

ADVERTORIAL

Bila Muuji's holistic approach to health and careers

Bila Muuji Aboriginal Corporation Health Service **supports** Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services (ACCHOs) across an area of approximately 445,000 square kilometres.

Together with seven member services, Bila Muuji facilitates additional access to health services vital for the wellbeing of their member communities through key collaborations and partnerships focused on achieving health outcomes for Aboriginal people and communities.

Lead by Aboriginal professionals, Bila Muuji is supporting change and innovation in Brewarrina, Coomealla, Coonamble, Dubbo, Forbes, Orange and Walgett.

A critical component of Bila Muuji business is our partnership with major Universities in identifying and developing research projects that directly relate to the operations and aspirations of our member services.

Recently Bila Muuji was successful in securing a tender from the Western NSW Primary Health Network to develop in collaboration with TAFE Western, a Certificate 4 in Mental Health workforce development program. This program currently has 16 Aboriginal people enrolled in this course.

These types of workforce development programs enhance the capability of our member services to effectively engage and support visiting social and emotional well-being professionals, such as addiction medicine specialist, clinical psychologists and addiction psychiatrists.

The consortia's newest program, the Bila Muuji Drug and Alcohol Network will soon be providing visiting health professionals for the communities of Broken Hill, Coonamble, Bourke, Brewarrina, and Walgett with specialist drug and alcohol services which are evidence-based and culturally sensitive.

Bila Muuji is about enhancing and supporting member services in achieving health outcomes for Aboriginal people in communities. It represents the member services by assisting them wherever possible, whether that's in clinical practice, funding opportunities, partnership development, workforce enhancement, advocacy and support on a regional perspective.

This will be especially apparent when the Career Pathways Project report is released in coming weeks.

Bila Muuji is a major partner in this national workforce research project that was funded by the Lowitja Institute and included a collaborative effort between, Western Sydney

University, the University of New South Wales and Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance Northern Territory.

Once the finding of this project is made public, Bila Muuji will support our ACCHOs to begin implementing recommendations locally.

Bila Muuji was gifted a Dental Bus from Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service, which features a dental chair and accommodation for a team of 6 dental staff to provide services, student training and dental promotion opportunities across our large catchment area.

Businesses and organisations interested in partnering with Bila Muuji to assist us in mobilising the dental bus, acquire a dentist(s) to activate our plans and vision for engagement of remote and very remote Aboriginal communities are invited to partner with us.

PHOTO CAPTION

Bila Muuji Dubbo's Pam Renata and Nathan Frank.