



Ngatanwan

Gunditjmara Aboriginal Cooperative

Honouring The Old Empowering The New

Newsletter 10—Date 30 June 2021

Change to Dental Services

The Honourable Minister for Health Martin Foley recently announced significant changes to the public Dental Services for Aboriginal community members available from 1 July 2021

All Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people can now access priority dental services whether they hold a health care card or not with no gap payment (general & emergency appointments). This is something our CEO and ACCHO's across the State have been advocating for a number of years. This is great news for our community and those in need of treatment.



Local Justice

The Local Justice worker is part of a dynamic and wide-reaching program that supports Aboriginal men and women who are involved in the Victorian Justice System. This could include people facing court, under a corrections order, or those in prison. The Local Justice worker is committed to achieving better outcomes for Aboriginal people involved with the Victorian Justice System. The service is culturally sensitive, respectful, confidential, and able to provide both emotional and practical support to clients.

Aims and Objectives

- Contribute to improved justice outcomes for Aboriginal peoples in the Victorian South West
- Provide help to all Aboriginal people over the age of 18 that are dealing with the justice system
- Support clients when facing court, incarcerated in jail, placed under Community and Parole Orders, or having issues with police
- Give practical help with reducing outstanding fines
- Ensure no Aboriginal member of our local community faces court or the justice system alone

We do this by supporting you with:

- Case management
- Advocacy
- Referrals to support services
- Court Support
- Providing support to access legal advice and cultural connection





Clinic News

COVID Related:

We are holding COVID Clinics every Wednesday **9.30 – 7.45pm** with great response from community.

Every ATSI patient to get a vaccination has been getting a free meal from Tasty plate or a voucher to select their own meal directly from the shop.

We have currently vaccinated **254** people from the whole community = **160** people have had their 1st dose and already **94** people having has their 2nd dose and are fully vaccinated.

We currently have **x4 \$50 vouchers to be won** – if you send through a question regarding either COVID vaccination to Dominique.debono@gunditjmara.org.au you will automatically be in the running. Winners are drawn this Friday 2nd July @ 3pm. Alternately call and ask for Nequee 😊

Remembering to always opt for a phone consult if you are experiencing any COVID symptoms – get tested and isolate.

If you need any assistance during your isolation period – we are here to assist you with your medical needs to make it easier for you.

Clinic related:

AOD has a student from SWTAFE Travis – If you see him accompanying Jon give him a warm welcome for his short stay with us at Gunditjmara health clinic.

All allied services are back on site - Dietician / Optometrist / Dentist - Call the Clinic and speak to reception for eligibility requirements on services.

Bev has been very busy with transports these last few weeks, remember if you need to book transport do it at the most earliest convenience so we can allocate enough time for you.

Also just a reminder that transport is only offered to those in the community who identify as ATSI and who have no other means of transport. 😊

This next fortnight the clinic will be running a few short of staff with lots of lucky ones taking a much needed break over the school holidays – these people include Tanya, KB, Jenny & doctor Yuan. We will be utilizing Georgie's skills in the interim in the AHP sector – She will be providing culturally safe care alongside KB & Nequee for our Koorie patients with pre-consults and ATSI health assess-

INDEPENDENT LIVING TEAM

New team name same faces, supporting people is something we take very seriously. Our team is working each and every day to make a positive impact in the lives of people with an aim to support healthier, happy stronger lifestyles. We offer support for you, people with special needs and Elders within the community. We are ready to help you with services tailored to your individual needs, with friendly support staff and social programs designed to support and connect you with the community. We understand how important it is for everyone to feel safe, strong in culture, independent and healthy.

Do you want to know more about the NDIS, do you need assistance with understanding your current plan and the services you are getting? Give us a call 55591234, Georgie, Josephine and Sam are here to help you.



Elders Support Group and Youngers Support Group are up and running .If you would like to know more about our support groups we run fortnightly, give Jo a call on 55591234 or Mobile 0439 999 602 for a yarn.

