

# GUNDITJMARA NAIDOC AWARDS



**KEEP THE FIRE BURNING!  
BLAK, LOUD AND PROUD**

7-14 JULY 2024

## Nominations now open



Gunditjmarra Aboriginal Cooperative

## May Newsletter 2024

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people should be aware that this publication may contain images and names of deceased persons in photographs.

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### May Dates

- 2nd May Races public holiday\*
- 26th National Sorry Day
- 27th Start of Reconciliation Week

### June Dates

- 8th Mabo Day
- 12th Public Holiday\*

\*Please note on public holidays all Gunditjmarra sites will be closed

Do you or someone you know want to receive our newsletter?

You can update your information or sign up on our website! Visit [www.gunditjmarra.org.au/newsletter](http://www.gunditjmarra.org.au/newsletter)



Follow our Socials:



Gunditjmarra Aboriginal Cooperative



[gunditjmaracoop](https://www.instagram.com/gunditjmaracoop)

We are fast approaching May and the end of this month will once again be a busy time for everyone at GAC. The weather is getting colder meaning we are entering the dreaded Flu season. This year we will again roll out a Flu Vaccination program. Vaccination is a safe and effective way to protect yourself and your family from serious disease caused by influenza. The dates and times of the vaccination clinics will be advertised on our social media pages when they're confirmed, so be on the lookout for the information soon. If you have questions regarding the vaccinations, please contact the clinic on 03 5564 3344 and have a chat to one of our friendly staff.

Over the Easter break we ran the school holiday program. This program has increased in participant numbers dramatically and most days were booked out well in advance. We have received some feedback from parents and children and will review the recommendations and suggestions that were provided. We will send out further communication surrounding events for the June school holidays in next months newsletter. In the meantime, if you do have any suggestions, please let us know.

The group events that are held down at Harris Street have also seen an increase in Community member attendance. All groups have been very active and it's great to see numbers growing in these areas.

If you do know of someone you think would like to come along and be a part of one of the many groups please let the group leaders know. Lets keep the participant numbers growing!

By the time this newsletter is published we would have already observed Anzac Day - Thursday 25th April. We will once again have a GAC representative present at the services held by the Warrnambool RSL. It is national day of remembrance to commemorate all Australians and New Zealanders who served in all wars and especially for us to commemorate the tremendous contributions of our First Nations men and women who served to defend Australia.

Just a reminder that Thursday 2nd May is a public holiday for Warrnambool for the May races. Our office and clinic will be closed on this day but open again on Friday 3rd May.

Stay tuned and keep an eye on our social media pages for any updates or changes to group activities. I look forward to seeing you at the next Community dinner.

Tdo ngatook



Denny Chatfield

  
**Ngatanwaar to our new staff!**



Irmgard Watson (Ermy)

Social and Emotional Wellbeing Case Worker

Photo to come

Tatiana Cimpoesu  
General Practitioner

## GUNDITJMARA NAIDOC AWARDS



**KEEP THE FIRE BURNING!  
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7-14 JULY 2024

Aboriginal Elder of the Year  
Male 50+

Aboriginal Community Member  
Female 25-50

Aboriginal Community Member  
Male 25-50

Aboriginal Youth  
Female 15-25

Aboriginal Youth  
Male 15-25

Aboriginal Elder of the Year  
Female 50+



Scan the QR code or go to:  
[www.gunditjmara.org.au/naidoc-awards](http://www.gunditjmara.org.au/naidoc-awards)

## Community Work Days Come work off your fines

Find out more:

 5559 1234  135 Kepler Street Warrnambool VIC 3280

 [www.gunditjmara.org.au/communitynoticeboard](http://www.gunditjmara.org.au/communitynoticeboard)

# Health Clinic

## ALLIED HEALTH VISITS

At our health clinic



OPTOMETRY

Friday 10th  
of May



AUDIOLOGY

TBC



Each  
Fortnight

DENTIST

Wednesday 1st,  
15th & 29th of May



To book in please call the Gunditjmara Health  
Clinic on 5564 3344

### Can't make your appointment?



Please contact the Gunditjmara Health Clinic 24 hours prior to your scheduled appointment or as soon as possible as this will help us accommodate to others on the waitlist.



