the future service agreement will rectify many of the shortcomings that currently exist.

Eric Clifton will be commencing full time in one of the EH roles at the end of November 2021. The other role is vacant.

Alcohol & Nutrition (A&N)

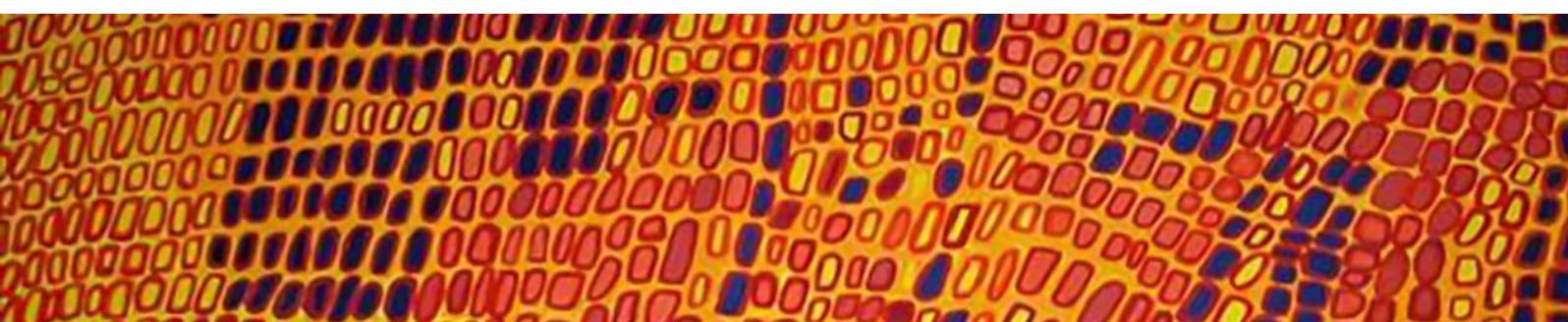
Kema Ware was recently employed in the part time position. Kate Graham is still employed as a casual and will continue to provide support to the team as required. The team is working with the clinic to ensure an ongoing system is in place where clients on the program are reviewed on an agreed basis.

Manga Tharndu Maya Safe House

The Safe House was at 63% capacity for the overall month of September, and has been at 100% for the entire month of October to date. The first round of the Commissioning Project Design Lab for Family and Domestic Violence Services took place on 14 October, a number of service providers expressed similar concerns to those of MHS around lack of funding for the expected level of service, higher subscription of services than capacity allows.

Current Program Staff are:

- TIS – Jeramey Bonney (Team Leader), Reagan Hicks, Thomas Storey and 1 x vacancy.
- SEWB x 2 vacancies
- EH – Eric Clifton and 1 x vacancy
- A&N – Angela Sinclair (F/time), Kema Ware (P/time) and Kate Graham (casual).
- Safe House – Vashti Ashwin (Team Leader), Sue Gale & Renae Edwards (F/time), Gloria Smith & Belinda Watt (P/time), and casuals Jodie Humphries, Kema Ware, Natasha Walker, and Carlene Ellis.
- Women's Outreach Worker – vacant



NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME – NDIS

Centro Assist QMS: our new cloud-based web is operational from 5th October in preparation for MHS NDIS Self-Assessment before 1 December 2021. This application will manage quality and maintain compliance with the NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework.

The Remote Community Connector Team will visit the Onslow Community to promote our initiative “Let’s talk about NDIS funding”. We will take our local participants, to talk with the Onslow community about their experiences with MHS NDIS. We hope to improve understanding of the purpose, and the benefits of NDIS to Onslow families. If successful, we will consider a similar approach to other communities.

MHS has put in an application for RED Grants. The overview of the proposal is providing accommodation for people with disabilities to live more independently in Roebourne. This is an exciting opportunity that, if successful, will meet some of the urgent needs of our participants.

The NDIS transportable office has arrived but unfortunately it is not connected to power just yet. The power will be connected in November 2021

Current NDIS Staff:

- Sandra Conejeros (Disability Services Manager)
- Sarah Freeman (Support Coordinator)
- Landon Punch & Patricia Tressider (Remote Community Connectors)
- Rachel Samson (Part time Remote Community Connector.

We are in the process of recruiting, two Disability Advocacy Officers, Speech Pathologist, Support Coordinator and a part-time finance officer.

PERTH OUTREACH SERVICE

Jodie Jackson continues to support our patients in Perth by offering transport to and from the airport, to their accommodation and appointments. She also attends medical appointments with patients so they understand what treatment is required and advocates on behalf of them.

MAWARNKARRA STAFFING UPDATE

STAFF MOVEMENT

Welcome to new starters: Locum Dr Deb Mitchell. Talia Howard – full time Clinic Receptionist, Robert Newman – Counsellor, Locum Dr Tariq Merzer, Nikita Celima – part time Enrolled Nurse, Elly Dowdell – Women’s Outreach Worker, Miriam McConachy – Registered Nurse, Locum Dr Sanmogam Goundar and Hermas Kamudyariwa – Corporate Services Manager.

Staff acquiring full time work or transitioning to other service areas: Kema Ware commenced as part time A&N Support Worker

Farewell to: Holly Randall – Maternity leave, Tania Kelly – Aboriginal Health Practitioner and Chelsea Patterson – TIS Worker.

STAFF MEMBER OF THE MONTH:

Congratulations to Eric Clifton for being nominated as Employee of the Month of September 2021 and Mark Carthew for being nominated as Employee of the Month of October 2021

STAFF PROFILE

ERIC CLIFTON

My name is Eric Clifton, I’m a Kariyarra/Ngarluma person and I was born in Port Hedland. My family come from Hedland, Roebourne and Karratha.

