

BRAMS

Mar 2022

NEWSLETTER

COVID-19 SPECIAL



COVID-19 SPECIAL



Broome
Regional Aboriginal
Medical Service

BRAMS *March 2022* NEWSLETTER

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CEO Report



It has been a busy start to 2022, and the BRAMS team has been hard at work revising our COVID-19 Response Plan in preparation for the WA border reopening.

With confirmation this week that COVID has returned to the Kimberley, this hard work is now paying dividends and we're well positioned to meet this latest challenge head-on.

We recently took the decision to establish a respiratory clinic in our Family Centre – a dedicated place where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Broome can be treated for suspected or confirmed COVID-19, and get tested.

This has meant a change to some areas of our normal service delivery, and this newsletter – a COVID-19 special – will provide an overview of those changes.

As I have said many times throughout the past 2 years, and I don't mind sounding like a broken record here, I'm extremely grateful to all our staff for their continued hard work and dedication during this time.

Cassie



Message From The BRAMS Chairperson

On behalf of the Board, I would like to take this opportunity to reassure the community that BRAMS has taken every measure to ensure we continue to provide you with high-quality primary healthcare services during the pandemic.

The Board would also like to thank the BRAMS staff for their dedication and commitment in modifying normal service delivery to accommodate the challenges of COVID-19.



Vaccines

BRAMS continues to provide the COVID-19 vaccine to the local community, and maintains its advice that the vaccine is the best way to protect you and your family from getting seriously ill.

So far, BRAMS has administered 6024 vaccines.

Vaccines are being offered for all people from age 5 and up.

If you have any queries or concerns about the vaccine, please speak to one of our friendly staff.



COVID-19 Response Plan Consultation

As a part of developing a structured response to COVID-19 ahead of the re-opening of the WA border, BRAMS management consulted with staff through an all-staff workshop on 4 February.

This was a valuable workshop that gave everybody an opportunity to have input into the plan.

At the end of the consultation, our SEWB Team of Megan Thomas, Stacey Larke and Mikka Poelina facilitated a team wellbeing activity called the Tree of Life.

Thank you to everybody for their participation.



Respiratory Clinic

BRAMS recently transformed our Family Centre into a Respiratory Clinic, a dedicated place where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people can receive treatment for suspected or confirmed COVID-19, and be tested.

We did this to overcome the barriers that some people face accessing appropriate care in mainstream services.

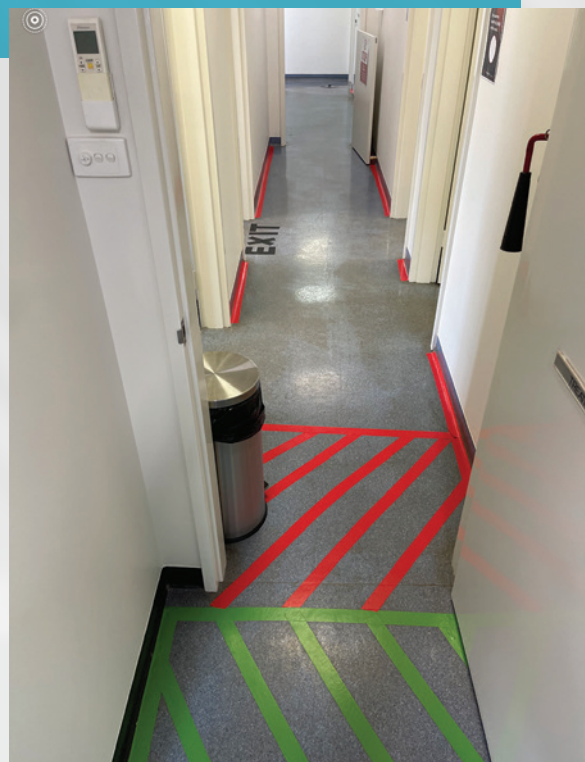
The clinic is staffed by 6 people – 2 health workers, 2 nurses and 2 doctors – and has the capacity to treat other respiratory illnesses in addition to COVID-19.

It's been painted into red, orange and green zones, and we've installed HEPA filters for staff and patient safety.

The set-up and ongoing operational costs to run the clinic are significant, and BRAMS has been forced to use reserve funds to cover these expenses.

Unfortunately, while the Commonwealth Government has provided funding for such clinics through the WA Primary Health Alliance, so far this money has only been allocated to mainstream service providers, a decision we are seeking to overturn.

Thank-you to all staff involved in setting up and running the clinic.



COVID-19 Screening

BRAMS health workers continue to screen everyone who enters the premises.

We have recently enhancing the way we do this, and as a result, the screening process is now taking a little longer than what it was previously.

This ensures that patients are directed to the right service at BRAMS.

