



**Danila Dilba**  
Health Service

# COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

October  
2021

## Message from the **CHAIRPERSON**



Supporting and protecting our community in the face of a global pandemic is one of the most important things we do as an organisation. It has been terrible to see the pain that the COVID-19 Delta strain has caused across Australia and we're thinking of those impacted communities. It is vital that we get our mob vaccinated to protect ourselves and our families.

Everyone over 12 years old is eligible

for a vaccination in the NT. Make an appointment for your vaccination by calling 8942 5400

It's also important that our rough sleepers get vaccinated, and our Vaccination Engagement Team is facilitating this. If you know any of our mob sleeping rough, please encourage them to get the vaccine. Stay safe and healthy, and get vaccinated.

As many of you know - 2021 marks Danila Dilba's 30th anniversary. It has been an incredible 30 years, starting with just one hard won clinic for a grassroots Aboriginal Medical Service to nine clinics and two Vaccination Centres that keep our community healthy. Celebrations for Danila Dilba's birthday will be in December - look out for more news on that front!

We've had some big changes since our last newsletter and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Olga Havnen, our outgoing CEO and welcome Rob McPhee into the role. Over the past either years Olga led Danila Dilba to serve its clients better, by putting clinics closer to where clients live, stopping the development of an alcohol superstore, and steering DDHS through the COVID-19 crisis. Thank you, Olga, for your work and dedication.

We welcome Rob McPhee as Danila Dilba's CEO, who is settling into the role brilliantly. He brings a wealth of experience, having been the deputy CEO at Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services and is keen to get to know Danila Dilba and its clients.

**Carol Stanislaus**

Chairperson

## Welcome Rob McPhee - CEO



Danila Dilba's new CEO, Rob McPhee, will officially start in his role at the end of August after a competitive search all over Australia.

Rob has extensive experience in the Aboriginal health sector, having served as the Deputy CEO and Chief Operating Officer at Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services in Broome for the past six years. Prior to that he worked in the energy and university sectors, maintaining a focus on Aboriginal social justice, community development, and self-determination.

"I'm excited to be commencing in the role at the end of August, and getting to know the community that Danila Dilba has served for 30 years," Rob said.

"I've admired Danila Dilba from afar for a long time. It will be a real privilege for me to lead an organisation with such a deep commitment to the health, wellbeing, and rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people," he said.

Welcome Rob!

## THANK YOU, OLGA HAVNEN



For the past eight years Olga has led the organisation through significant growth, effective advocacy in the health and justice sectors and more recently provided crucial leadership throughout the beginnings of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Under Olga's leadership, DDHS introduced a new service delivery model, underpinned by substantial evidence, and based on the three principles of quality, accessibility, and cost-effectiveness.

Olga has led a significant service expansion at Danila Dilba, adding three clinics since 2016 with a corresponding staff increase from 100 in 2013 to 225 in 2021. Her leadership was instrumental in initiating an Indigenous Employment and Career Pathways strategy that achieved 50% Indigenous employment and 63% of executive leadership in 2018.

Since Olga became CEO, Danila Dilba has grown to be one of the biggest Aboriginal health services in Australia. Under Olga's leadership, Danila Dilba began using a 'one stop shop' model of primary health care to bring more services to our clients, closer to where they live. We opened the Malak, Rapid Creek, and Humpty Doo clinics, and began providing Australian Nurse Family Partnership Program and Social and Emotional Wellbeing services in our clinics. Olga helped make Danila Dilba stronger, more accessible, and more recognizable.

Olga is a strong and passionate advocate for our people. While CEO, Olga was influential in bringing public health issues to the forefront of the Dan Murphy's-in-Darwin debate, which ultimately led to a landmark decision, ceasing development of the megastore in Darwin.

We wish Olga all the best and congratulate her on winning Darwin's Lifetime Achievement NAIDOC Award earlier this year and her nomination for Australian of the Year. Fingers crossed!