I’ve been working in Mawarnkarra for 4 months going on to 5 now. I started off as a Transport Driver picking up MHS patients and taking them to their appointments, I really enjoyed that job!

Now I have taken up a new role as the Environmental Health Officer. As an Environmental Health Practitioner I can provide a good service to people in making their homes and communities environmentally friendly and a safe place from hazards which can cause people getting sick in their homes.

MHS is a great place to work all our staff are friendly and work hard to ensure we provide the best service to our patients. I look forward in building a career and working in the community helping my people through Mawarnkarra Health Service.



MARK CARTHEW



Hi, my name is Mark Carthew, I am originally from Como but moved to Roebourne with my partner just over 40 years ago.

I have a passion for horticulture and gardening for which I've spent 15+ years doing. My hobbies include fishing, chasing the shiny rock (prospecting) and of course keeping my yard green.

I previously worked for MHS for over 11 years and then retired to have that chill life but now I'm back and ready to get stuck into it!

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN DECEMBER:

December 2021				
		01 Podiatry	02 Dietician	03 Physiotherapist
06	07	08 Podiatry	09 Dietician	10 Physiotherapist
13	14 Optometrist	15 Optometrist Podiatry	16 Optometrist Dietician	17 Physiotherapist
20	21	22 Podiatry	23 Dietician	24 Physiotherapist
27 MHS Closed – Christmas Break	28 MHS Closed – Christmas Break	29 MHS Closed – Christmas Break	30 MHS Closed – Christmas Break	31 MHS Closed – Christmas Break

In order for our clients to access the allied health and specialist service, they are required to see the GP to get a referral.



ZERO TOLERANCE OF ABUSE

Aggressive behaviour, verbal or physical abuse to Mawarnkarra Health Service staff will **NOT** be tolerated. We are all working together to get our community what they need. Please be patient as we do our best to help. Anyone who is abusive to MHS staff will be excluded from using MHS services for a period of time.



MAWARNKARRA WILL NOT TOLERATE ANY FORMS OF ABUSE TO STAFF, CLIENTS/PATIENTS, DIRECTORS OR THE ORGANISATION. ANY PERSON THAT IS ABUSIVE WILL RECEIVE A LETTER FROM THE BOARD. CONSTANT ABUSE WILL RESULT IN A BAN FROM ASSESSING THE SERVICE FOR A PERIOD OF TIME.



THURSDAY NIGHT CLINIC
 LOCATED IN THE CHILD AND MATERNAL HEALTH BUILDING
 APPOINTMENT ONLY
 4.30PM-7PM
 PH: 9182 0800

PLEASE NOTE:
 - ONLY 20MIN'S ALLOCATED TIME SLOT WITH DOCTOR
 -CURRENT PATIENTS ONLY
 -TRANSPORT IS NOT PROVIDED

After Hours Clinic

Thursday Night Clinic every Thursdays from 4.30 pm until 7.00 pm at the Child and Maternal Health Building. This is appointment only and transport is not provided. To book please ring our team at (08) 9182 0800

Mawarnkarra HEALTH SERVICE
 ROEBOURNE WA

WOMEN'S CLINIC

CHILD AND MATERNAL HEALTH BUILDING

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 WEDNESDAY'S
 8.30AM - 11:30AM

Appointment Only
 PH: 9182 0800

Women's Clinic

Women's Clinic every Wednesdays from 8.30 am until 11.30 am at the Child and Maternal Health Building. This is appointment only, to book please ring our team at (08) 9182 0800

Ambulance Cover

\$ 125 - Family
\$ 75 - Single

Call - (08) 9334 1222

Ambulance Cover is available through the St John Ambulance Service. The insurance covers as many emergency transports as you or one of your family members require 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Without insurance a single ambulance trip from Roebourne to Karratha can cost up to \$800. Call (08) 9334 1222 to Join!

Mawarnkarra HEALTH SERVICE
 ROEBOURNE WA

Ambulance Cover

St John Ambulance WA offers ambulance cover (benefit fund memberships) to Australian citizens or permanent residents who permanently reside within regional Western Australia. Residents of the Perth-metro area are not eligible for SJA memberships and they should consider joining with private health insurers should they wish to get ambulance cover.

With our country memberships; members are covered for 'road' ambulance services for both urgent and necessary non-emergency ambulance call outs throughout Western Australia. The membership could either be for a family or single person; current rates are as follows:

- family membership: \$125 per annum (for those residing north of the 26th parallel line & in areas serviced by our Geraldton, Northam, Pinjarra, Bunbury, Busselton, Kalgoorlie, Norseman & Albany crews)

- single membership: \$75 per annum (for those residing north of the 26th parallel line & in areas serviced by our Geraldton, Northam, Pinjarra, Bunbury, Busselton, Kalgoorlie, Norseman & Albany crews)

Note - there are no application fees or account maintenance fees applicable. Also, in accordance with the current tax guidelines/regulations, SJA benefit fund membership fees do not attract GST.

Did Not Attend

Patient will be removed from waiting list to see specialist visiting MHS if there are 2 non-attendance. A new referral is needed for the GP to generate one.

MHS Christmas Closure

Mawarnkarra Health Service will be closed from 27 December 2021 until 03 January 2022.

Please do not forget to come and grab your medication before COB Thursday 23 December 2021.



Mawarnkarra
HEALTH SERVICE
ROEBOURNE WA