To gantunk!

## Health Clinic

### Opening Hours

Please note our medical clinic now closes at 5:00pm on Wednesdays.

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday

9am - 5pm

Tuesday

9am - 8pm

Friday

9am - 4pm



To contact the clinic, please call 5564 3344

## Aggressive Behaviour

Aggressive behaviour and language will not be tolerated at Gunditjmara at any time, this includes via phone, email and text. We understand you may feel frustrated at times, but please remember our staff are doing the very best they can to support yourself, our clients and community.

We'd like to remind community that our organisation is a ZERO TOLERANCE TO DRUG & ALCOHOL and a ZERO TOLERANCE TO VIOLENCE space. These policies are in place to protect our Community and help us keep the space we work in safe. Failure to comply with these policies may result in disciplinary action or the Police to be called. We thank you all you deadly mob out there who are already doing the right thing

**GUNDITJMARA IS A ZERO TOLERANCE TO DRUG AND ALCOHOL AND ZERO TOLERANCE TO VIOLENCE SPACE**

**VIOLENCE**



## Needing your annual FLU Vaccine?

Book in today for **FREE**

☎ 5564 3344

📍 3 Banyan Street  
Warrnambool VIC 3280



\*Please note the free FLU vaccines are only available for Aboriginal Community

## Groups

# Wata Takoort

Aboriginal cultural activities every Thursday and fortnightly Tuesday



The Mooma intergenerational program has 9 more sessions, next one being on the Friday 10th of May, with Pizza making and ABC charts.

Please contact Charmaine on 0494 029 916 for further details.

Tory and Joanne attended the Age Care Conference held in Adelaide on the 22nd to Wednesday 24th April. The conference was held to help understand the upcoming reforms and what they will mean in practice, The Aged care in Australia is on the cusp of entering a new era with the anticipated introduction of a new Aged Care Act, new regulatory framework and strengthened Aged Care Quality Standards, ensuring a person-centred approach to the delivery of care.

This free conference brought together residential and home services providers to explore and share how the sector can best be prepared, and to look at how the sector is continuously improving to deliver safe, quality aged care.

Wata Takoort is on every Monday and Thursday at Harris Street for lunch and a variety of activities.

If you would like more information, please call Joanne Phillips 0439 999 602



## Aged Care Reforms Update

The Aged Care Reform Roadmap has been released providing an indicative timeline for key reform elements, <https://www.health.gov.au/our-work/aged-care-reforms/roadmap>

To find out more and help design the changes, visit the [Get Involved Page](https://agedcareengagement.health.gov.au/get-involved/) <https://agedcareengagement.health.gov.au/get-involved/> or call 1800 318 209.

Watch this space for frequent updates on the changes too. If you would like more information, please contact Tory.



Gunditjmara Aboriginal Cooperative

**KOORNONG  
MARR**

Young Tribe  
(ages 12 - 18)

Connect To Tradition

Connect To Country

Connect To Self

Connect To Language

May Dates:

Monday 6th

Monday 20th

For more information contact:

Coedie - 0455 309 142

Jaynaya - 0493 828 087



**PRIVATE FACEBOOK GROUP**  
SEARCH "KOORNONG MAARR  
(YOUTH GROUP)" ON FACEBOOK

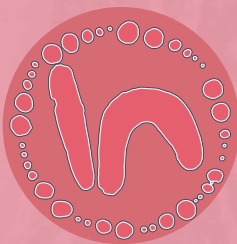
Join us for our Aboriginal Womens Group !  
Participate in other activities with mob  
every fortnight.

May dates:

Tuesday 7th

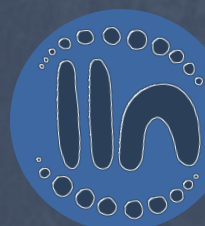
Tuesday 21st

Want to learn more? Contact Nikki on 5559 1234 or Cody on 0455 316 969



Peeneeyt  
Pootngeerang

Aboriginal Womens Group



Worthi  
Karreeta

Aboriginal Men's Group

Join us for our Aboriginal Men's Group !  
Participate in other activities with mob  
every fortnight.

