



Social and Emotional Wellbeing Partner Network Monthly News December 2021

SEWB WSDU Team Update

Outstanding Aboriginal mental health researcher Professor Juli Coffin has taken out top honors at the 2021 Western Australian Mental Health Awards in recognition of her ground-breaking work to enhance Aboriginal social and emotional wellbeing.

Professor Coffin, who runs Yawardani Jan-ga – an equine-assisted learning (EAL) program adapted to provide trauma-informed, culturally secure, strengths-based support to Aboriginal children and young people – won the Minister’s Award for Outstanding Contribution, which is sponsored by Mental Health Minister Stephen Dawson and recognizes someone who has displayed best practice at every level and a true dedication to service throughout 2020.



“We’ve been talking for a long time about the need to do things differently,” Professor Coffin said. “It’s timely, just as we were starting to get fantastic results and really great buy-in and backing from people who see what we are trying to achieve, to have this program that we believe in so strongly recognized this way.

It’s so pleasing that the whole team has been recognised, as well, because it really is a team approach. They, together with all the referrers, all the young people who have participated, and the partners who have placed their faith in us, are really what lies behind our success”

SEWB Forum



What an exciting week for the KAMS SEWB Team as we hosted the SEWB Forum in Kununarra

This year the forum was focus on how do we connect with our member service to provide accessible tools and pathways to strengthen the workforce from a holistic view?

We had presentations Professor Pat Dudgeons, Professor Helen Milroy and Michael Mitchell who are working on called [“Transforming Indigenous Mental Health and Wellbeing ”](#)



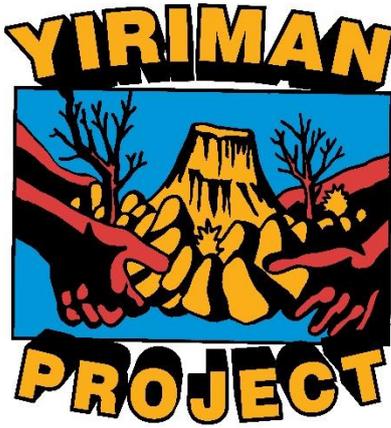
We also focus on connect with our member service by doing a tree of life activity, and by spreading into women’s and men’s groups

Other activates we got involve in while in Kununarra was the visit Waringgri art center also being a part of the Welcome to Country.



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Yirimán Project



KAMS is excited to announce the commencement of a trial for providing traditional Aboriginal healing practices from the Kimberley, which will run until 30 June 2022. The Traditional Healing Practices Pilot (THPP)

is a project managed by the

Yirimán Project, auspices by the Kimberley Law and Culture Centre (KALACC), funded by the WA Primary Health Alliance (WAPHA) and supported by the Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service (KAMS).

Traditional healing from the Kimberley can be used to address a variety of issues including physical ailments, social and emotional well-being, mental health issues, drug dependence and culture bound syndromes (e.g. being sung).

Due to colonisation and the impacts of the stolen generations, not all Aboriginal people in the Kimberley have access to these practices, and there is a growing demand for this type of healing. This project seeks to bridge that gap to enable access to traditional healers in the Kimberley. It does not seek to override the obligations and practices that already exist within families.

The THPP has now been running for over two years. In that time, we have worked with healing organisations from central Australia and Aboriginal Elders, healers and leaders in the West Kimberley,



(focusing mainly on Fitzroy Crossing, Derby and surrounding communities) to develop a model for

delivering traditional healing to people in the Kimberley. This model will enable the healers to be compensated for their work, with cultural safety and security embedded in the model.

The trial will occur between November 2021 and 30 June 2022 to service people who live in Fitzroy Crossing, Derby and surrounding communities. If people from outside these areas are wanting to access the services, this will be considered on a case by case basis, noting that the client may be asked to contribute to their own travel costs. People who would like to access traditional healing through this trial are required to complete a THPP Traditional Healing Referral Form.

<https://form.jotform.com/213121203304029>.

For further information on this trial or to access a pdf referral form.

please contact the THPP Healing Coordinator Petrine McCrohan on support1@yirimanwomen.org or 0457 209 306 or the THPP Coordinator Tammy Solonec on thpp@yirimanwomen.org.

The trial is being evaluated by the Nulungu Research Institute based in Broome. If you would like to speak to someone about the evaluation or provide feedback about the project, you can contact Gillian Kennedy on gillian.kennedy@nd.edu.au or 08 9192 0651.



