

# ED Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health

Adj.Prof. Sherry Holzapfel



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August 2026

Today, 7 August, we proudly recognise the National Day of Recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Health Practitioners.

This year's theme, Many Paths, Many Ways, acknowledges the diverse personal, cultural, educational and professional journeys that bring people into these professions, and the many ways they continue to make a difference throughout their careers and within their communities.

Across Metro North Health, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Health Practitioners play vital clinical and cultural roles. They provide culturally safe and responsive care, advocate for patients and families, support people to navigate complex health systems and strengthen trust between our services and the communities we care for.

We know this work often extends beyond a position description or the hours spent at work. For many Health Workers and Practitioners, their passion and commitment are deeply connected to who they are, where they come from and their relationships with family, community and Country.

I am excited to share that we are currently undertaking recruitment for the new Director of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Professions role. This position will provide strategic leadership to strengthen, grow and support our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Worker workforce. The Director will help create clearer professional pathways, strengthen workforce capability and representation, and ensure the expertise of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health professionals informs care, policy and decision-making across the organisation.

To all our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Health Practitioners across Metro North Health: Thank you for the care, knowledge, advocacy, leadership and cultural strength you bring to your role each day. Your work is essential as we continue working towards closing the gap and building a health service where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people feel safe, respected, heard and understood.

As part of this year's celebrations, all staff are invited to join the NAATSIHWP National Day of Recognition 2026 Panel Discussion on Friday 7 August 2026 from 11.30 am–12.30 pm. Featuring Aboriginal Health Practitioners Louise Gilbey and Josiah Little, the discussion will explore their pathways into diabetes education and the difference they are making through culturally safe care. Register to attend the panel discussion [here](#).

Stay Deadly,  
Sherry

## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health QHEPS page

Access programs, services, cultural resources and support to deliver culturally safe, equitable care and improve health outcomes across Metro North Health.

Click here to visit 



Congratulations to Glen and the Supporting Fathers and Partners in Traumatic Childbirth research team for winning the Partnering with Consumers Award at the Metro North Health Research Excellence Awards.

The award recognises the team's consumer-led approach, with Glen contributing his lived experience and cultural perspective to help shape more inclusive support for fathers and non-birthing partners following traumatic childbirth.

Do you know of another staff member that is doing deadly work?

[Tell us here](#)



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

## Men's Business Staff Gathering

### When

Friday 14 August 2026  
9:00am - 3:00pm

### Where

Decker Park  
25th Avenue, Brighton

### Details

- Lunch will be provided
- Cultural activity included

BYO  
Chair and  
water bottle

Hurry!  
Limited spots  
available!



To register your interest, email [healthequitytmnh@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:healthequitytmnh@health.qld.gov.au).

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Staff

## Women's Cultural Gathering

### When

25<sup>th</sup> September 2026  
8:30am - 3pm

### Where

Suttons Beach,  
Redcliffe

[Click here to register or search 'Better Together Staff Gathering' in TMS.](#)



### Mob Link – Gambling Help Service

Mob Link is a new culturally safe counselling and support service for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults, families and friends affected by gambling harm.

Delivered by the Institute for Urban Indigenous Health, the service offers flexible support by phone, video or face-to-face, including counselling, help with self-exclusion, referrals to financial and other support services, and community education.

Clients can choose where and how they access support, with counsellors available across participating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health services throughout South East Queensland.

**Phone:** 1800 254 354

**Email:** [ghs@iuih.org.au](mailto:ghs@iuih.org.au)

**Hours:** Monday to Friday, 8.30 am–4.30 pm

Please share this service with relevant staff, clients and community networks.

**Follow us  
on Social  
Media!**

**Better Together -  
Our Health, Our Way!**



### **Sad News, Sorry Business and Cultural Leave Survey**

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff across Metro North Health are invited to share their experiences of workplace support during Sad News, Sorry Business and when requesting Cultural Leave.

Your feedback will help the Cultural Leads for Sad News and Sorry Business identify opportunities to strengthen culturally safe, respectful and supportive workplace practices for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce.

The anonymous survey takes approximately five minutes to complete, and all responses will be de-identified for reporting.

Complete the Sad News and Sorry Business Leave Survey by COB Monday 31 August 2026 and help shape improvements to better support staff during important cultural events.

[Complete the Survey here](#)

**Have a good news story?**

**Click here  
to share  
your story**



## Keeping the spirit of NAIDOC alive

While NAIDOC Week has come to an end, the opportunity to celebrate culture, reflect on our shared history and continue important conversations carries on across Metro North Health.