May Dates:

Wednesday 8th

Wednesday 27th

Lunch  
Provided

Want to learn more? Contact  
Levi on 0447 197 018





Mooma is an intergenerational program that increases cooperation, interaction, or exchange between generations. It aims to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for all participants in a culturally safe appropriate manner. This increases our Elders independent living and our young mobs culture development.



For more information, please contact:  
Charmaine - 0494 029 916



## Kooyang Maarr Group

Thursday fortnightly 3:30pm-5:30pm

Early Years  
Ages: 5-12

Connect with mob

Make friends

Have some fun!

Develop new skills and gain independence

### May Dates:

Thursday 9th  
Thursday 23rd

### Want to learn more?

#### Contact:

Jess - 0493 847 408  
Cody - 0455 316 969

## Koorramook Playgroup

Every Friday 10:30am-12:30pm



Contact Bron or Casey at Gunditjmara Aboriginal Cooperative on 5559 1234 for a yarn to enrol your child or find out more.



## Expression of Interest for an Aboriginal Dads Group



### Karpeerrngs Deadly Dads

For enquiries please contact:



Mahni Wright  
0477 902 478



Head Office Reception  
5559 1234

### What is involved?

- Focusing on Dads / Parenting
- Interactive
- Offering parenting Info (e.g. Guest Speakers)
- Relationship Building Activities

### Criteria:

- Must be an Aboriginal Dad  
or
- Dad of a Aboriginal child of any age

# Community Notices



**KEEP THE FIRE BURNING!  
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7-14 JULY 2024

Lost something at one of our events?

Lost and found box now available at reception.



**Join Our Respite Carer Pool Today!**

Make a positive impact on a child's life by joining our respite care program. Provide short-term, temporary care in your home or other convenient location tailored to meet the child's needs.



Must obtain a **Employee Working with Children Check**

### Requirements



Pass a **National Police Check**



Home Environment Check by **GAC**

For more information, contact Kelsie Twaddle: 0493 775 287 [kelsie.twaddle@gunditjmara.org.au](mailto:kelsie.twaddle@gunditjmara.org.au)



**YARN WITH TRUTH RECEIVERS  
FROM THE YOORROOK JUSTICE COMMISSION**

Yarn with Truth Receivers from the Yoorrook Justice Commission about your experiences of injustice.

Injustices can be things that happened in the past or things that are happening now.

Sharing your truth will help Yoorrook create a formal public record of injustice. It will also help Yoorrook recommend real changes to systems and laws affecting our people.

Call Joseph Saunders on 0459871852 to get more information or to make a submission on-on-one.

Find out more on the Yoorrook website:

<https://yoorrookjusticecommission.org.au/have-your-say/make-a-submission/>

## CALLING FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST



If you are interested in becoming a Koori Court Elder or Respected Person, you can apply by scanning the below QR code to complete the form. Alternatively, you can contact the Koori employment team at CSV, who can provide you with more information and support throughout the application process.

email [csv-koorirecruitment@courts.vic.edu.au](mailto:csv-koorirecruitment@courts.vic.edu.au)

## TREATY NEEDS AN

# Elders' VOICE.



### HELP US BUILD THE ELDERS' VOICE

Call the Elders' Voice Hotline, email us, or find an in-person Elders' Voice Gathering happening near you:

- 1800 TREATY (1800 873 289)
- [eldersvoice@firstpeoplesvic.org](mailto:eldersvoice@firstpeoplesvic.org)
- [firstpeoplesvic.org.au/elders-voice](http://firstpeoplesvic.org.au/elders-voice)

All Elders are paid a fee for their time and contribution.

**Are you an Elder?  
We want to hear from you!**

We're yarning with Elders across the state. We're asking questions like:

- How do you define an Elder?
- What do Elders mean to you?
- Who should sit on the Elders' Voice?



0400 838 004  
**APPLY HERE**



Come have a yarn with Neil from Aboriginal Housing Victoria



Have a question about Aboriginal Victorian Housing?

Have a question about maintenance?

Visiting each month!  
Next visit May 10th



## POLICE ABORIGINAL LIAISON OFFICERS Warrnambool Police Station - 5560 1333

Police Aboriginal Liaison Officers (PALOs) are members of Victoria Police who have PALO duties along with their operational role. The PALO program addresses Recommendation 231 of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody (RCIADIC).

