



Ngatanwan

Gunditjmara Aboriginal Cooperative

Honouring The Old Empowering The New

Newsletter 12—Date 11 August 2021

Clinic News

This past fortnight we have been running on minimal staff during snap lockdowns while continuing to provide a crucial service. During the lock downs we provide telephone consults to existing patients only, face to face consults are determined by the nurse and clinical staff upon a telephone triage process.

The COVID vaccination roll out has been going ahead— Targeting Aboriginal and Torres strait islander community members as well as any person that is eligible according to DHHS guidelines.

We currently are vaccinating on a Wednesday 9am-8pm and Thursday 9-12noon. Currently we are offering both vaccines – Astra Zeneca & Pfizer. Please call the clinic and speak with Sophie OR Dominique if you require any information regarding either vaccine and your eligibility.

UP COMING INFORMATION DAY Thursday 26th August – 12 noon – 4pm at the Clinic, 3 Banyan Street.

The event will focus on providing information to people about the COVID, the risks and benefits of the vaccine and anything related.

BBQ lunch will be provided

A raffle will be run for fun – with 3 prizes to be won at the end of the day.

We have farewelled our Dr Yaun Gao – She has made an impact to our clinic, both to staff and patients the time she has shared with us and thank her efforts very much. In Dr Yuan’s place we have welcomed Dr Asha, she has settled in quiet well, we look forward in working along side her.

INDEPENDENT LIVING TEAM

We are excited to welcome Maurice as our newest Home Care Support Worker. Maurice has been busily meeting our home maintenance clients, working while the weather is good to get our services back under control and will continue to keep services going regularly, weather permitting!

We have been able to continue our domestic assistance and social support individual over the recent lockdowns.

We delivered lockdown support packs to clients and community members during Lockdown 5.0, hopefully they continued to help through Lockdown 6.0.

We welcome everyone back to group activities this week. Looking forward to hearing them belt out some karaoke tunes.





Your rights for help with electricity and gas bills.

If you are having trouble finding the money to pay your bills, there are rules which mean your electricity or gas company must let you know what help is available.

Call your electricity or gas company if you think you're going to have trouble paying your bill, as soon as you can and ask to speak to their financial hardship team. They must help you. Their number will be on your bill.

If you're having trouble navigating your bills, you can call the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service on 9403 3300 or contact us on 55591234

You can ask for a payment plan, if you have agreed to a payment plan and continue to make your payments, your energy company cannot cut off your power or gas.

Ask for concession card discounts, if you're an eligible concession card holder, there are many discounts and rebates you can apply for to help with your bills. Check your energy bills to make sure your concession has been applied. If you've missed out on claiming any concessions, the company should back-date your concessions for the last 12 months, or for as long as you have been eligible.

For further information visit the Department of Health and Human Services webpage at services.dhhs.vic.gov.au/utility-relief-grant-scheme or call us 55591234 or 55643344

Warm Safe Home for older Victorians

Are you struggling to pay your bills?

A financial counsellor may be able to help you

To connect with a financial counsellor in your local area visit warmsafehome.org.au or call

1800 007 007

Switchboard Victoria's **Out & About** program presents

Out, About & CONNECTED

Warrnambool (Gunditjmara land)

21 August, 2021 | 3-6pm
Warrnambool Art Gallery

AN EVENT FOR
LEISBIAN/Bi+, TRANS
AND NON-BINARY
PEOPLE OVER 50

Look Out for the New Date
Rescheduled

switchboard
thorneharbour health*

www.switchboard.org.au/lgbtiolderpeople

