

Adj. Prof. Sherry Holzapfel **November 2026**

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to announce the launch of our first Metro North Health Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Workforce Plan 2026–2030.

This plan provides a clear and actionable roadmap to grow, support and retain an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce that is representative, culturally safe and empowered to deliver high-quality care.

It outlines our commitment to increasing workforce representation, strengthening retention and wellbeing, and creating opportunities for career development and progression across Metro North Health.

This month we are hosting our final Health Equity Community Showcase for the year, held in partnership with Children's Health Queensland. I am looking forward to joining staff, Elders and community on 17 November at the Morayfield Sports and Events Centre. This event will be an opportunity to connect with community, meet the teams and services supporting our people, and share the work happening across Metro North Health, Children's Health Queensland and our partner organisations.

We'll also be launching our joint two-year Health Equity Action Plan, focused on driving system-wide improvements through partnership to create more connected, culturally responsive models of care that improve health and wellbeing outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families.

Community have shared what matters to them, where barriers remain and what needs to change. This plan is an opportunity to show how we have listened and how we will turn that feedback into action. I look forward to continuing these conversations with you on the day.

An important part of this work is addressing racism. We know racism continues to affect the experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients, families and staff, and the harm it causes cannot be overlooked.

Earlier this year, following consultation with staff and community, Metro North strengthened its Values in Action by including an anti-racism statement. This makes clear that identifying, addressing and eliminating racism is a responsibility we all share.

For me, this means listening when someone shares their experience, taking their concerns seriously and following through with action. It means reflecting on our own behaviours, challenging bias and supporting people to speak up safely. Our leaders have a responsibility to respond to concerns with care and ensure accountability when harm occurs.

Respect, integrity, compassion, teamwork and high performance must be reflected in how we treat people every day. Our commitment needs to be felt by the person receiving care, the family supporting them and the staff member coming to work.

I encourage you to read the anti-racism statement and consider what it means in your own role and team.

Thank you to everyone who continues to speak up, support one another and help make our services more culturally safe. Your voices and actions are essential to moving this work forward.

Stay Deadly, Sherry





Eliminating racism is a core principle to our Values in Action – Respect, Integrity, Compassion, Teamwork and High Performance. We recognise that racism happens too often in our organisation and we are committed to actively identifying, addressing, and overcoming racism to create a safe and equitable health system for all people.

We acknowledge our shared responsibility to listen, learn, reflect and act with humility as we work together to challenge inequity and drive positive change. Our commitment is demonstrated through everyday behaviours, accountable leadership, continuous learning, and safe, trusted processes that support speaking up and responding to concerns.

Read more about our shared promise to act, listen and lead positive change together.



Strong Men, Strong Mob: Changing the Story on Suicide

Join Thirrili for a national webinar bringing First Nations men together to yarn about social and emotional wellbeing, suicide prevention and support after suicide loss.

Hear panellists share their knowledge and experiences, exploring how culture, connection and culturally safe support can strengthen wellbeing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and boys. Everyone is welcome.

🗓️ Friday 20 November 2026
🕛 12:30–1:30 pm AEST

💻 Online via Microsoft Teams

Register Here



Celebrating our littlest community members



Families came together in Deception Bay on 2 October for the Ngarrama Baby Blessing, celebrating new life, culture and connection and marking the launch of the Ngarrama Redcliffe Midwifery Group Practice.

The day included a smoking ceremony by Blak Healing Collective, a Welcome and Water Blessing by Aunty Sharyn, and ochre painting by Aunty Barbara Hubbert.

It was a special opportunity to connect with families and celebrate culturally safe maternity care.



November is National Lung Cancer Awareness Month. The National Lung Cancer Screening Program helps detect lung cancer early, when treatment is most effective, with more than 65% of cases successfully when found in the early stages.

Funding available for Queensland Researchers!

Ready to make your research happen? Funding is now available through the Queensland Health Clinical Research Grand Round 2026. Opportunities include **Clinical Research Fellowships**, **Research Capacity Building Grants**, and **Queensland Health Genomics Research Grants**, with funding ranging from $30,000 to $250,000. Regional, rural and remote applicants are encouraged to apply. **Applications close 11:59pm, Monday 7 December 2026.**

Click here to find out more.



It's getting hot in here

The heat is turning up, so let's help keep our community cool, connected and ready for hot days ahead!

The 2027 Metro North Health Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heatwave posters are now live to help share important heat safety messages with staff, families and community.