PALOs focus on cultural safety and work with the Aboriginal community to:

- resolve local issues
- facilitate access to police services (including reporting crime)
- help police members become culturally conscious and responsive to the needs of Aboriginal people and communities
- provide a contact point for community members who want support to engage with police, and
- provide advice to their peers and colleagues on local Aboriginal issues.

To get in touch with a PALO, contact your local police station.

Warrnambool  
Senior Constable Emily Durham  
Phone - 5560 1333

Warrnambool  
Senior Constable Lewis Martin  
Phone - 5560 1333

Warrnambool  
Senior Constable Jazz Kaye  
Phone - 5560 1333

Warrnambool  
Senior Constable Ben Timpson  
Phone - 5560 1333



Aboriginal Community Liaison Officers

The ACLO roles help police to:

- deliver effective services
- have a positive influence on Aboriginal Victorians' perceptions of personal and community safety



The ACLOs liaise between the Victorian Aboriginal Community and Victoria Police. They are community representatives within the organisation. In consultation with the community, ACLOs:

- provide advice to senior police members on local Aboriginal issues
- encourage Aboriginal communities to engage with police members to resolve issues
- help to develop, put in place and deliver appropriate training programs.

ACLO – Michelle Ellis

Email: [michelle.ellis@police.vic.gov.au](mailto:michelle.ellis@police.vic.gov.au)

Phone: 5560 1249 Mobile: 0438 682 356

## STOLEN GENERATIONS REPARATIONS PACKAGE INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

### Who is eligible to apply

- are an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person
- have been removed by a government or non- government agency in Victoria prior to 31 December 1976, while under the age of 18 years
- have been first removed in Victoria
- have been separated from their family for a period of time that resulted in the experience of loss of family, community, culture, identity, and language.

You cannot apply on behalf of someone who has passed.

### Find out more

- 1800 566 071
- [stolen.generations@justice.vic.gov.au](mailto:stolen.generations@justice.vic.gov.au)
- [www.vic.gov.au/stolen-generations-reparations-package](http://www.vic.gov.au/stolen-generations-reparations-package)
- PO Box 24053 Melbourne VIC 3001

## Employment



## NGATANWAAR (WELCOME)

Work in an appreciative and supportive environment, that offers generous remuneration – including tax savings and additional leave, where you will achieve real and meaningful outcomes that positively affect our community.

Current  
Vacancies

- Psychologist
- Senior Maintenance Worker
- General Practitioner
- Home and Community Care Support Worker
- Wata Takoort Group Planner

\*This is an Aboriginal identified position.

### Why work with us?

We exist to provide community controlled, culturally appropriate holistic services that meet the identified needs of the Aboriginal people and the broader community. You'll work in an inclusive, flexible and supportive environment, that offers generous remuneration where you will achieve real and meaningful outcomes that positively affect our community.