Thank you for your patience as we undertake this process.

Broome Regional Aboriginal Medical Service

Patient Screening

WHEN YOU enter BRAMS you will be screened by a health professional.

WE NEED YOU to answer important questions to ensure you are directed to the correct area of BRAMS.

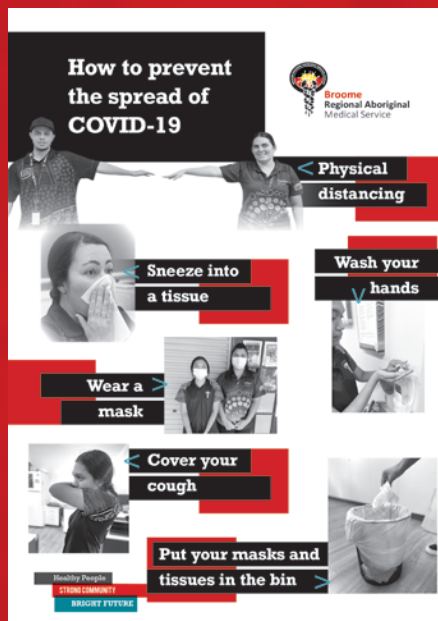
PLEASE BE NICE to our hard working staff, we are doing our best to provide you with the best healthcare experience. 😊



Safety Precautions

As part of the WA Public Health Directions, all staff, patients and other visitors to BRAMS are now required to wear a mask and maintain physical distancing while indoors.

Our friendly staff have made up packages for you with a face mask and hand sanitiser. These are available outside the screening room.

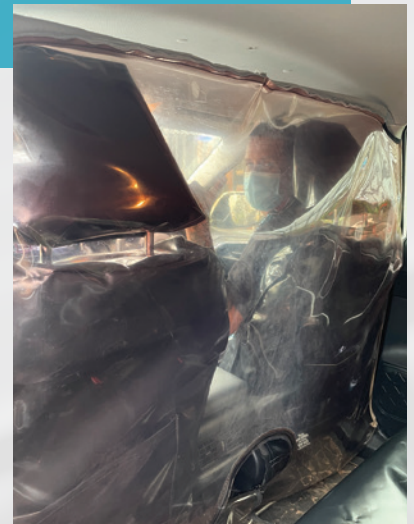


Transport

Our hardworking Transport Officers will continue to provide regular transport services during this time.

We have modified our vehicles to install a plastic air curtain.

Patients will also need to wear a mask and sit in the backseat of the car as an added precaution.



Telehealth

BRAMS is pleased to advise that we are now able to offer patients a tele-health service for patients who can speak to doctor via a video or phone consultation.

It's easy to use and saves time, and BRAMS' encourages all patients to consider and use the service where possible.

**BRAMS is now offering
TELEHEALTH appointments
with our
General Practitioners.**



08 9192 1338



If you prefer to have your consult via telephone or video please call our friendly reception team to make an appointment.

Healthy People

STRONG COMMUNITY

BRIGHT FUTURE

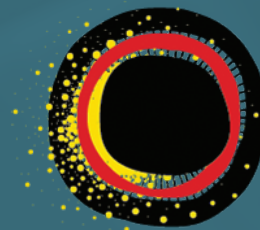


Groups

BRAMS will continue to operate our art therapy, peer support and play therapy groups, but with a few modifications.

These groups will be limited to 10 people, so we encourage you to call and sign up so you don't miss out.

Everyone will be screened at the Respiratory Clinic prior to entry, and people will be required to wear a mask and maintain social distancing.



My Health,
MY LIFE,
My Culture



Aged Care And NDIS

BRAMS' Aged Care and NDIS teams will continue to provide regular services in the community.

Our staff, who will be wearing PPE as an added safety precaution, will be screening people before commencing their work.



Thank you!

BRAMS would like to thank the community for your patience and support during this challenging time.

If we can be of any assistance to you, please get in touch with one of our friendly staff.

BRAMS would like to thank the Community for supporting our service delivery changes.

Thank you!

These changes...

- Will keep you and your family safe
- Enable you to be treated for COVID at BRAMS
- Allow you to be tested for COVID-19 at BRAMS
- Enable you to consult with a GP by telephone or video

BRAMS
We Care For You

Keep Up To Date >

BRAMS encourages you to follow us on Facebook to stay up to date with the latest information regarding our services.

BROOME.BRAMS



brams_6725



Broome Regional Aboriginal Medical Service
4 March at 12:04 · 🌐

Kids from Year 3 are now required to wear a mask at BRAMS.

BRAMS will provide you with a mask when you arrive.

 Broome Regional Aboriginal Medical Service

19 2 shares

Like Comment Share





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Regional Aboriginal
Medical Service**

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