

Health partnership to journey with CQ Indigenous community

On Monday, five Central Queensland organisations will sign a Statement of Cooperation to improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander access to mental health and alcohol and other drug treatment in the Rockhampton, Livingstone & the Central Highlands region.

Central Queensland, Wide Bay and Sunshine Coast PHN is funding and supporting the initiative, with the newly formed consortium to be called Murri Binda meaning ‘sitting down, yarning and healing together’.

PHN Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drugs Program Manager Mustafa Elkhishin said the signing of the Statement of Cooperation would be the cornerstone of the partnership.

“The PHN is committed to Closing the Gap through the delivery of culturally appropriate services and that means having Indigenous organisations deliver programs wherever possible,” Mr Elkhishin said.

“Partners in Murri Binda will work to remove barriers to access and connect people to evidence based treatment, for what are often complex needs.”

To improve access to services, a Service Coordinator will journey with the client to reduce the number of times someone has to effectively ‘retell their story’, which can be distressing and a barrier in itself to engaging with supports.

The five organisations forming the consortium are: Bidgerdii Community Health Service, Helem Yumba Healing Place, Gumbi Gumbi Drug and Alcohol Awareness Rehabilitation, Darumbal Community Youth Service, and, Juwarki Kapu-Lug Ltd.

Bidgerdii Community Health Services’ CEO Thalep Ahmat says the organisations are working together to help reduce barriers to service access for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

“We have the backing of our Elders and community members to help drive this new model of service delivery, which is based on the principles of self-determination, workforce development and community education,” Mr Ahmat said.

“We are currently establishing our unique model of service delivery through our Consortium consisting of the five organisations to ensure that it extends well beyond the life of the current project.”

Event details next page >>

MEDIA RELEASE

30 May 2019



EVENT DETAILS:

Date: Monday 3 June 2019

Time: 9am – 11am

(Welcome to Country 9.15am, Signing of the Murri Binda Statement of Cooperation 9.30am)

Place: The Boathouse 189 Quay Street, Rockhampton

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