

WentWest's Jamie Matthews named NAIDOC Blacktown Citizen of the Year

Each year, during NAIDOC Week, Blacktown City Council celebrates the contributions of members of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. It is with great pleasure that we wish to announce that our Aboriginal Health Manager, Jamie Matthews has been awarded this year's NAIDOC Blacktown Citizen of the Year for his contribution to the community and his work in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health.

Jamie was awarded the prize on Tuesday at the Blacktown City Council NAIDOC event which was held at the Blacktown Showground.

WentWest CEO, Ray Messom acknowledged this significant honour.

"Jamie's fellow team members have shared with me their deep respect and admiration for all that he has achieved. As our Aboriginal Health Manager, Jamie is responsible for the development, implementation and oversight of culturally sensitive programs, project initiatives and the contract management of relevant commissioned services designed to improve the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Jamie has worked in the Aboriginal Health sector for over a decade and has played a key role in service transitions, continuity of care and stakeholder engagement, particularly with government bodies. Along with his wife Belinda, he has worked tirelessly to improve the health of their community, with a focus on early childhood. On behalf of everyone at WentWest, I would like to extend our sincere congratulations to Jamie," said Mr Messom.

Jamie is a Gamilaraay man from his mother's people and Dhungutti from his father's people. He also has connections to family from the south western corner of Western Australia, from Geraldton on the west coast, to Esperance on the south coast as his mother's father was a Noongar (Wudjari) man. He has spent his life on Darug land in Western Sydney since his grandmother moved the family from their traditional lands to Mount Druitt in the late 1960s.

Along with his dedication to the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, Jamie is also an accomplished artist and you can find a gallery of his work on his website.



Jamie with fellow NAIDOC Award winners and special guests at the Blacktown City Council NAIDOC event.

Events

General Practice Quality Improvement Series: Accreditation, Data Driven Improvement and PIP QI

Wednesday 31st July 2019

6:00pm - 9:00pm

My Health Record Training on Best Practice

Wednesday 7th August 2019

6:30pm - 9:00pm

My Health Record: Allied Health, GPs and Specialists

Wednesday 14th August 2019

6:30pm - 9:30pm

Mental Health Professional Network Event - Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Training

Wednesday 21st August 2019

6:00pm - 9:30pm

Other News

National Diabetes Week

National Diabetes Week runs from 14 – 20 July and this year's focus is raising awareness of the signs and symptoms of diabetes to increase earlier detection and promote action. For more information on this week visit the Diabetes NSW & ACT website.

Early bird registrations are also open for GPs to attend the 'Diabetes is Changing Fast' Masterclass on Saturday 9th November. The day includes three plenary sessions, interactive workshops and case studies around an array of management issues related to diabetes. More details on the Masterclass are available online.

Practice Incentives Program (PIP) Quality Improvement (QI) Incentive

The Department of Health have released the draft PIP QI Guidelines, Improvement Measures and PIP Eligible Data Set Data Governance Framework. These documents can be accessed from The Department of Health website.

Details of our upcoming General Practice Quality Improvement Series: Accreditation, Data Driven Improvement and PIP QI information sessions are available below:

☒Blacktown: Wednesday 31st July ☒Parramatta: Tuesday 13th August Please also download an Important

Update for Practices regarding the PIP QI.

If you have any questions or require support, please contact the WentWest Helpdesk on 02 8811 7117 (option 2).

Aboriginal Health - Integrated Team Care

WentWest is committed to improving the health of local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients who have a chronic health condition through our Integrated Team Care (ITC) funding. To facilitate this we have recently updated the referral pathway enabling patients to obtain support for out of pocket expenses with specialist and allied health providers.

General Practices can access this pathway by completing the online form. For more information email the Aboriginal Health team at aboriginalhealth@wentwest.com.au

PARTNER Study

University of New South Wales in collaboration with the University of Sydney are conducting a research project to reduce the impact of knee osteoarthritis through improving primary care management. The project is funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council. If you are interested in this opportunity please visit our website for the expression of interest form.

GP Association meeting

The following GP Association meeting is coming up in Western Sydney: Mount Drutt: Common Eye Problems, Friday 26th July.

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