



Dear staff

This week is NAIDOC week (7 - 14 July), a time when we celebrate and recognise the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This year's theme was 'Keep the Fire Burning! Blak, Loud & Proud'. Fire is a symbol of connection to Country, to each other, and to the rich tapestry of traditions that define Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The theme highlights the enduring strength and vitality of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.

This year's NAIDOC week poster, entitled 'Urapun Muy' was created by artist Deb Belyea, a proud Samuawgadhagal woman from the Torres Strait.

*"In this work, I have depicted the hands of our ancestors that have carefully dropped a burning ember on to a fire. This ember burns hot with intensity, stoking the flames, as it combines with the new fire. The linear detail shows the energy and power as cultural knowledge is transferred from our ancestors to us today. Culture is the fire that gives us knowledge, wisdom and purpose."*

We are very lucky at STARS to have our own art collection which features a large representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander works. Please take a moment when travelling around the hospital to appreciate some of these artworks and their expressions of cultural knowledge.



If you missed last week's vidcast with Chief Executive Jackie Hanson and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Team Executive Director Sherry Holzapfel on the importance of NAIDOC Week, a recording is available on QHEPS [here](#).

For more information, visit the [NAIDOC Week website](#).

STARS will be holding a NAIDOC celebration on July 26 2024. Look out for more details in the weekly staff bulletin.

### **Botanist Kitchen NAIDOC week celebration**

On Wednesday, STARS staff were invited by Botanist Kitchen owners Cater Care to their NAIDOC week celebration. The event included a very interesting history lesson from RBWH Cultural Capability Officer Geoffrey Binge on the cultural significance of the geographical area surrounding STARS. STARS Cultural Capability Officer Henry Nona then entertained us with his didgeridoo playing.



Attendees were also treated to a morning tea, including freshly baked lemon myrtle scones with finger lime and wattleseed cream, and kangaroo sausage rolls with hot bush sambal and specialty coffee. Thank you to Cater Care for putting on such a memorable event.

### **Elders Yarns**

Last week, I had the privilege of hosting an Elders Yarns at STARS, along with Executive Director Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Sherry Holzapel. The Elders had a site visit and expressed an interest in the beautiful artwork and also commented on how large the building was. They also had the chance to see one of our Deadly Start trainees working with patients in the level 4 agility centre.

### **Peer review**

As part of Accreditation preparation STARS underwent a Peer Review led by Metro North Director of Nursing Clinical Governance Shirley Thompson on Wednesday and Thursday. As part of this process, 16 peer assessors visited areas throughout the hospital and the Oral Health Centre.

The assessors had many positive comments about the work that we do here at STARS and thanked staff for being so welcoming and engaging during the two-day review. There was a special mention of the STARS culture; particularly on the teamwork, collaboration and patient focused care that we do day in and day out. I would like to congratulate you all on this amazing recognition.

There are a number of actions for improvements across all standards (1-8) which will be provided in a Red, Amber and Green formatted report to myself within the next few weeks. STARS will then have an opportunity to review and provide feedback.

I would like to thank everyone for their cooperation during the Peer Review.

### **RBWH Foundation Grants announced**

Recipients of the second round of RBWH Foundation Grants have been announced and it was wonderful to see both research and patient care initiatives being successful in receiving funding. Congratulations to Dr Karen Davies for her Digital Evaluation and Implementation of the Medication Administration Evaluation and Feedback Tool (MAEFT), a STARS and HeIDI collaborative research project. Brooke Wadsworth was successful in receiving funding for the 'Dignity at STARS clothing program' patient care initiative, a collaboration with the RBWH Social Work department. In addition, SERA researcher Peter Window received a grant to continue his work involving cognitive-behavioural therapy-informed virtual reality for persistent back pain.



*RBWH Foundation Grant Round 2 recipients.*

The RBWH Foundation Grant Rounds are funded thanks to the extraordinary generosity of supporters, who most recently helped RBWH Foundation Giving Day raise an historic \$750,000.

You can view the full list of successful grant recipients [here](#).

### **Metro North Spinal Injury Services Project update**

Whilst awaiting the outcome of the spinal injuries service business case, Dr Meredith Ogilvie-Brown and Leah Vegh are continuing some project work behind the scenes, in a limited capacity. Metro North representatives continue to participate in the Statewide SCI service planning being led out of the System Planning Branch.

### **Visit from Chinese delegates**

On Tuesday, a group of 27 professionals from five major Chinese hospitals toured both the Royal and STARS facilities, as part of a visit organised by The Queensland Digital Health Centre. The group were in Brisbane to learn more about the implementation of digital health technology and integrated electronic Medical Records (ieMR). The delegates participated in a general tour of the building as well as the specific areas of Rehabilitation Engineering and the Level 4 agility centre. The delegates were very impressed with our facility and had many questions about the advantages of a fully digital hospital. Thank you to Oliver Mason and Cindy James who took time out of their busy schedules to assist with the visit.

### **Hand Hygiene update**

The Auditor of the Quarter award for quarter two goes to Lynette Grubwinkler from Theatre for her excellent contribution to gaining an outstanding number of audits this quarter. Ward 6B won the Ward/Unit of Hand Hygiene Excellence again and are looking for some competition in quarter three.

Overall, STARS have collectively made a huge effort in maintaining our compliance above 80% with a final compliance rate for quarter two of 85.8%! Well done to everyone and keep up the great work.

### **Patient compliment**

Lastly, I'd like to share this lovely feedback we received from a Oral Health Centre patient.

*"Over the years at Herston Oral Health, I have received kind, caring and as gentle as possible treatment, as my out of alignment jaw and many teeth were either repaired or replaced along with some bone grafts.*

*I wish to thank all the amazing dentists and students who cared for me and the respect shown. I cannot speak highly enough of Oral Health Queensland."*

Kind regards

Dale Dally-Watkins