



## Community Paediatrician

Maari Ma Health Aboriginal Corporation, Broken Hill NSW

**Delivering comprehensive children's primary health care that makes a real difference by *improving Aboriginal health and closing the gap***

Maari Ma Health Aboriginal Corporation is seeking a replacement visiting part-time community paediatrician (one week per month) to join a multidisciplinary primary health care team delivering services to Aboriginal children in Broken Hill and Wilcannia, in far west NSW.

The paediatrician's role is to provide consultant support to the general practitioners, child and youth health teams, provide comprehensive paediatric assessment and follow up for all children and young people referred by the general practitioners, and provide professional development and leadership in Community Paediatrics to relevant staff in Maari Ma and partner organisations.

Established in 1995, Maari Ma is a regional Aboriginal community-controlled health service. Maari Ma has an Aboriginal membership, a regional representative Aboriginal board of directors, and an Aboriginal workforce which makes up about 60% of the total workforce. In the twenty plus years since we commenced operations, Maari Ma has amassed an exemplary record of achievement in delivering health and community development programs to Aboriginal people in far western NSW. Maari Ma's staff of over 100 employees directly provide an extensive array of primary health care services to the Broken Hill, Wilcannia, Menindee and Ivanhoe communities, with our core area of activity in the delivery of quality GP-led multidisciplinary primary health care.

Over the last 10 years Maari Ma has designed and developed a Healthy Start Program that:

- Promotes a health and well-being perspective
- Promotes a focus on enhancing protective factors and building resilience
- Promotes a population health approach, which focuses on strategies and outcomes that have wide population coverage, including those that impact on the environmental and social determinants of health and wellbeing
- Promotes equity and social justice with commitment, effort and strategies (universal and targeted) weighted to address the needs of the most disadvantaged
- Promote age appropriate evidence based strategies
- Offers culturally safe and appropriate services of a high quality with a focus on continuous quality improvement
- Offers services that are timely, affordable and accessible, and where possible delivered locally
- Offers services that are patient, family and community centred and supportive of health literacy and self-management
- Offers services that are, as far as possible, well integrated, coordinated and address the continuity of care, particularly for those with complex, chronic health conditions
- Maintains work environments which support the attraction and ongoing retention of Aboriginal staff and a multidisciplinary workforce.

To deliver its Healthy Start Program Maari Ma has assembled an extended multidisciplinary child health team that includes dedicated child health general practitioners, Aboriginal health workers, community midwives, early childhood & youth health nurses, perinatal & child & adolescent mental health workers,

oral health staff, dietitian and a speech pathologist. The large local team is supported by a number of visiting specialists including a paediatrician, multidisciplinary allied health team, ENT specialist, perinatal and infant psychiatrist, and child & adolescent psychiatrist. We now also have an exciting new Youth Health team, which is trialling innovative community development and health/wellbeing programs for Aboriginal young people in our region.

Our vision for Aboriginal children in the region is articulated in a Strategic Framework Document: *Improving development and wellbeing for Aboriginal children and young people in the far west of NSW* ([http://www.maarima.com.au/pdf/documents/maari\\_ma\\_green\\_booklet-final.pdf](http://www.maarima.com.au/pdf/documents/maari_ma_green_booklet-final.pdf)) and we are implementing many aspects of this framework and working with our partners to also improve outcomes for Aboriginal children.

We are AGPAL accredited, have electronic medical records, patient registers and well developed tracking and recall systems, and sophisticated decision support tools; we actively participate in continuous improvement and research activities and are supported by a comprehensive range of visiting specialty services. Maari Ma's local Indigenous workforce provides our GPs and other medical specialists with access to timely support and advice regarding cultural issues.

Our new facilities are modern, culturally engaging and provide a welcoming and effective work environment.

You will join an existing team of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal staff with many years of experience working in rural general practice and Aboriginal health services in Australia.

The remuneration package is available as a contract for services or employment. Flexibility exists as to the configuration of days and frequency of visits. Travel and accommodation needs will be taken care of by our administrative staff.

***For enquiries and expressions of interest***, please email Cathy Dyer, Director Corporate Services [cathy.dyer@maarima.com.au](mailto:cathy.dyer@maarima.com.au), Dr Garth Alperstein [galperstein@gmail.com](mailto:galperstein@gmail.com) or Dr Shanti Raman [Shanti.Raman@sswahs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Shanti.Raman@sswahs.nsw.gov.au).

Please view our website: [www.maarima.com.au](http://www.maarima.com.au)  
Select 'Documents' for annual reports, strategic plan and other program

