

Community Newsletter

Message from the Chairperson

Hello everyone,

It's hard to believe we are already in October and our 2020 Annual General Meeting is just around the corner.



The Danila Dilba AGM will be held on Wednesday, 26 November, at the Marrara Tennis Centre, time TBC.

Danila Dilba will be writing to all our members to provide formal notification of the AGM's details so keep an eye on your post box.

We have several vacancies on our Board and I encourage anyone who would like to contribute to improving the health and wellbeing of our mob to consider nominating. Being a Director allows you to steer the direction of the organisation and ensure we continue to meet our strategic priorities. I hope you enjoy the updates in this newsletter, and I look forward to seeing you all at the AGM very soon.

Carol Stanislaus
Chairperson

COVID-19 update

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to pose a threat across the world and, thankfully, in the Top End, due to effective and responsive preventative measures undertaken there has been no evidence of significant community spread of the virus.

Despite this success, it is important that we remain vigilant in our efforts to stop the spread of COVID-19. The Northern Territory continues to experience a significant influx of visitors, and the Howard Springs quarantine facility is now part of the operation to repatriate overseas Australians home. This means that we continue to face the risk of COVID-19 coming to the Territory and affecting our communities.

There are steps that we can all take to help stop the spread of COVID-19 and look after our mob.

Simple measures like:



Don't shake hands



Keep a safe distance



Wash hands often



Cover your cough and sneeze



Get your flu vaccine



Call the clinic if you have symptoms and don't forget to have your regular health check!



Danila Dilba opens new clinics

Danila Dilba has continued to grow as an organisation, with significant work undertaken to open two new clinics.

Construction and fit-out of a clinic at Humpty Doo was completed in June 2020, with doors opening to the public in July 2020.

With around 1,300 people from the rural area normally attending Danila Dilba's Palmerston Clinic, the Humpty Doo service is set to meet a significant demand and make access to culturally appropriate health care easier for people living in the rural area.

Another major milestone recently achieved has been the opening of a new Danila Dilba clinic space at Don Dale Youth Detention Centre.

The clinic is the result of more than four years of advocacy by Danila Dilba and comes following



Alyssa Fraser is the Humpty Doo Clinic Manager.

the completion of the Royal Commission into the Protection and Detention of Children in 2017. Staffed by a full time GP, registered nurse, psychologist, as well as two youth workers,

the new primary health care service will, for the first time, provide culturally safe health care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in detention in the Northern Territory.

Do you need assistance with legal matters?

Danila Dilba in partnership with the NT Legal Aid Commission (NTLAC), is holding Legal Aid clinics every Tuesday and Thursday.

Legal Aid can help you with:

- Housing and tenancy issues
- Disability (NDIS and Disability Support Pension)
- Police complaints
- Criminal matters
- Superannuation (early access etc)
- Money issues (fines and debt)
- Compensation (motor vehicle accidents, victims of crime and/or work injuries)

- Discrimination
- Family issues (DV and child protection)
- Deceased family member (wills and superannuation)
- Employment

Since 2016, Danila Dilba and the NTLAC have worked together to provide legal support through the Health Justice Partnership to our clients, as well as legal education and training for Danila Dilba staff.

By working in partnership, health and legal services can address the complex and intersecting issues affecting clients in ways people could not do alone.

Beach Hype 2020

Danila Dilba's inaugural Beach Hype Day was held at Casuarina Beach on 9 October 2020. Around 100 kids attended the free family event, which featured noodle relays, sand castle competitions and an Edor battle, plus important information about how to live a healthy life. We can't wait for the next one!



COVID-19 support life-changing

An emergency meal delivery program for Indigenous Elders that commenced during COVID-19 has provided a well-needed helping hand, supporting elderly people to improve their overall health.

Danila Dilba commenced the COVID-19 Indigenous Elders Community Response Measure in April 2020 to ensure Elders would continue to receive support, including welfare checks, have ongoing access to essentials items such as food and medications, transport to appointments and a free meal service as required.

The program, funded by the Institute for Urban Indigenous Health for six months, provided services for around 90 Danila Dilba clients across the greater Darwin area.



Social and Emotional Wellbeing Outreach Worker Noel Tomes with Cheryl Wenitong.

For 69-year-old Cheryl Wenitong, the program delivered not only regular meals, but the support needed to address chronic backpain.

“The meals are nutritious and a huge help, and Noel from Danila Dilba talks to me to make sure everything is going okay,” Cheryl said. “He has helped me to arrange doctor appointments, as well as transport to those

appointments. I’m feeling much better in myself now. It really has changed my life.”

Social and Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB) outreach worker Noel Tomes said the Elders support program helped people take control of their health story.

“The program enables the SEWB outreach worker to engage with the client on their health journey,” Noel said.

Business unit established

In early 2020 Danila Dilba established its first ever Business Development Unit. A key recommendation of the Korn Ferry Review, the team aims to diversify revenue streams and reduce Danila Dilba’s reliance on government funding, with the potential to transform the way we operate into the future.

Consisting of a manager, project officer and contracts officer, the team is investigating new opportunities for Danila Dilba, including self-generating income streams, new clinic possibilities and corporate and/or philanthropic funding avenues.

New Communications team

In addition to a keen business focus, the Business Development Unit also consists of a new Communications team.

The Marketing and Communications Manager Libby Collins, together with a Senior Communications Officer, have responsibility for driving internal and external communications and maintaining the Danila Dilba brand.

It is important that as Danila Dilba continues to grow and reach new heights our members, stakeholders and the wider community are kept up to date and informed of the organisation’s achievements.