## DANILA DILBA WINS 2/3 MAJOR AWARDS!



**Administrators Awards,  
Government House  
Wednesday 1 September 2021.**

**Pictured,** left to rightL :  
DDHS Chair Carol Stanislaus  
Mr Craig O'Halloran,  
DDHS CEO Rob McPhee

Her Honour the Honourable Vicki O'Halloran AO, Administrator of the Northern Territory

Patricia Nundhirribala from  
Numbulwar Primary Health Care  
Bella Skidmore  
Emma Brown

On Wednesday 1 September Danila Dilba attended an awards ceremony at Government House and took out two of the three NT Public Health Network's Administrator's Medals, in the whole-of service and team categories! The Administrator's Medals in Primary Health Care "recognise and reward outstanding people, teams and services that have contributed significantly to the provision of primary health care in the Northern Territory".

Congratulations to our wonderful staff on being recognized as an important services and to the COVID-19 Vaccination Team for the team award, and for continuing to play such a crucial role in keeping our community protected from COVID-19.

## NO MORE DAN MURPHY'S



Image: Olga Havnen, Helen Fejo-Frith and John Paterson at the Chief Minister's Office with the petition of 137 000+ signatures against the megastore development

Spurred on by the need to prevent further alcohol-related harms in Darwin Community, local leaders won their battle against Woolworths' proposed Dan Murphy's superstore in

April this year.

It was one of the biggest moments of forced corporate accountability Australia has ever seen. It was important to have strong leaders like Helen Fejo Frith, John Paterson and Danila Dilba's former CEO Olga Havnen, committed to protecting the public health interest of our community.

Woolworths commissioned an Independent Panel Review into its actions around its Dan Murphy's proposal. The Review found that they put profits above public interest, lobbied for legal changes that led to fair process being ignored, and did not meet standards of a leading corporate citizen.

Strong community advocacy pushed Woolworths from turning a blind eye to the health impacts of alcohol on Indigenous communities and lobbying to have its Dan Murphy's approved to handing back its liquor license and acknowledging its failure to consult. A huge win for our mob's health.

## BOARD UPDATE



**Carol Stanislaus**  
Chair



**Camille Lew Fat**  
Deputy Chair



**Wayne Kurnoth**  
Larrakia Director



**Michael McGregor**  
Director



**Bronwyn Rossingh**  
Director



**Samantha Ludwig**  
Director



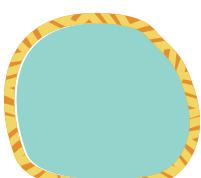
**Deborah Butler**  
Director



**Rus Nasir**  
Director



**Shaun Tatipata**  
Director



**Vacant**  
Director



**Shannon Daly**

*Shannon Daly resigned from her position as Deputy Chair this year.*

*We'd like to thank Shannon, wholeheartedly for her contributions in leading Danila Dilba.*

*Her input and presence on the board was invaluable and we wish her well on her next venture.*

## UPDATE YOUR DETAILS!

*We need to make sure our clients hear from us when we have important updates, especially with COVID-19 updates in the future.*

*CALL 89425400 and update your contact details!*

## CONGRATS SARAH!



A massive congratulations to Danila Dilba's AHP Sarah Quong, for taking out the 2021 New Aboriginal Health Practitioner award!

Sarah has been an Aboriginal Health Practitioner for only two years however her clinical knowledge and work ethic go far beyond her years. She really cares about the health and wellbeing of our mob and ensures our clients have a clear understanding of their condition, correct usage of medication and their treatment plan. She also ensures appropriate follow up is in place so our patients do not slip through the cracks. Due to Sarah's high level of care we now have high risk non-engaged clients who are engaging in our services regularly.

It is dedicated staff like Sarah, who make Danila Dilba such an important service for our people. Congrats Sarah!

## 30 YEARS OF DANILA DILBA

As many of you know Danila Dilba turns 30 this year!

Our official birthday is November 7 and we'll be using this day to announce how we would like to mark this milestone with all of our community, staff, family and friends,

Keep an eye out for community events in December!



## COVID-19 UPDATE

### GET YOUR VACCINATION!

We cannot stress enough how important it is to get vaccinated. It's one of the easiest ways you can protect yourself and your family against COVID-19.

It's picking up again down south in places that are struggling to get access to the vaccine.

We've been so lucky in Darwin but with the rest of the country it is only a matter of time before COVID-19 comes to Darwin, and when it does - we need to protect ourselves, because COVID-19 will make us very sick.

