

CONGRATULATIONS WINGS STAFF



Staff at Wilcannia's Wings Drop-in Centre have celebrated after graduating from TAFE with a Certificate III in Community Services. Maari Ma Health Aboriginal Corporation runs the centre and Coordinator, Tania Lawson made training and professional development one of her top priorities when she took on the role two years ago. "This has always been one of the most important objectives of Maari Ma next to achieving better health outcomes for our people" Tania said. The course built on the participant's existing knowledge and was oriented towards support and

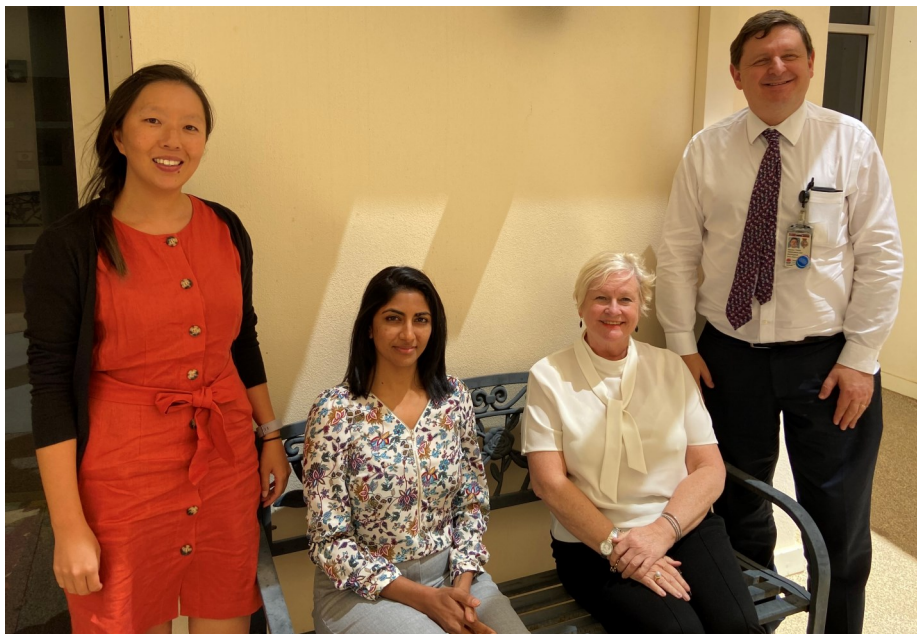
enhancing their skills. Maari Ma CEO, Bob Davis congratulated the graduates on their achievement. He said they are not only role models for the children and young people who attend Wings, the skills and knowledge that their qualifications bring will enrich the work they do. Pictured top left to right are graduates June Jones, Tania Lawson, Anne Currie and Casey Harris. Seated are Carolyn Arnold and Kate Groves from TAFE. Staff are very much looking forward to a new purpose built facility for their programs —the plans are on page 3.

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



VALUED SPECIALIST CARE

Visiting specialist services at Maari Ma are beginning to return to some normality and face to face clinics are being reintroduced following COVID 19 disruptions last year. The first face to face clinics in 12 months occurred when the endocrinology specialist team visited in February. Maari Ma has a long and valued association with the Outback Vascular Health Service and first partnered with the team eleven years ago with specialists visiting from the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. Other valued specialists Maari Ma is fortunate to have long associations with include those with Consultant Community Paediatrician, Dr Garth Alperstein who has been visiting since 2008, Renal Physician, Dr Paul Snelling who is marking 12 years with Maari Ma, Tobacco Treatment Specialist, Associate Professor Renee Bittoun who has been visiting for ten years and Perinatal, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist, Dr Ros Powrie who has also been visiting for ten years. Marking a five year association are Psychiatrist, Dr Jonathan Carne, Respiratory and Sleep Medicine Physician, Dr Simone Barry and Adelaide Cardiology – Genesis Care.