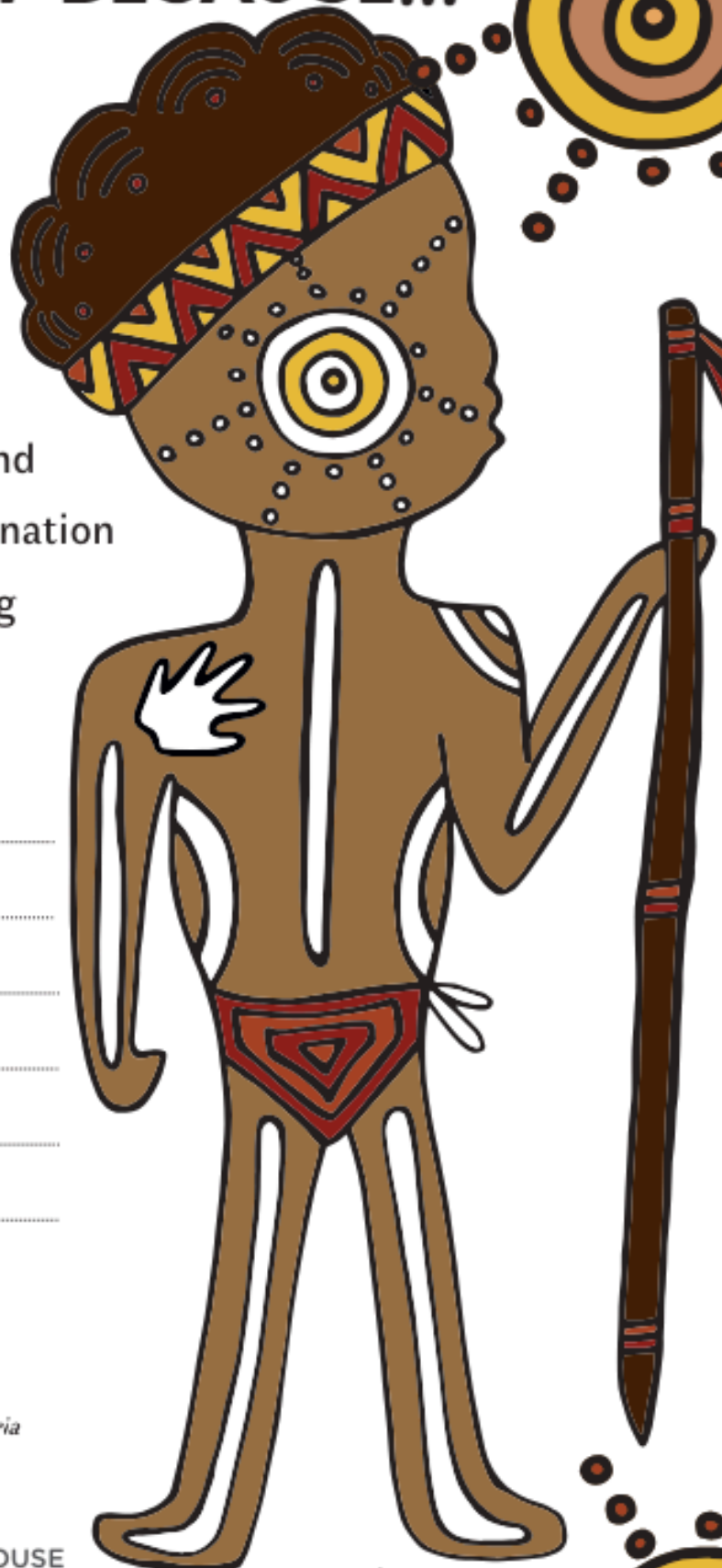


Scan me to  
learn more!

# I AM DEADLY BECAUSE...

- I give good hugs
- I am kind
- I am creative
- I am thoughtful
- I am a good dancer
- I am fun to be around
- I have a great imagination
- I am good at sharing
- I have great ideas
- I am a good friend

- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....



*Man's Yorta Yorta name is Yenbena.  
The Yorta Yorta are the Aboriginal people  
that traditionally inhabit the area  
surrounding the junction of the Goulburn  
and Murray Rivers in north eastern Victoria  
and southern New South Wales.*

# Emergency Contacts

## IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE CALL 000

### Mental health supports

- Mental Health crisis number: 1800 808 284
- Lifeline: 13 11 14
- Kids helpline: 1800 55 1800
- Beyond Blue: 1300 224 636
- Headspace (12-25yo): 9am-1am  
7 days a week: 1800 650 890
- Suicide Call Back Service (24/7 support): 1300 659 1800 808 284 467

### Alcohol and other drug supports

- Regional Victorian AOD Intake Line: 1300 022 760 (Mon – Fri) 9:00am - 5:00pm
- Victorian AOD counselling and referral service: 1800 888236 (24/7 support)
- Beyond Blue: 1300 224 636
- Lifeline: 13 11 14

### South West Healthcare supports

Kaye Smith Aboriginal Liaison-Mental Health Services  
South West Healthcare  
Koroit Street Warrnambool 3280  
Monday to Thursday 08.30am to 5.00pm  
Mobile: 0466 862 869  
Phone: 1800 808 284 and dial 1

### Victorian Virtual Emergency Department

For non-life-threatening emergencies. Open 24/7

Website: [ved-avhcop-enrollment.nh.org.au](http://ved-avhcop-enrollment.nh.org.au)

### Aboriginal Health Liaison Officer

South West Healthcare  
Koroit Street Warrnambool 3280  
Monday to Friday 08.30am to 05.00pm  
Dominique - 0422 343 442

### The Orange Door – Wimmera South West

571-575 Raglan Parade Warrnambool (Next To Macca's)  
1800271180

For All Family Violence related Referrals and support, Child Wellbeing Support and Other Referral pathways including Mental Health AOD, Parenting Support, Men's Behavioral Change.