Please get vaccinated - it's important we look after ourselves and each other



### TAKE THE JAB, NOT IVERMECTIN

You may have heard that the medication called Ivermectin, can protect you against the coronavirus. Although there have been some trials investigating the use of Ivermectin as a treatment for COVID-19, so far, there is not enough evidence to prove that it can treat or prevent COVID-19.

Only take medicines prescribed to you.

**Protect yourself from getting seriously ill from COVID-19 by getting the vaccination.**

Call 8942 5400 to book in for the COVID-19 vaccine.



BOOK YOUR VACCINATION!

CALL 8942 5400

## LEGAL HEALTH MOB

For those who might not know, Danila Dilba and NT Legal Aid have a health justice partnership. This means Danila Dilba can assist clients get help with their legal problems. Each week the Legal Team (Legal Health Mob) attend the following Danila Dilba clinics:

Legal Health Mob can help you get legal assistance in relation to any legal issue.

Some examples of legal problems we can help with include:

- If you are separating and want help; -
- If you don't feel safe in your relationship;
- Territory Families are hounding and you're not sure what to do;
- Centrelink have rejected your application for a Disability Support Pension;

- You feel people are being discriminatory towards you eg. because of your gender or culture;
- You are not happy with the way the police have treated you;
- You are having NT Housing troubles or NT Housing threatening to evict you.

If you need legal help, please:

1. Ask a Danila Dilba staff member to contact Legal Health Mob;  
OR

2. Call Legal Health Mob on 0447 753 028 or email at  
[legalhealthmob@ddhs.org.au](mailto:legalhealthmob@ddhs.org.au).

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Malak 9-12.30pm	Knuckey Street 9-12pm	Knuckey Street 2-4.30pm	Humpty Doo 9.30-12pm
Bagot 1-4.30pm	Palmerston 2-4pm		Rapid Creek 1.30-4.30pm

## B PART OF IT

Thousands of young Territorians will be vaccinated against meningococcal B for free, as part of a study being undertaken in the Northern Territory for the first time.

B Part of It NT, is being led by researchers from The University of Adelaide and the University of Queensland. It is funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council, and carried out in partnership with NT Health, the Commonwealth Government, AMSANT, SA Health, and the Women's and Children's Hospital Foundation.

The study will collect research by administering the meningococcal B vaccine, Bexsero, to more than 7,000 Territorians aged between 14 and 19.

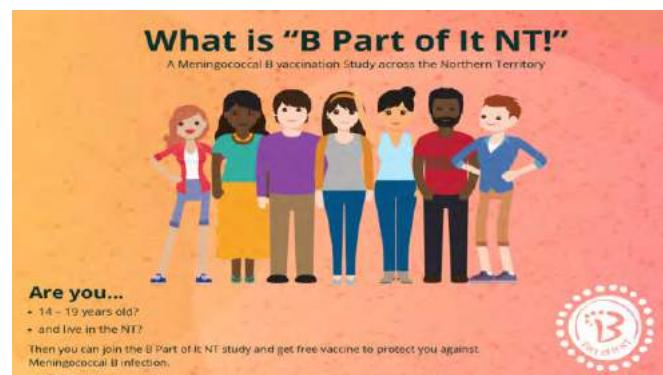
Territorians will need to receive two doses of the vaccine two months apart, as well as offer two throat swabs, and complete two surveys.

Results will determine whether the number of cases of meningococcal disease reduces in the Territory, after participants have received the vaccine. Researchers will also

measure how many people carry the meningococcus bacteria in their throat.

In addition, B Part of It NT will collect information that could help inform if the vaccination offers protection against gonorrhoea too.

Participants can join through their school programs, or their local health clinic by returning a consent form. For more information, please visit: [www.bpartofitnt.com.au](http://www.bpartofitnt.com.au)



## DDHS MOB



Emma Cooke and Jackie



DDHS Staff and Board farewell Olga Havnen



Camilla and Nathan - ANFPP



Vaccination Engagement Team with some of our clients for COVID-19 Vaccinations



Thomas Mayor receiving his vaccination by Andrew Webster

ANFPP's mum and bub - Sharona and Ayarrick