At Kallangur Satellite Health Centre, A Journey Through NAIDOC History (1972–2026) showcases every official NAIDOC poster from the past 54 years, highlighting the themes, achievements and milestones that have shaped the journey of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

At The Prince Charles Hospital, the main corridor has been transformed into a celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander excellence, recognising influential leaders across politics, music, the arts, media and sport. The display honours those who have paved the way and celebrates the strength, resilience and achievements of our communities.

These displays are a reminder that celebrating culture doesn't stop after NAIDOC Week. They create opportunities for all of us to learn, reflect, yarn and continue building culturally safe and welcoming spaces across Metro North Health.



## SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK

We're seeking feedback from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff to help strengthen workforce initiatives and opportunities across Metro North Health.



## Should you be looking at that?

Metro North Health is entrusted with sensitive patient, employee and corporate information, and protecting it is everyone's responsibility. Staff must only access information when there is a legitimate, authorised business need directly related to their role. Accessing records out of curiosity or for personal reasons, including your own record or those of family members, friends or colleagues is inappropriate and may result in disciplinary, privacy or criminal consequences. Metro North Health information systems are monitored and audited and staff may be required to justify their access.

Before accessing information, ask yourself: Am I authorised to access it? Do I need it to perform my role? Am I directly involved in the associated care, treatment or business activity? Could I justify this access if it were reviewed? If the answer to any of these questions is no, do not access the information.

Read the Inappropriate Access to Information and Information Systems Procedure [here](#).

Concerns about inappropriate access or misuse of information can be reported to the Ethical Standards Unit on 3646 1566 or [MN-ESU@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:MN-ESU@health.qld.gov.au).

# Supporting our diverse workforce

Have you updated your diversity status on myHR?

[Click here to access myHR](#)



## Meet Morgan

Say hello to Morgan Cattanaach, our new Manager of Health Equity in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Team.

Connected through her father to the Northern Kaanju peoples from the Coen and Lockhart River region, Morgan brings extensive experience across the justice and domestic and family violence sectors.

Morgan will lead the planning and coordination of Health Equity Strategy across Metro North Health, with a focus on listening to community, strengthening culturally safe care and driving meaningful change.

Welcome to the team, Morgan!



## Jobs for Mob!

Metro North Health has several opportunities currently available for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

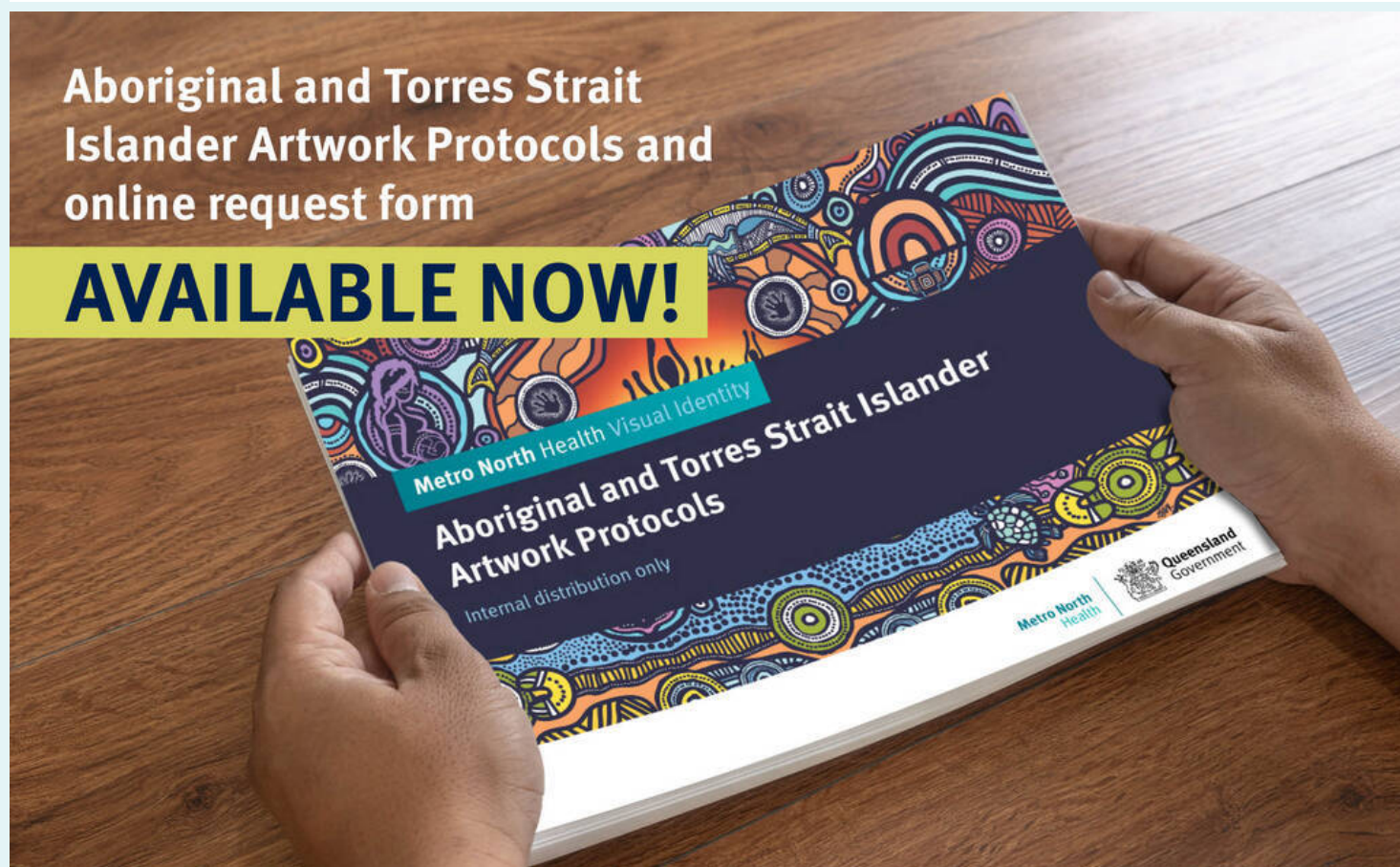
For a list of current positions please see below:

