



**Broome**  
**Regional Aboriginal**  
**Medical Service**

**BRAMS** October  
2020

# NEWSLETTER

## CEO REPORT

**A lot has happened since I wrote  
to you last month.**

We were delighted to host WA Health Minister Roger Cook for a morning tea at BRAMS during State Cabinet's visit to Broome, and would like to thank the Minister for taking the time to say hello.

On 30 September BRAMS held a Special General Meeting with our members to revise our Rule Book, and it was great to see such a large turn out of members attend. The members resolved to pass some of the proposed changes to the Rule Book and this has now been sent to ORIC.

We recently launched our 2020 Staff Feedback Survey through the employment office. The BRAMS management team is constantly striving to make BRAMS an even better workplace and we look forward to hearing your thoughts.

We are also busying planning our NAIDOC Family Day Event, and will be in a position to share more details about that with you soon.

*Cassie*  
CEO



**YOUR )))  
OPINION  
MATTERS TO US**

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## EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH :)



### CONGRATULATIONS

This month's Employee of the Month is

**Rashidah Bin Rashid**

Corporate Services Quality & Governance Officer.

Colleagues reflected that 'Rashidah is someone you can always depend to help and support in any way possible.

She is enthusiastic and committed to learning new skills.

She has a good sense of humour and makes us laugh.'

*Well done Rashidah and keep up the great work!*



**Jeriah Kaissis**

### NEW STAFF Please welcome our newest staff member

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

When I'm at home I love to garden a lot, and have a lot of indoor and outdoor pot plants.

I also enjoy going to the beach, fishing, camping and four-wheel-driving.

**What do you like about Broome?**

Family! I have lots of family here and I love the beautiful landscape.

**Favourite quote:**

'People start to heal the moment they feel heard'.

**What I like best about my job?**

It's enjoyable and rewarding - I love listening to people and helping them.

**What would you like to achieve?**

In my client work I would like my clients feel heard, valued and empowered.

## STAFF PROFILE



**Cassie Atchison**  
CEO

**How long have you been employed at BRAMS?**

14 Months.

**What you like best about my job?**

Supporting the BRAMS team to provide quality health and wellbeing services to the Broome Community.

**What would you like to achieve?**

To identify and work with a local person to become the CEO of BRAMS.

**Favourite Quote:**

Love what you do. Serve the greater good. Make the world a better place.

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## CLINIC DATA

Here is a breakdown of BRAMS' clinic data for the month of September period.

	Male	Female	Total
<b>Episodes of Care</b>			
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander	1026	1648	2674
Non-Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander	167	108	275
Unknown Indigenous status	0	0	0
<b>Total Episodes of health care</b>	<b>1193</b>	<b>1756</b>	<b>2949</b>

<b>Client Contacts</b>			
Allied Health	167	132	299
Doctor	848	1178	2026
Health Worker	484	607	1091
Mental Health	18	1	19
Nurse	168	495	663
Other	11	18	29
Social Health	7	6	13
Specialist	39	59	98
Tobacco Worker	7	4	11
<b>Total Client Contacts</b>	<b>1749</b>	<b>2500</b>	<b>4249</b>

<b>Clients seen by health service</b>			
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander clients			1398
Non-Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander clients			149
Unknown Indigenous status of clients			0
<b>Total Clients</b>			<b>1547</b>

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## MINISTER COOK VISITS

On 21 September 2020, the Hon. Roger Cook, Minister for Health, visited BRAMS. We provided Roger with a full tour of our building and also our mobile clinic on wheels. We shared the BRAMS story with him, how we've been serving the Broome community for more than 40 years, and also discussed some of our plans for the future.



## HONOUR FOR DR. DAVID ATKINSON

Congratulations to Dr David Atkinson for winning the Rural Researcher or Educator of the Year at the 2020 WA Rural Health Awards. BRAMS is extremely proud of the work that you do for our community.



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## OUR BLOCK ROCKS EVENT

The Our Block Rocks family event was held at Town Beach on Monday, 21st September, and was jointly organised by staff from Broome Circle, Helping Minds and KAMS Kimberley Supports. This was an opportunity for Broome service providers to work together on community engagement with local families, and to promote our services and let people know what we do.

BRAMS Family Support workers Candice and Arthur ran some sensory activities in the shady "Calming Corner", where kids could come and relax or have a go at making slime, do some colouring in or get their face painted – a fun time for all.

Lots of families with children of all ages turned up after school, and a game of soccer got underway in the Town Beach park while others took part in water activities or went for a swim.

Some of the older kids had fun making friendship bracelets, and Olivia from KAMS added a touch of colour and craziness offering wild hair spray designs.

It was a lovely afternoon and the feedback from families was extremely positive, with a lot of interest in staging a similar event again soon. BRAMS and the other organisations involved felt it was successful in its goal of reaching out to the local community and strengthening engagement.



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## MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

A very big thank you to Lottery West for supporting our Mental Health Week event, which was attended by a wide variety of local stakeholders, including St Johns Ambulance, Army, Broome Recovery, TIS, Boab Health, MilliYa Rumarra, Mens Outreach and many community members.

Staff were also involved in a wellbeing activity, and the BRAMS SEWB team would like to thank Tammy Howard of Broome Nursery for her generous donation of 5 golden canes for the day.



## A FAMILIAR FACE RETURNS

BRAMS is pleased to welcome back **Nancy Kennedy** as a specialist women's health nurse for a Specialist Women's Health Clinic on a Thursday morning. (Other times can be arranged by negotiation.)



While Nancy will be concentrating on inserting IntraUterine Devices (IUDs such as Mirena), she can also insert or remove Implanon's and attend to all other women's health issues.

IUD's & Implanon's are the most effective contraception available. They are known to be at least 99.8% effective - 1 women in 5000 in a year may get pregnant while using these devices, compared with the pill, which is typically 91% effective (9 women in a 100 will get pregnant in a year).

Importantly, they are among the safest forms of contraception.

IUD's & Implanon's are also 'set & forget' - they can provide contraceptive cover for 3-10 years, so women don't need to remember a pill every day, or an injection every 12 weeks.

The device or implant can be removed at any time and a woman/ couple are able to start trying for a pregnancy straight away.

Call BRAMS on **9192 1338** Tues to Friday and ask to speak to Lulu (Women's Health Nurse), or drop in on a Thursday morning for more information. Alternatively ask any clinician when you next visit BRAMS.



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## GRAMS VISIT

BRAMS was pleased to welcome the NDIS team from Geraldton Aboriginal Medical Services (GRAMS). The BRAMS NDIS team spent time sharing information and stories about how we operate our NDIS Program.

This was a great opportunity to network with our fellow colleagues from another Aboriginal Medical Service, and share knowledge and information that benefits both organisations.



## MEET A DIRECTOR

**Chairperson: Christopher “Chips” Bin Kali**

**How long have you been a director at BRAMS?**

5 Years

**Would you encourage others to become a director?**

Yes, I would especially like to see the younger generation applying.

**What would you like to see in the future at BRAMS?**

A new complex, permanent GP's & more Outreach Services.



## PATIENT STORY

**Karmelliah McKenzie**

**How long have you been a patient at BRAMS?**

Since before I can remember!

**What do you like about BRAMS?**

I like that BRAMS has a lot of Indigenous staff that us patients deal with, making it easier to explain our situations and understand our healthcare needs.

**What would you like to see in the future at BRAMS?**

More community events and activities for both elders and young people that help raise awareness to both minor and major health problems within our community, and self-care.



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