

ALL OF STAFF MEETING 2016



Maari Ma's annual All of Staff meeting was a celebration of achievements and recognition of the hard work of staff during the past 12 months. The organisation congratulated all 12 trainees who started their Certificate IV Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Primary Health (Practice) in August 2015 and finished it at the end of last year. Taylor Degoumois completed a three year Mental Health Worker traineeship and Dr Aung Si Thu completed his Fellowship - the first registrar to achieve this while still working at Maari Ma. There was organisational recognition through state and national awards – Maari Ma was recognised as a top performing organisation in May when it received two Employer of Choice Awards – Diversity and Inclusion, and Trust and

Empowerment. As a result of those awards Maari Ma was shortlisted as a finalist in the Australian HR Awards 2016. Wings Drop In Centre at Wilcannia was one of two NSW winners of the NAPCAN (National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect) Play Your Part Awards. Partnerships were also an important feature of the year and Maari Ma partnered with the Clontarf Foundation, was invited to become a formal member of Bila Muuji Aboriginal Health Services Incorporated, and with Bila Muuji Aboriginal Health Services implemented the Commonwealth's Integrated Team Care (ITC) program by Western NSW PHN – called Marrabinya (Indigenous Health Support Service).

**MAARI MA HEALTH
ABORIGINAL
CORPORATION REGION OF
SERVICE**



SNAPSHOT 2016



127 employees

Indigenous staff 55 % (51% 2015)

43 staff have been working for Maari Ma for 5 years or more (25 Indigenous) and 12 have completed 10 years of service (7 Indigenous).

In One Year

- 3,300 people on the books
- 35 babies born
- 1,500 health checks
- 17,000 transports
- 60,000 interactions with patients that are documented in their medical record
- Specialists on more than 200 days who saw 1,300 people

“To deliver our services we have smart, talented people at all levels of the organisation whose energy comes from a desire to serve our people and our communities, and who are committed to creating a robust culture of accountability while not forgetting the community is always the centre of our thinking” Maari Ma CEO, Bob Davis.

RE-ACCREDITATION



Maari Ma's Primary Health Care Service in Broken Hill has been successful in attaining accreditation for the third time through Australian General Practice Accreditation Limited (AGPAL). To achieve accreditation a practice team works over a three year period to implement the *Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) Standards for general practices* (the recognised national standard), which provides a template for quality care and risk management. Chief Executive Officer, Bob Davis, said accreditation is demonstration of commitment and quality to safety within the PHCS. "To attain accreditation shows we are making a significant investment and commitment to quality on a day to day basis across all levels of the practice and are placing the wellbeing of our community members as our priority. I couldn't be more pleased with our progress and I am very proud of our hard working staff as accreditation is attainable only through cooperation and communication between all staff members" Mr Davis said.



Dr Nalin Fonseka talks to Aboriginal Health Worker David Doyle and Dr Aung si Thu, who is the first registrar to attain a Fellowship (Fellow of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners) while working at Maari Ma. Eight GPs are working either full or part time at the PHCS which has attained accreditation for the third time.

ACHIEVEMENTS RECOGNISED

To herald in the start of 2017, Maari Ma hosted a graduation ceremony for 12 Primary Health Workers who completed their Certificate IV Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Primary Health (Practice) and one Primary Mental Health Worker who completed three years of training. Addressing the group was Alison Morgan, from the NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet, who spoke on the importance of education and training, and acknowledged the challenges the trainees faced and overcame with study and full time work. Ms Morgan, who has had a long affiliation with the Far West, highlighted the importance of increasing the number of skilled Indigenous community members in the region and recognised the leading role Maari Ma is taking.



CELEBRATING THE NEXT GENERATION



The latest group of graduates from the Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters (HIPPY) were proudly presented to parents in December last year. The HIPPY program in Broken Hill is run by Maari Ma and provides children aged four to five with the skills to successfully transition into school. It encourages parents and children to love learning, and gives parents the skills and confidence to be their children's first teachers. A total of 19 children graduated from the two year program while a new group of four year olds will be starting the program this term.

JUSTICE HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

A partnership between Maari Ma and Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network (JH&FMHN) aimed at improving access to health care for Aboriginal patients on release from custody has been extended. A memorandum of understanding between Maari Ma and JH&FMHN was first signed in 2015 – the agreement now goes to June 2018. It ensures that appropriate release

planning occurs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and Maari Ma clients returning to the community. The extension recognises the strong and continuing relationship and data sharing arrangements between Maari Ma and JH&FMHN. Maari Ma is very pleased to be working with the Network to improve the quality of care for Aboriginal patients in custody and post-release.

HUMAN RIGHTS

Maari Ma marked International Human Rights Day in December by conducting an information session for students and Aboriginal Education staff from Broken Hill High School as well as staff working with the Clontarf Foundation. The theme for 2016 was “stand up for someone’s rights” and Maari Ma staff addressed the gathering on students standing up for their rights at school, the importance of human rights at work and the role of the United Nations.

(pictured right) Manager Community Services and Programs, Justin Files, gave a presentation and showed a short film of Maari Ma at the United Nations last year. He was one of three staff members to address the gathering.



MAARI MA CONGRATULATES MURDI PAAKI



Congratulations Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly (MPRA) for taking out one of two awards in the 2016 Indigenous Governance Awards. MPRA won in the non-incorporated projects category. The Awards are conducted by Reconciliation Australia in partnership with BHP Billiton Sustainable Communities. They celebrate the strength of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led organisations and projects across Australia.

(left—right) Former MPRA Chair, Sam Jeffries, Chair of the Indigenous Governance Awards, Professor Mick Dodson and MPRA member and Maari Ma Board Director, Des Jones, at the award ceremony in Sydney recently. Maari Ma has been pleased to be able to support the Assembly as its secretariat and auspice.



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