

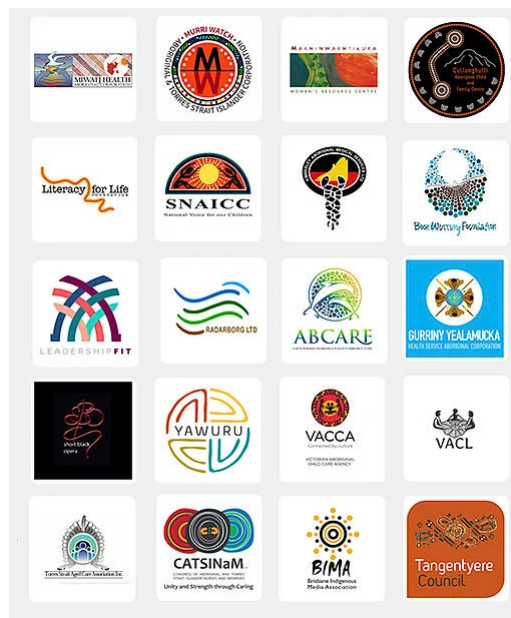
Tuesday 12 October

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Welcome to Lowitja Institute's new look eBulletin - The Doris! Bringing you the latest in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing research, and the social and cultural determinants of health.

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Announcing our 20 new research projects to transform Indigenous health research in Australia



We are excited to unveil a landmark program of 20 new research grants that changes the way Indigenous health research is done in Australia.

The \$4.32 million 2021-2024 Lowitja Institute Research Program delivers research that is truly community-led, culturally-safe and self-determined and puts the cultural determinants of health at the heart of each project. community-led, culturally-safe and self-determined and puts the cultural determinants of health at the heart of each project.

“Being community controlled allows us to privilege our mob when it comes to allocating research funds. It means we can ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait

Islander people drive our research agenda and that we do the research our people want and need.”

- Janine Mohamed, CEO Lowitja Institute

The 2021-2024 Lowitja Institute Research Projects range from the world acclaimed Melbourne-based Short Black Opera to a focus on aged care in the Torres Strait by TSACAI and on children by the Marinwarntikura Women’s Resource Centre in Fitzroy Crossing, WA.

Find out more about these wonderful projects, and follow their progress on our [website](#).

Find out about the projects

Read the media release

The Lowitja Institute has made a submission to the Australian Medical Research Advisory Board

The submission was made on the overarching strategy and priorities for the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF). Our submission calls for:

- Equitable funding in terms of burden of disease for Indigenous Health Research i.e a minimum of 6 per cent of total MRFF funding (\$306 million) dedicated to research which reflects the priorities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- Objective and impact measures in the Strategy which explicitly address Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and equity as priorities.
- Decolonising research by transforming organisations and institutions through identifying and eliminating racism, embedding, and practicing cultural safety, ensuring the delivery of services in partnership with Indigenous peoples and increasing accountability.
- Privileging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander – led research in the commissioning and allocation of MRFF funds.
- Clear linkages between the MRFF priorities and the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan, Workforce Strategic Framework and the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.

Further information on the consultations is available [here](#).

10 ways we can better respond to the pandemic in a trauma-informed way

Fear is one of the central emotional responses during the pandemic. Every day brings a new level of stress: concerns about getting sick, the stigma of testing positive, financial difficulties due to not being able to work, separation from loved ones in lockdown (or being locked in an unsafe household). The list goes on. For many of us, uncomfortable feelings can be “natural” responses to a “threat”. Our strong, primitive defence or “threat response” (sometimes called “fight, flight or freeze”) has enabled human beings to survive. This stress response is essential for survival against poisonous snakes, crocodiles and other dangerous situations...

Read the full article by our CEO Janine Mohamed and others [HERE](#).

News & Media

[‘We have the platform and we have the commitment’ NACCHO’s message on World Mental Health Day](#)

[Aboriginal health experts want more done to tackle suicide of young people in the Kimberley](#)

[Aboriginal communities battle COVID as health experts sound the alarm on borders opening](#)

[Aboriginal health groups fighting ‘pockets of vaccine hesitancy’ in remote areas of NT as uptake plateaus](#)

Resources & Publications

Who is speaking for us? Identifying Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander scholarship in health research. Mohamed, J., Matthews, V., Bainbridge, R. and Williams, M. (2021), *Med J Aust.* <https://doi.org/10.5694/mja2.51281>

Leading with local solutions to keep Yarrabah safe: a grounded theory study of an Aboriginal community-controlled health organisation’s response to COVID-19

Mccalman, J., Et al. (2021). Leading with local solutions to keep Yarrabah safe: a grounded theory study of an Aboriginal community-controlled health organisation’s response to COVID-19. *BMC Health Services Research*, 21, 1-15. doi: [10.1186/s12913-021-06761-1](https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-021-06761-1)

Meeting People Where They’re at: A Systematic Review of Financial Counseling for Indigenous Peoples

Daniels, C., Mccalman, J., & Bainbridge, R. (2021). Meeting People Where They’re at: A Systematic Review of Financial Counseling for Indigenous Peoples. *Journal of Financial Counselling and Planning*, 1-15. doi: [10.1891/JFCP-19-00065](https://doi.org/10.1891/JFCP-19-00065)

Indigenous education, wellbeing and resilience – A systemic approach.
Mccalman, J., & Bainbridge, R. (2021). In M. Ungar (Ed.), *Multisystemic Resilience: Adaptation and Transformation in Contexts of Change* (pp. 199-219). London, UK: Oxford University Press. Retrieved from <https://global.oup.com/>

Job & opportunities

[Project Officer- Implementation of the Australian Eye and Ear Health Survey with the Brien Holden Foundation \(BHF\)](#)

[Senior Research Fellow – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health - St Vincent's Health Australia](#)

[Fundraising Coordinator - Children's Ground](#)

[Digital Communications Advisor- First Peoples Assembly of Victoria](#)

[Relationship Manager NSW - Supply Nation](#)

[Research participation: Mental health clinicians' beliefs about the cultural responsiveness of Motivational Interviewing with Indigenous clients.](#)

Events

[HEAL 2021 Conference.](#)

This highly innovative conference has a hybrid multi-node format, which will stimulate debate, provide in-person interaction and networking opportunities for participants in eight nodes covering all Australian jurisdictions, as well as an enhanced online experience for virtual participation from Australia and overseas.

Treaty and Truth-Telling

On Wednesday 6 October, the Progressive Law Network hosted our 'Treaty and Truth-Telling' event, with special guests Aunty Geraldine Atkinson, Co-Chair of the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria, and Prof. Eleanor Bourke, Chairperson and Commissioner of the Yoo-rrook Justice Commission. [Watch the recording](#)



LOWITJA INSTITUTE MEMBERS COMMUNITY

Member applications are now open to join the Members Community. Click [HERE](#) to apply. Further information about the Members Community can be found on our website [HERE](#).

If you have any queries, or need more information, please contact us by email at members@lowitja.org.au.

Lowitja Institute Expert Database

If you have expertise that can contribute to vital health services and research to help address the challenges of COVID-19 and support recovery or have expertise with other diseases and can assist with managing and supporting services, please [register](#) your expertise to assist Aboriginal community controlled health services. This is a National Health Leadership Forum (NHLF) initiative and is provided by Lowitja Institute.

Have questions or content? Communications@lowitja.org.au



Lowitja Institute, Suite 1, Level 2, 100 Drummond St, Carlton, VIC 3053, Australia

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