

## Networking to enhance First Australian Health in Victoria

### e-NEWS FOR MEMBERS JULY 2014

#### **WEENTHUNGA NEWS and EVENTS**

##### **Asking THE question - "Are you or your child of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage?" - A wrap up Report!**

On Thursday 10th July at the Weenthunga's Members Meeting there was a great discussion around the issues associated with asking THE question "Are you or your child of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage?". The report on the discussion lead by presenters Terori Hareko-Samios and Associate Professor John Whyte can be found on the Weenthunga website at: [http://www.weenthunga.com.au/news/view\\_article.cfm?loadref=6&id=52](http://www.weenthunga.com.au/news/view_article.cfm?loadref=6&id=52)

##### **Weenthunga Health Day: Women's Talk 29th August, 2014**

Weenthunga staff are busy organising Weenthunga's third annual Health Day: *Women's Talk* where about 20 young First Australian women (Years 10-12) will be able to meet and listen to a range of First Australian women health professionals talk about their journeys into their careers and what they like about their work. Listening to these health professionals may inspire them to continue with their schooling, seek scholarships and maybe even undertake health courses—like these women before them. The Weenthunga Committee is very appreciative of a grant from the Victorian Women's Benevolent Trust for its Weenthunga Health Day and a small grant from Reconciliation Victoria towards the dinner to which the First Australian students will invite Australian friends.

**Just in..... Weenthunga's Health and Education Consultant, Stephanie Armstrong, is mentioned for her mentoring work in the Koori Mail—The Fortnightly National Indigenous Newspaper.** See the article [here](#), or under News on our Weenthunga's website.

#### **OTHER EVENTS**

##### **Workshop: Assessing the communication skills of Aboriginal children. A new approach**

This is an interactive workshop that provides speech pathologists with practical skills in conducting culturally responsive communication assessments for Aboriginal children. A unique opportunity, presented by First Australian Speech Therapist, Tara Lewis. Please pass on to other Speech Therapists in your network! Wednesday 15th October, 9am-2pm at VACCHO Collingwood, Melbourne. Register at [gumerriworkshops@gmail.com](mailto:gumerriworkshops@gmail.com) or find further details at [www.weenthunga.com.au](http://www.weenthunga.com.au) under "Events".

**Dream in Sight: Melbourne University Aboriginal Student Information Day for Social work and Nursing Courses.** Monday 11th August. Further details and application access can be found [here](#) or go to our website [www.weenthunga.com.au](http://www.weenthunga.com.au) and view events.

##### **Healing Ways: Art with Intent - Symposium & Kopi Workshop 19 & 20 SEPTEMBER 2014**

Where: The Dax Centre, Kenneth Myer Building, University of Melbourne.

More information can be found at <http://healingways.daxcentre.org/healing-symposium/>

## **OTHER EVENTS cont....**

### **Honoring the Child, Honoring Equity 14: Embracing diverse identities**

Friday 21 November to Saturday 22 November 2014 at the University of Melbourne. Conference enquiries to: Kate Alexander Ph 9035 5563 or klal@unimelb.edu.au or visit the [conference website](#).

### **Melbourne Graduate School of Education: Dean's Lecture Series 2014 - Indigenous Australians and universities: Navigating reform in a changing landscape.**

Tuesday 12 August 2014, 6pm – 7pm in Theatre Q230, Level 2, 234 Queensberry Street

For more details click [here](#) or go to [www.weenthunga.com.au](http://www.weenthunga.com.au) and view Events.

## **NEWS**

### **Thornbury High School Crowd Funding—“Save our Koorie Program!”**

Thornbury High School have launched their own crowd funding campaign to “Save their Koorie Program” which has lost its’ previous government funding. The school has shown extraordinary commitment and effort in the past five years to support young Koorie students. You might be interested in finding out more, watching their video and maybe supporting their immediate effort to keep the program going as they also continue to advocate. Please go to the link <https://www.chuffed.org/project/save-our-koorie-program/>.

**The National Coalition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Workers** have put in a bid to host the **3rd International Indigenous Social Work Conference in Darwin in 2015**. They need to raise at least \$30,000 in the next few months to hold the venue for the conference. This conference brings Indigenous social workers from around the world to exchange ideas, experiential knowledge, research, theories and practices that in turn enrich and support our communities, families and nations around the world. Any contributions to this funding effort can be made at: <http://www.gofundme.com/960u28>

**The Closing the Gap Clearinghouse website** (<http://www.aihw.gov.au/closingthegap/publications/>) has a number of papers on health and on early childhood and education.

## **OPPORTUNITIES**

**Puggy Hunter Memorial Scholarship Scheme.** The scheme is an Australian Government initiative designed to encourage and assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander undergraduate students in health-related disciplines to complete their studies and join the health workforce, and is available for study in 2015. Full details and access to the applications can be found at <http://www.acn.edu.au/phmss>, closes **Monday 15 September 2014**.

**Rowan Nicks Russell Drysdale Fellowship in Australian Indigenous Health and Welfare 2015.** The Fellowship is designed to support individuals wanting to make a contribution in the area of Australian Indigenous Health and Welfare. Australian Indigenous people are strongly encouraged to apply. Closing date: Friday August 15, 2014. For further information about the Fellowship and for application forms, please visit the website: <http://sydney.edu.au/medicine/scholarships/indigenous/index.php#rowan>

**The Lowitja Institute—Expression of Interest – Research Roundtable Reference Groups.** The Lowitja Institute will be conducting three roundtables in October and November 2014 and invite you to express your interest in being part of the reference groups that will inform these roundtables. The roundtable topics will be: Early childhood; Cultural competence of mainstream health services and systems; and Social determinants of health. Please download the [expression of interest document](#) and express your interest by 30th July, or call tel: 03 8341 5555.