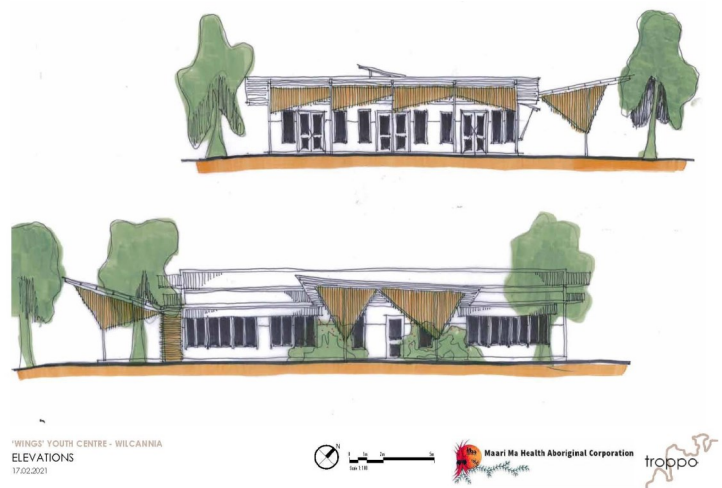
The endocrinology specialist team are pictured during their first face to face clinic since the start of COVID 19, left to right – Dr Sarah Parry, Podiatrist, Purnima Rao, Associate Professor Margaret McGill and Professor Stephen Twigg.



RE-BRANDING HEALTHY START

Maari Ma's Healthy Start program has a new name – it's now called Ngama'inya Yapa'na, meaning "a mother and child on track/on a track". An art competition was held for a new logo also and Frances Dutton from Wilcannia was named the winner. A special BBQ lunch was held for the official naming and logo launch, and Frances was called on to cut the cake.

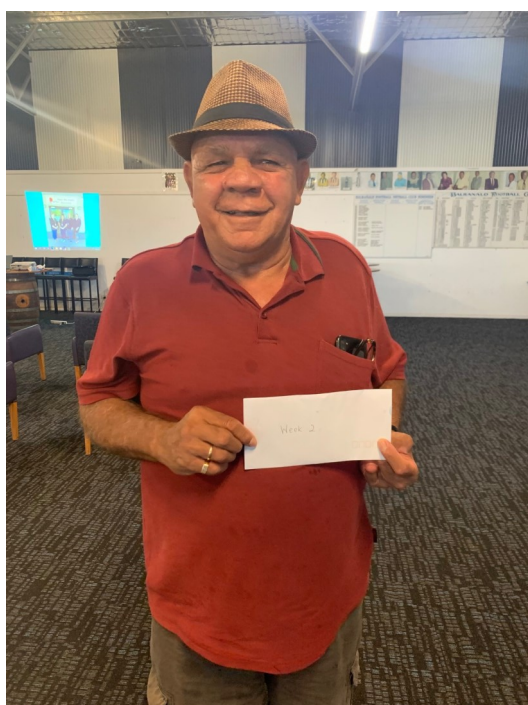
PLANS TAKING SHAPE FOR NEW WINGS BUILDING



The sketch on the left shows the front and rear of the building and above is an aerial view showing the current building on the left and the placement of the new one.

Tropo Architects from Adelaide have submitted preliminary designs of the new Wings purpose built facility which is to be constructed next to the current building in Wilcannia. Tropo staff came out to Wilcannia last September and spent time with the children who attend the after school and holiday activities centre as well as Wings staff to get their creative input and valuable contributions. The first stage of the project is being made possible following a grant of \$1.6M from the Federal Government's Building Better Region's Fund. The design submitted is for stage one of the project and includes a TV/computer room, a teens room, staff desks and the supervisor's room, and a kitchen. There will also be an enclosed area adjacent to the verandah for small children. Stage 2 of the project will be the development of a bike track and landscaping, and possible adventure playground. Stage 3 will be a basketball court that will be adjacent to the back of the building which will enable the kitchen to also act as a kiosk to the basketball.