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Upcoming Events

Member services Christmas events

Location: Broome BYFH Christmas Event	Thursday 16 th December 2021. 4PM until late evening. Drop in Centre.
Headspace Christmas Quiz	Thursday 16 th December 2021 2pm – 4:30pm
Location: Bidyadanga Community Christmas Events.	Monday 13 th December 2021. Seniors Basketball comp Start 3PM – 8PM Wednesday 14 th December 2021. Junior Basketball comp Start 3PM – 8PM Thursday 16 th December 2021. Community Disco Start 6PM- 8PM
Beagle Bay Community	Wednesday 15 th December 2021
WYAC Christmas Event	Friday 17 th December 2021



Job Opportunities

KAMS will be advertising jobs over the Christmas Holidays

Empowered Young Leaders - Project Officer
Broome - SEWB Unit
Registration COB 28.01.22
Please submit your application to [link](#)

SEWB Learning & Development Coordinator
Broome - SEWB Unit
Please submit your application to [link](#)
Registration COB 28.01.22

For more information please call Karl SEWB Manager on 91943200

Arts Therapy **External**
Derby - SEWB Unit
Registration COB 31.12.21

Submit a Selection Criteria and Resume to
Email natasha@dahs.org.au

For more information please call 9158 4200 Ext 207



Visit the KAMS [website](#) , Seek or the Broome Advertiser for
Job listing



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Other Opportunities

WA Mental Health Conference 2022

12th – 13th May 2022

Held at the Perth Optus Stadium

[EARLY BIRD REGISTRATIONS AND INVITATION TO PARTNER OPPORTUNITIES NOW OPEN!](#)

Content will cover practice issues such as:

- Addressing stigma and discrimination
- Co-occurring issues, including alcohol/drugs, neurodevelopmental disorders and psychosocial NDIS
- Peer workers and building the lived experience workforce of the future
- Looking after our workforce: recruitment, retention and skills development
- Supporting and empowering those who care for others
- Equipping community and workplaces with mental health practice skills and strategies for all
- Utilising technology to offer long distance and remote support.

Thirrili newsletter. In this issue we have amazing news stories from our Advocates, upcoming visits and much more. [November Newsletter 2021 | Thirrili](#)

JOBS FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE – MULTIPLE ROLES, MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

Positions funded until 30 June 2024

We are recruiting Australia-wide

About us

Thirrili Ltd (Thirrili) delivers the National Indigenous Suicide Postvention Service across Australia and has taken a national leadership role in the provision of suicide postvention support and assistance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals, families and communities. Thirrili employs a dedicated team of professionals to provide support across all states and territories in Australia. We are an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organization, with Indigenous Board and Executive & Leadership team.

We provide flexible working arrangements and extensive salary packaging opportunities for all employees. We support our Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander staff with Cultural and Ceremonial Leave, as well as annual leave and personal leave.



- **Facebook:**
<https://www.facebook.com/Thirrili-National-Indigenous-Postvention-Service-104616835094943>
- **Instagram:**
<https://www.instagram.com/thirrili/>
- **Linked In:**
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/thirrili/?viewAsMember=true>



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KAHRA is facilitating feedback opportunities for the Mental Health Act review: <https://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/McGowan/2021/11/Community-grants-awarded-for-targeted-engagement-on-Mental-Health-Act.aspx>.

Billy and Allaneh (KAHRA Community Engagement Officers) will be having yarns with consumers, careers and family members who have experience of treatment under the Act in the past 5 years in the Kimberley. Aboriginal people are the focus of this engagement. Non-Indigenous people are also welcome to participate.

Face-to-face individual sessions will take place in Broome, and people elsewhere in the Kimberley will be able to participate by telephone or videoconference. It will be on an individual basis, although people are very welcome to bring someone with them. It will be informal and people can share their story however they want. Based on everyone's stories, we will write a report for the Mental Health Commission about things that went well under the Act and things that could be improved. No names will be written in the report.

Anyone who is interested can get in touch with Allaneh and Billy at 9195 2121 or contact@kahra.org.au

To check out all future training and events please visit the SEWB Training & Events Calendar.

To put in an Expression of Interest for SEWB training please see links below:

For organisations:

http://kams.org.au/kamsc-services/social-emotional-well-being/eoi_org/

For community members:

http://kams.org.au/kamsc-services/social-emotional-well-being/eoi_community/

If you have any questions relating to our June newsletter or if your organisation is keen to share any good news or up and coming events and training in your local community, please email the details through to our SEWB Admin officer at sewbadmin@kamsc.org.au

KAMS Shut down period for the Christmas and New Year Holidays will be from the 20th December 2021 to 3rd of January 2022

During this time if in need of support please call the numbers below:

Ambulance	000
Life Line	12 11 14
Rural Link	13 23 16
Kids Help Line	1800 55 1800
Beyond Blue	1300 224 636

Have a Safe and Happy Holiday

From the KAMS SEWB Team