Pop a poster up and pass on to your networks. Every share can help remind someone to drink water, find a cool spot and check in on those around them.

Resources Here



TMS Registration | Deadly Staff Award | Deadly in Health Care Award



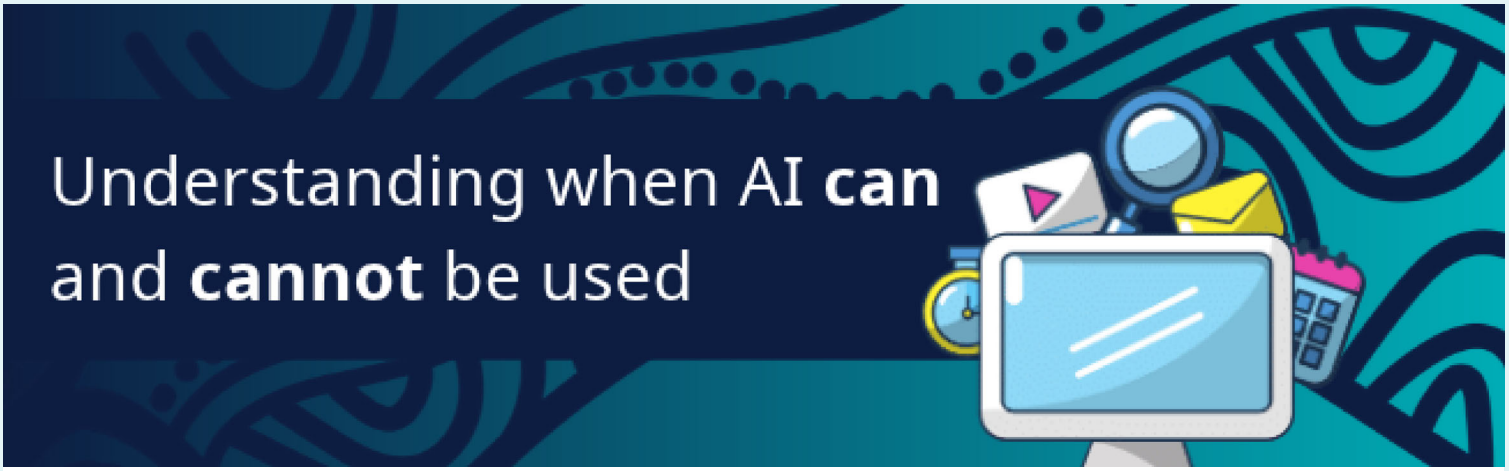
Meet Cristee Dos Remedios

Meet Cristee, Redcliffe Hospital's new Emergency Department Identified Clinical Nurse.

A proud Dunghutti woman from the Macleay Valley, NSW, and a second-generation Aboriginal nurse, Cristee brings more than 20 years of nursing experience to the role. She supports Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients and families with clinical care, a listening ear and a commitment to helping mob feel heard, respected and involved in their healthcare decisions.

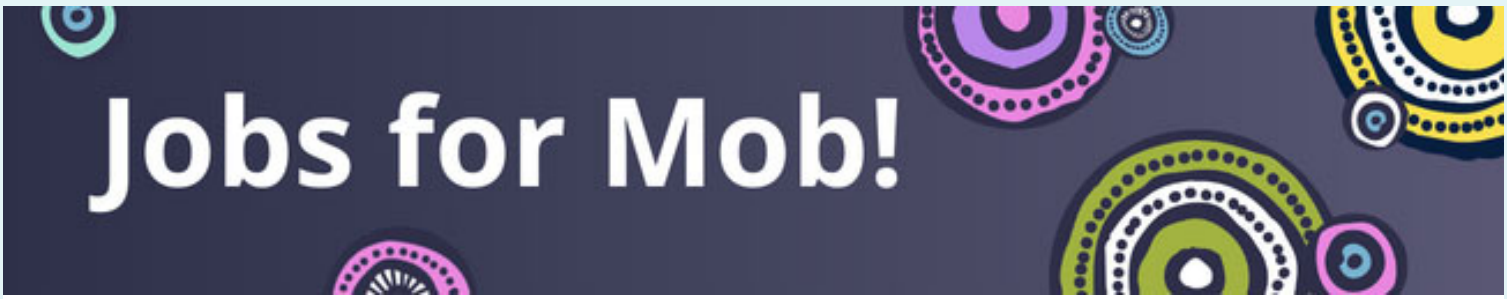
Outside work, Cristee loves family feeds, camping trips and days at the beach, where she feels relaxed and grounded.