| Job Position                                                                                      | Job Link                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Senior Health Worker (Identified)                           | <a href="https://apply-springboard.health.qld.gov.au/jobs/QLD-BSH688926">https://apply-springboard.health.qld.gov.au/jobs/QLD-BSH688926</a> |
| Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Senior Health Worker                                        | <a href="https://apply-springboard.health.qld.gov.au/jobs/QLD-RBH688710">https://apply-springboard.health.qld.gov.au/jobs/QLD-RBH688710</a> |
| Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health, Social and Emotional Wellbeing Health Worker | <a href="https://apply-springboard.health.qld.gov.au/jobs/QLD-MH689100">https://apply-springboard.health.qld.gov.au/jobs/QLD-MH689100</a>   |
| Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Senior Health Worker (Identified)                           | <a href="https://apply-springboard.health.qld.gov.au/jobs/QLD-CSH689037">https://apply-springboard.health.qld.gov.au/jobs/QLD-CSH689037</a> |
| Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Worker Coordinator – Community Foot Care Hub         | <a href="https://apply-springboard.health.qld.gov.au/jobs/QLD-RBH688659">https://apply-springboard.health.qld.gov.au/jobs/QLD-RBH688659</a> |

|                                                                         |                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Advanced Health Worker (Identified)                                     | <a href="https://apply-springboard.health.qld.gov.au/jobs/QLD-MH688538">https://apply-springboard.health.qld.gov.au/jobs/QLD-MH688538</a>   |
| Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Senior Health Worker (Identified) | <a href="https://apply-springboard.health.qld.gov.au/jobs/QLD-CAB688131">https://apply-springboard.health.qld.gov.au/jobs/QLD-CAB688131</a> |
| Administration Officer                                                  | <a href="https://apply-springboard.health.qld.gov.au/jobs/QLD-RBH688399">https://apply-springboard.health.qld.gov.au/jobs/QLD-RBH688399</a> |

## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Artwork Protocols and online request form

**AVAILABLE NOW!**



Protocols

Artwork Request Form

# Better Together Health Van now available for bookings!

We are now accepting bookings from Metro North Health services keen to utilise the Better Together Health Van for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities within the Metro North Health catchment area through:

- **Improved access**
- **Opportunistic screening measures**
- **Health promotion**
- **Engagement activities**

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Team are available to assist you by connecting your service with the local community.



If you would like to book the BTHV for an upcoming event, please contact the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Team

Metro North  
Health



[Book Here](#)

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Team (A&TSILT) acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land on which our services are located, the Jinibara, Kabi Kabi, Turrbal and Yagara peoples, and pays respects to Elders both past and present.

Produced by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Team,  
Metro North Health

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