Griffith Aboriginal Medical Service
NEWSLETTER
April 2021

Easter Public Holidays

The Griffith Aboriginal Medical Service will be **CLOSED** the following days due to the Easter Public Holidays:

Friday 2nd April

Monday 5th April

If you have any medical emergencies please call 000 or contact the Griffith Base Hospital on 6969 5555.

National Sorry Day Flag Raising

In honour of the 13th Anniversary of the Apology the Griffith AMS held a Flag Raising Ceremony attended by all staff.

Farewell Dr Chatterji

On Friday 12th March the Griffith Aboriginal Medical Service said farewell to one of our well-loved Doctors! Dr Chatterji has been a dedicated doctor here at the AMS for over 4 years now and we wish her nothing but the best for all her future endeavours!

Poche Denture Clinic

The Poche Centre for Indigenous Health held its second Denture Clinic at GAMS from the 8-11 March. 13 clients were provided with Dentures during this visit making it a very successful and busy few days (with the Dental Prosethists working till 9-00pm on one day to keep everything moving forward!!!!). A massive thankyou to our Dental Team, Receptionists and staff who helped out transporting the grateful clients to the clinic.

Smoke Free Environments

The Free Fresh & Fit Team can assist organisations in developing Smoke-Free policies or amending a policy they may already have in place. The team also provide a template policy for organisations to look over and, if they choose to, utilise as their own once amended. The team also provides signage to organisations with their name/ logo to help promote that they are a smoke free environment. So far we have provided 8 organisations with Smoke Free Environment signage!

Please Update your Details!

Please make sure when you attend the Griffith AMS for an appointment you double check your details are up to date on our system.

This includes your: address, phone number, Medicare card, Concession card & Next of Kin.

It's always important to update your details as they change as we may need to contact you in regards to appointment changes/cancellations, results etc.

On Thursday 11th March the Griffith AMS hosted a Worlds Greatest Shave breakfast where a member of the community & a staff member of GAMS got their heads shaved & raised money for a great cause!

Chronic Care Program

We currently provide holistic health care support to (77) clients on the chronic care program. Janene & Melinda are currently at capacity client numbers and as a result, new referrals as of 15.3.21 will be placed on a waiting list. (A letter will be sent to these clients advising them of this) The program is for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients of GAMS who have been diagnosed with eligible chronic illnesses. If you are interested in participating in the program, please speak to your GP at GAMS about your eligibility for the program.

Counseling Services

The Griffith AMS has a counselor available Monday - Thursday from 8:30am to 3pm. To acquire am appointment with our Counselor Lorraine you need to book in with your GP and have a Mental Health Care plan done and then she will contact you with an appointment date and time.

The Child & Maternal Health Team conducts a mother's group called Marrabinya Mum's & Bub's. This group is targeted at Aboriginal Families with children aged 0-4 years of age.

It is run on Tuesdays from 11am – 2pm.

Parents are introduced to a variety of Guest Speakers/Service Providers giving them information and the life skills for better outcomes for their families.

For more information about Marrabinya Mum's & Bub's Group feel free to contact the Child & Maternal Health Team on 69620000.

Staff Profile

Name: **Malek Afuamua**
Job Title: **Youth Engagement Officer**
Star Sign: **Aquarius**
Worst Habit in the Office: **Talking too much**
Most embarrassing moment at work: **Allergic reaction on my second day, had to go to hospital**
Thought of the day: **Gee Lisa Penrith is good looking**
If you were an animal what kind would you be: **Gorilla**
If Hollywood made a movie about your life, whom would you like to see play the lead role as you: **The Rock**
If you could be a superhero, what would your superpowers be: **Saving people from their daily struggles and pain. Call me Captain Koori!**
How would you describe yourself in three words: **Loud, loving, annoying**
If you were down to your last $10 how would you spend it: **On others!**

Walan-Budhang-Gibir

Meaning: Strong Black Men

Mens's Group

Our Men's Group is a social and emotional wellbeing group which involves the following:

Social gatherings
Cultural connection
Health education
Support & advocacy

Held at the Griffith Men's Shed on Fridays between 9:30am - 12:30pm

For more information contact Beau or Jayden at the Griffith Aboriginal Medical Service on 69620000 between 8:30am - 4:00pm

For ages 15yrs+

Passport to Better Health

Date: Wednesday 14th April
Time: 2pm - 6pm
Location: Griffith Aboriginal Medical Service Car Park

Registration closes at 5:30pm

Participants will receive a Passport to Better Health 2021 shirt after they have completed all the steps!

For more information please contact the Griffith Aboriginal Medical Service on 6962 0000

CLIENT CONFIDENTIALITY

Protecting the privacy and rights of our clients and individuals within our community is a priority to the Board of Management and Staff of the AMS. There are strict guidelines and safeguards in place to ensure that this happens. Any breach of AMS policy in regard to this matter will result in swift disciplinary action against any AMS Board or Staff Member.