

Networking to enhance First Australian Health in Victoria

e-NEWS FOR MEMBERS April 2015

WEENTHUNGA NEWS and EVENTS

The Weenthunga Health Network has received further grants in the first quarter to continue building our capacity. We acknowledge the generosity of:

- The E M Horton family, facilitated by the Australian Communities Foundation, who have provided \$4000 to support us as we investigate IT solutions for our growing needs.
- Portland House who have provided a grant of \$10,000 towards building our capacity.

Lin and Stephanie are co-presenting at The Ngar-wu Wanyarra Aboriginal Health Conference 2015 in Shepparton this week, discussing some of the local networking that can be done in regional areas such as:

Connecting with school girls, families and community
Networking: teachers, academics, health practitioners
Liaising with mainstream and Aboriginal health services
Supporting teachers promoting health careers
Organising mentors to support girls interested in health

For the first time, a Women's Talk Health Day is being held in Bendigo on Friday the 29th of May. Weenthunga's Health Days provide an opportunity for about 16 young First Australian women (Years 10 – 12) to participate in a focused health day to raise their awareness of the importance of healthy lives and to hear of the possibilities of health careers from a range of First Australian women health professionals. If you know of any students who may benefit from attending, further details can be found on our website [here](#).

The Weenthunga Website.

Are you utilising the Weenthunga Members' area of the website? Logging in to the members only area of the website provides you with many resources that have been uploaded recently and over previous years. You also have access to a database of colleagues, both Australian and First-Australian, who work or are involved in a range of health fields and services.

One of our members writes of the value that she sees in the Members area; "It's a lovely networking tool too! I could easily find some people I know and could see some others that I have things in common with. Its better than LinkedIn, because everyone is starting out with not only a professional basis but a shared interest in First Australians".



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OPPORTUNITIES

Alice Springs Hospital is looking for a locum Occupational Therapist for 3 -6 months, P1 or P2, for an immediate start. Whilst acute experience would be ideal, a supportive team can help the right individual with any gaps in their knowledge. The opportunity presents a unique experience and would provide an insight into what it might be like to work in the area, and an opportunity for travel to some remote areas in the region. For further information contact Wendy Hocking on 08 8951 7777 pager 732 or email wendy.hocking@nt.gov.au .

Weenthunga have been asked to share the following 'call out' for a work experience opportunity!

Hi my name is Maya, I am a Koori student in year 10 at Castlemaine Secondary College. I have work experience coming up and would love to do work experience in one of the medical, health sciences fields. It would just be for 1 week and the dates are from 10 to the 14 of August. If that date doesn't suit you it could be a different date. I could travel to Melbourne, Bendigo or Ballarat. I love music and reading, and my favorite subjects at school are outdoor ed, science, maths and art. I would be most appreciative if you could email my Mum Kathryn (kmkloff@live.com.au) and copy in Lin (lin@weenthunga.com.au) so she knows of the responses. Thanks so much Maya.

OTHER EVENTS

Indigenous Allied Health Australia is now seeking abstracts for the **2015 IAHA National Conference, 'Allied Health – Stepping into Action'** being held at the Pullman International Cairns, 1-2 December 2015. Further details can be found [online here](#).

The Launch of Aboriginal Newborn Identification Project Resources is being held on Wednesday 15th April at 12pm in Sunshine Hospital. Further details and how to RSBP can be [found here](#) or on the Weenthunga website under Events.

Free Ear Health Screening for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Families, Individuals and Elders in Braybrook on Friday 29th of May. Please find their [flyer here](#).

The Ngar-wu Wanyarra Aboriginal Health Conference 2015 runs over two days, and is an opportunity to learn about the impacts on Aboriginal health from local and national leaders in Aboriginal health.

There will be presentations covering infant health and data, Aboriginal health workforce development, the impact of racism on health and initiatives in Aboriginal education. Further details can be found on our website under Events or by clicking [here](#).