If you see Cristee around, be sure to say hello!



Please don't upload materials featuring our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artwork into AI tools or use AI to generate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artwork, as this risks cultural theft and misuse of Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property.

Learn More Here



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/or Torres Strait Islander Dietician Nutritionist New Graduate	Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Dietitian Nutritionist New Graduate | Brisbane—North | Queensland Health Careers

Supporting our diverse workforce



Have you updated your diversity status on myHR?

Click here to acces myHR

Social and Emotional Wellbeing

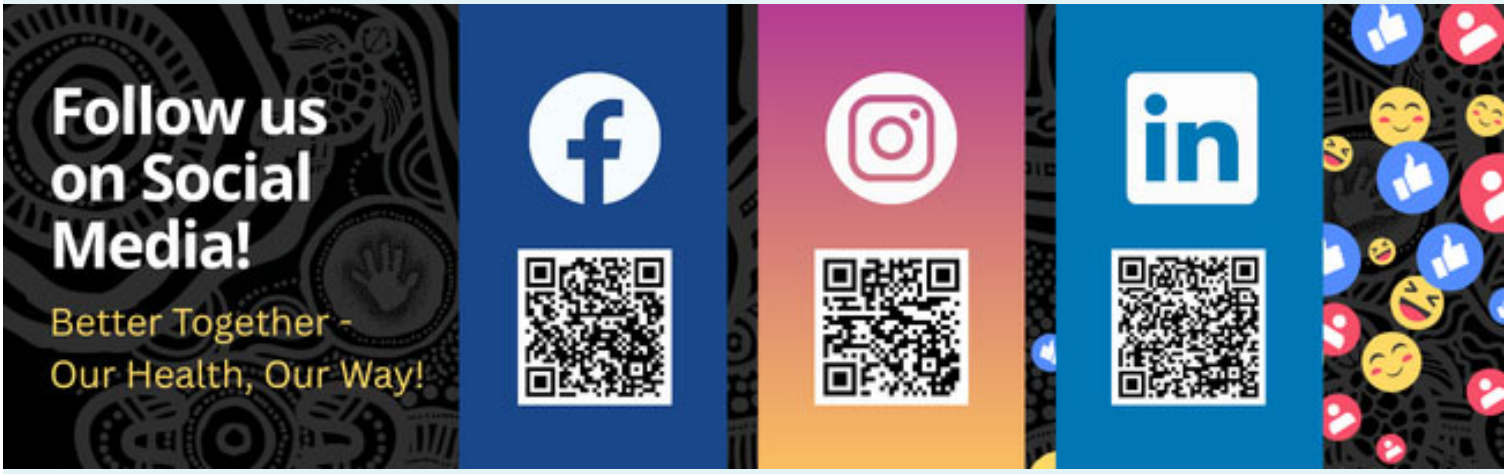
VALUES IN ACTION

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health

November SEWB Site Visits

November 2026 site visits ★ - SEWB wellbeing activity on site		
Facility	**November Dates**	**Time**
The Prince Charles Hospital	4/11/26 18/11/26	10:30am – 12:30pm 12:30pm – 2:30pm
STARS	3/11/26 19/11/26	1pm - 2pm
Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital	3/11/26 19/11/26	9.30am - 2.30pm
Kallangur Satellite Health Centre (Kalangoor)	12/11/26 23/11/26	9:30am – 10:30am
Bribie Island Satellite Health Centre (Yarun)	10/11/26 25/11/26	9am - 10am
Caboolture Satellite Health Centre (Kabul)	10/11/26 25/11/26	11am – 12.30pm
Caboolture Hospital	10/11/26 25/11/26	1.30pm - 3.30pm
Redcliffe Hospital	13/11/26 26/11/26	2pm – 3:30pm
Redcliffe Community Health Centre	13/11/26 26/11/26	11am – 1pm
Brighton Community Health Centre	20/11/26	2:30pm – 3:30pm
BIALA – City Community Health Centre	2/11/26 16/11/26 30/11/26	9.30am - 10.30am
Green Square	2/11/26 16/11/26 30/11/26	11.30am – 12.30pm
Nundah Community Health Centre	6/11/26 20/11/26	9:00am – 10:00am
Aspley Community Health Centre	11/11/26 23/1126	11:30am – 12:30pm 11:30am – 12:30pm





The **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health (A&TSIH) team** 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.