



Board Report Update

Bila Muuji Drug and Alcohol Network

The Bila Muuji Drug and Alcohol Network (BMDAN) is a workforce development program which aims to support workers and general practitioners in Aboriginal Medical Services and other organisations involved in drug and alcohol service delivery in the Murdi Paaki region.

All positions within the Bila Muuji Drug and Alcohol Network have been filled after long periods of vacancies. Tallena Carr and Mariah Hall are the Drug and Alcohol Workforce Specialists and Caitlin Edwards is the Manager. The BMDAN contract has been re-funded until June 30, 2025.

Tallena Carr attended the Australian and New Zealand Addiction Conference held on the Gold Coast on the 25th – 28th of April alongside Dr Lisa Jukes.

The BMDAN hosted their first Forum on the 18th and 19th of May, the theme being ‘Gambaay, Dhalang, Niiringal’ (Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow) An Insight into Change. The Forum was a small intimate group of 30 people including speakers over the two days, the first day was completed in a formal presentation style where most speakers presented on differing topics and in different formats. The second day took a more relaxed style where we placed the room into Yarning Circles allowing for open, honest conversations that provided a more in-depth understanding of topics and services provided by attendees organisations. Feedback on the Forum was positive, and the general consensus was that making the Forum an annual event would be beneficial to the region.

The team travelled out to Orana Haven on the 22nd and 23rd of June for the introduction of staff and Addiction Consultant Dr Lisa Jukes and an informal training session and discussions for further engagement and supports required.

Future Training and Support

❖ YARB

With the pilot being successful last year, the continuation of the program is a big focus for the team at this stage. The BMDAN hope to engage the SEWB workers of services in the Murdi Paaki footprint, present the training module to the workers to then facilitate this in High schools in their community.

❖ Broken Hill

The team are travelling to Broken Hill on the 27th and 28th of June for introductions to different services in the area. There will be a keen focus on re-engaging Maari Ma, taking requests for required supports and initiating re-occurring visits to the service.

Corporate Cultcha

The completion of the third E-learning module developed with Corporate Cultcha has been delayed due to consultants involved in its development being impacted by the QLD floods, and the disengagement of the Network while all positions were vacant. At this stage it is on track to be finalised and launched before June 30. This will include the launch of the website that will host links to all three modules that will be accessible to services in the Murdi Paaki region.