Message from the Chief Executive and ED, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health | Celebrating NAIDOC Week | 6 July

Metro North Health message from the

# Chief Executive and ED, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health

Adj. Prof. Jackie Hanson | Adj.Prof. Sherry Holzapfel

Dear colleagues,

Today marks the start of NAIDOC Week (6-13 July 2025), a time to celebrate and honour two of the oldest living cultures in the world—Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

NAIDOC is held each year, with 2025 being a significant milestone—50 years of recognising and respecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices, culture and strength.

This year's NAIDOC theme, '*The Next Generation: Strength, Vision and Legacy*', commemorates both the achievements of the past and the bright future ahead, inspired by the strength of young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders, the wisdom of communities, and the legacy of their ancestors.

We honour the leaders who paved the way, and the communities who have kept this important movement alive. We also look ahead knowing that the future depends on the health, wellbeing and leadership of the next generation.

Metro North Health is proud to be working towards health equity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, with a strong focus on supporting young people through culturally safe, community-led care. We know that early intervention and prevention are key to helping young people thrive—mentally, physically and culturally.

As we celebrate NAIDOC Week, we encourage staff to join in the events and activities being held across our facilities and in the community alongside our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff and community, and share in the knowledge and culture.

#### NAIDOC Week events and activities

#### **Metro North**

**RBWH NAIDOC event** Monday 7 July, 1pm Front entrance Ned Hanlon Building

## STARS NAIDOC event

Wednesday 9 July, 10am – 12pm Lady Lamington Lawn, STARS Herston Precinct **Redcliffe Hospital NAIDOC event** Tuesday 8 July, 10am – 2pm Staff Courtyard

**TPCH NAIDOC events** Monday 7 July, 9am – Flag Raising and Yarning Circle, Gathering Garden

Tuesday 8 July, 10.30am – Jewellery

Caboolture Hospital NAIDOC event

Wednesday 9 July, 10am – 12pm Lecture Theatre Education Centre

#### **COH NAIDOC Yarning Sessions**

Tuesday 15 July, 2.30pm – 3.30pm Redcliffe CHC Healing Garden

Wednesday 16 July, 10am – 11am Pine Rivers CHC & 3pm – 4pm, Caboolture CHC

Thursday 17 July, 3pm – 4pm King Street, Caboolture

Friday 18 July, 10am – 11am, Aspley CHC

Monday 21 July, 10am – 11am, North Lakes Health Precinct making, Gathering Garden

Wednesday 9 July, 10.30am – NAIDOC Trivia, Gathering Garden & 1pm – NAIDOC Week Grand Rounds

Thursday 10 July (all day) – Floral Thursday – Celebration of Torres Strait Islander people and culture

#### MNMH AOD Art Workshop

Monday 7 July, 2.30pm – 4pm, Biala

Monday 14 July (all day) across the floors, Caboolture Hospital

### Community

**Northside NAIDOC Family Fun Day** Thursday 10 July, 9am – 3pm Koobara Kindy, Zillmere

We reinforce Metro North Health's commitment to achieving improved health outcomes and experiences for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people through our new and reinvigorated <u>Metro North Health Equity Strategy 2025-2028</u>, which was recently launched in conjunction with our new <u>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander anti-racism policy</u> and <u>campaign</u>.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people still experience health disparities, and while Metro North Health is leading the health equity agenda across the State, there is still more we can do. Health equity is all of our responsibility, for staff at every level, stream and professional area across the organisation. Now is an ideal time to think about how you and your team can work towards making Metro North a culturally safe, inclusive and equitable place for everyone.

Regards, Jackie and Sherry

# Metro North Health 🛭 🞯 🕲



We uphold our commitment to health equity through our Values in Action Respect | Integrity | Compassion | High performance | Teamwork

Metro North Health acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Land upon which we live, work and walk, and pay our respects to Elders both past and present.



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Email us