### Family Violence supports

- Safe Steps 24/7 Family Violence Response Centre: 1800 015 188
- Emma House Domestic Violence Service  
Warrnambool: 5561 1934  
(Mon-Fri 9-5pm)
- Elizabeth Morgan House Aboriginal Women's Service: 9403 9400
- InTouch (CALD): 1800 755 988
- w/respect (LGBTIQ): 1800 542 847
- Mental Health crisis number:
  - Lifeline 13 11 14
  - National Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Hotline (24 hours): 1800 737 732 (1800 Respect)

### Men's Family Violence supports

- Men's Referral Service: 1300 766 491
- Dardi Munwurro phone support (24 hours): 1800 435 799
- Emergency Services: 000
- Mental Health crisis number: 1800 808 284
- Lifeline: 13 11 14
- Suicide Call Back Service (24/7 support): 1300 659 467

### Child and Parenting supports

- Child Protection After Hours: 13 12 78
- Parentline: 8am-Midnight 7 days a week: 13 22 89
- Mental Health crisis number: 1800 808 284
- Lifeline: 13 11 14
- Kids helpline: 1800 55 1800

### Housing or Homelessness supports

- Crisis/Homelessness 1800 015 188
- Brophy Family and Youth Services (12-25yo) Mon-Fri 9am-5pm: 5561 8888
- Salvo connect (25yo+) Mon-Fri 9am-5pm: 5564 9111

### Health and wellbeing

- South West Health Care: Ryot St, Warrnambool VIC 3280 5563 1666 (24/7)
- South West Healthcare; Emergency Department for GP service and health needs (24/7): 5563 1666
- Nurse on-call: 1300 60 60 24

## What would you like to see in our newsletter?

Share with us your feedback by handing in this page to the Gunditjmara Main Office on Kepler St or by emailing us on [media@gunditjmara.org.au](mailto:media@gunditjmara.org.au)

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## Do you have feedback, suggestions or a complaint?

### Complaints

#### **Making a Complaint**

A person wishing to make a complaint may do so in writing or verbally to any GAC representative including;

The staff member they were dealing with at the time

- The manger / team leader of that staff member
- An executive director

Clients also have the right to make a complaint to external organisations such as:

- The Governing body or the Commissioner
- Clients should be notified of their rights to make an external complaint to the above bodies.

Complaints can be made by:

- Submitting a completed Clients & External Stakeholders Complaints Form into the Suggestion Box located at reception at GAC's Kepler St and Banyan St work sites. The Clients & External Stakeholders Complaints Form can be accessed online here or at reception as a hardcopy upon request.
- Submitting a written complaint to the relevant manager or executive director.
- Via telephone to the relevant manager or executive director on 03 5559 1234.
- Anonymous complaints can may be made by phone, writing and or face to face meeting.

Alternatively you can fill out the complaint form via our website [www.gunditjmara.org.au/feedback](http://www.gunditjmara.org.au/feedback)

### Feedback

#### **We love to hear your feedback!**

Please fill out a feedback form below and leave it in the feedback box at reception.

This form can be accessed via our website at [www.gunditjmara.org.au/feedback](http://www.gunditjmara.org.au/feedback) or can be supplied upon request at Head Office reception at 135 Kepler Street Warrnambool, VIC 3280

Once this form is completed, you can get it to us by:

- Send us an email with the form attached via [feedback@gunditjmara.org.au](mailto:feedback@gunditjmara.org.au)
- Write to us at: Gunditjmara Aboriginal Cooperative, PO Box 732, Warrnambool, VIC, 3280
- Dropping it off in person to the above address

Alternatively, you can:

- Call reception on 03 5559 1234

Your feedback will then be forwarded to the appropriate manager.