UP AND RUNNING FOR DIABETES PREVENTION



Maari Ma Health Balranald is working with the Far West Local Health District's diabetes educator to conduct a Men's Health Program called *Up and Running*. The aim of the six week program is to help prevent diabetes in men. Balranald Nurse Manager, Emma Moore has been assisting FWLHD Diabetes Educator, Ferna Vagg with setting up before and packing up after the evenings, conducting men's assessments, checking HbA1C and other nurse related clinical assessments. Emma also presented a session on smoking cessation and used a Smokerlyzer which measures the level of carbon monoxide in expired breath. Maari Ma has been sponsoring vouchers as a lucky door prize at the evenings and one of the participants attending *Up and Running*, Neville Murray, is pictured with a FoodWorks voucher valued at \$50.

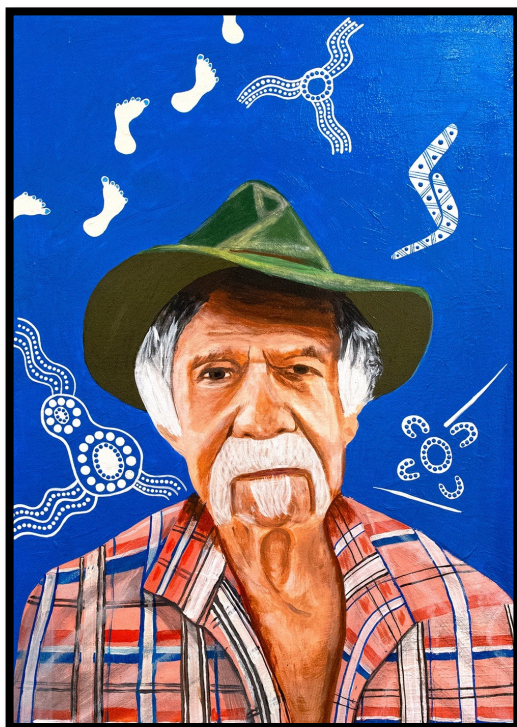
THE IMPORTANCE OF ONGOING INFECTION CONTROL TRAINING



While there's been an easing of COVID 19 restrictions across the state health service staff need to maintain their vigilance at all times which means keeping up to date with training. The Aspen Medical Training Academy recently conducted COVID 19 infection control training for Maari Ma staff for swabbing in the Respiratory Clinic. Staff were assessed by the Aspen trainer for their donning (putting on) and doffing (taking off) of PPE. Pictured at the training are Shannon Henderson, Deb Cushing and Lavinia Henderson. Training helps to ensure workers know how to don and doff their PPE correctly to ensure they are safe and protected from exposure to droplets such as when a person coughs or sneezes, or from contaminated fomites (objects that may carry infection) within the environment.



ART AWARD SHOWCASES A WEALTH OF LOCAL TALENT



The 2021 Maari Ma Indigenous Art Award (MMIAA) continues to attract a wealth of artistic talent in the region and this year the opening was streamed live. The number of people able to attend was limited because of social distancing but that didn't prevent the showcase event from reaching art enthusiasts in their lounge rooms thanks to technology. The MMIAA is presented in collaboration with the Broken Hill Regional Art Gallery, Maari Ma Health Aboriginal Corporation and West Darling Arts, and over \$5000 in prize money was announced on the night. Congratulations to Bonnie Quayle for winning first prize with Uncle Badger Bates, acrylic on canvas (pictured left). Second place went to Terrence Riley for Dancing Brolgas, acrylic on fabric (quilt cover), Best Emerging Artist was Bilyara Bates for Surface Tension, wood carving (Red Gum) while winner of the - Nhuungku Prize for Excellence went to Edith Kennedy for Barkandji Dreaming, acrylic on canvas pictured below. Brandi Johnson Biggs won the Young Artist Award for My Families Home on the Barka, acrylic on canvas.



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