



Broome
Regional Aboriginal
Medical Service

BRAMS

July
2020

NEWSLETTER

CEO REPORT



As we reach the halfway mark of the year, I want to start by thanking all our hardworking staff once again for going the extra mile these past 6 months as we've tackled the COVID-19 crisis.

Coronavirus still presents a threat to the Kimberley region, and it's important that people remember to stay vigilant – wash your hands regularly, maintain your social distance when necessary, and don't leave home if you're feeling unwell. BRAMS can still provide tele-health consultations if required; call the clinic on (08) 9192 1338.

As we launch into the second half of 2020, the BRAMS management team are busy working through our data and reporting requirements for the past six months.

We have also been working on a new Health Promotion Framework, which has included analysing our population data to identify 6 key areas for our health promotion campaigns over the next two years. We look forward to sharing our plan with the community in the near future.

Finally, we are delighted to announce that we will be launching our revamped website in August 2020, and we can't wait to move into our new online home!

Cassie Devereux

CEO

CONTENTS

Employee Of The Month :)	2
New Employees	2
Staff Profiles	2
Aboriginal Health Worker Student Placement	3
Mums And Bubs Pack	3
Management Training	3
Correction	3
Flu Vaccine	4
Tobacco Action Program	4
Chronic Disease Management	4
Antenatal Care	4

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EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH :)

CONGRATULATIONS

The Employee of the Month for July is

Diandra Cox

Recognised for 'always working with a smile, and always being happy to help'.

Congratulations Diandra!

NEW EMPLOYEES

We would like to welcome the following staff to BRAMS:

Dion Thompson – Receptionist

Ben Phillips – Tobacco Action Worker

Dr Bianca Howard – GP Registrar

Mykaela Tullock – Tobacco Action Worker

STAFF PROFILES

Dr Bianca Howard
GP



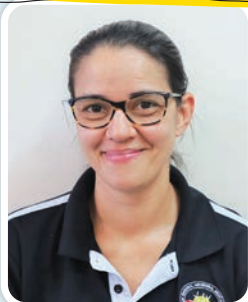
I am a proud Jaru / Kidja woman from Halls Creek and grew up in Broome. I finished year 12 at St Mary's College Broome in 2007, then moved to Perth in 2010 to study at UWA, completing the Aboriginal Orientation Course.

This was followed by the 6-week Aboriginal pre-medicine program in 2011, and I was then successful in gaining entry into Medicine in 2011. During medical school at UWA, I received a cadetship with KAMS for financial support during my studies, which enabled me to return to Broome during study breaks to work at KAMS. I was also the recipient of

the Pallottine scholarship, and the Puggy Hunter Memorial Scholarship. I completed the Aboriginal Health Specialisation through CAMDH at UWA, and graduated from medical school in 2016. Upon graduating I interned at Sir Charles Gardiner Hospital, then moved over to Joondalup Health Campus for 2 years as a junior doctor working in ED, Obstetrics and Gynecology, and Aged care and rehabilitation.

For the past 6 months I have been working at Broome Health Campus as an RMO completing my hospital requirement before commencing GP training at BRAMS.

Chevaun Howard
GP Obstetrician



How long have been employed at BRAMS:

5 years

What I like best about my job?

Working in a great team to look after our pregnant women. Seeing our patients through their pregnancy can sometimes be challenging but incredibly rewarding. Working part time here and part time at the hospital, I get to look after our women at BRAMS and then deliver their babies at the hospital! Such a privilege.

What are some of the things you like to do when you're not working?

Spend time with my family and friends. Last year we were lucky enough to go to America for 5 weeks and it was amazing!

What do you like about Broome?

No traffic, a beautiful beach, great camping, fabulous friends.

Random Fact(s):

I did ballet for 17 years and always wanted to be a professional ballet dancer. I also have a party trick that involves a pack of snake lollies and knot tying.

Tell us your favorite quote:

Give a man a fish, feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, feed him for a lifetime.

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ABORIGINAL HEALTH WORKER STUDENT PLACEMENT



BRAMS works in partnership with Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services (**KAMS**) to facilitate student placements for people who are completing their certificate to become an Aboriginal Health Worker. During the past month, Jumat Bin Swani and Marietta Walkerbier joined us for their placement. We enjoyed having the pair at BRAMS and hope they will return to BRAMS in the future when they finish their placements.



MANAGEMENT TRAINING

BRAMS would like to extend a big thank you to Julia McIntyre from KAMS. Julia facilitated a three-hour workshop with our Managers and Team Leaders on how to complete annual performance appraisals for staff. Thanks Julie!



MUMS AND BUBS PACK

COVID-19 has been a difficult time for all, especially for pregnant mothers. BHP kindly provided BRAMS with funding to provide mothers in their third trimester with essential items for mother and baby.

We would like to thank BHP for providing BRAMS with the funding, and hope the packs were useful for our mums-to-be.



CORRECTION

In the June newsletter, Rowena Puertollano's name was accidentally missing from the new management structure. Rowena is the Social and Emotional Well Being Team Leader, heading up BRAMS' important SEWB program. We apologise for this oversight.



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TOBACCO ACTION PROGRAM

The BRAMS Tobacco Action Program is funded by WA Country Health Services through the WA Footprints to Better Health Program. This is a non-judgmental and confidential service that is tailored to meet the needs of each individual.

Ben Phillips has recently started in this program as the Tobacco Action Officer. Ben can support you with:

- One-on-one mentoring;
- Brief interventions;
- Education sessions; and
- Group Sessions.

Ben will provide you with a tailored program based on your individual needs and goals.

You can call Ben on **(08) 9192 1338** to make an appointment.



FLU VACCINE

Now that we are in the cooler months, it is important for you to get your flu vaccine. Influenza can be a very serious disease that can make you very sick. To protect yourself and others from the flu, you should get vaccinated. Our friendly Aboriginal Health Workers can administer the Flu Vaccine. Come into BRAMS today for your vaccine or call **9192 1338** for more information.



CHRONIC DISEASE MANAGEMENT

Our Senior Medical Officer, Dr Jonathan Blundell, has been busy working with the Flinders Program to implement new tools to enhance our Chronic Disease Management program. The Finders Programs present an assessment, planning and motivational process which has been applied to chronic medical conditions. The tools assist our staff to support patients to effectively manage their symptoms and the effects of their conditions over the long-term. Well done Jonathan for undertaking this important work.

ANTENATAL CARE

Big congratulations are in order for our hard-working Antenatal Team - Tamsen Prunster, Maree Matsumoto and Dr Chevan Howard. This team continually exceeds the national averages for Antenatal Care. Well done all!



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Broome
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P 08 9192 1338

F 08 9192 1606

PO Box 1879,
Broome WA 6725

YOU CAN FIND US AT
fb.me/BROOME.BRAMS



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