



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

**BRAMS** September  
2020

# NEWSLETTER

## CEO REPORT



**It's a busy time for BRAMS as we head towards the end of an incredible year.**

We kicked off the month with an important gathering of all the Aboriginal Medical Services based in the region, to begin talks towards the development and implementation of a Kimberley Model of Care. It was fantastic to see everyone coming together in a common goal and I look forward to providing you with further updates as this work progresses.

On September 30 we are holding a Special General Meeting to present our revised rule book to our Members. The BRAMS Board of Directors has been diligent in taking on board feedback and making sure it's reflected in the proposed changes.

Membership of BRAMS costs just \$1 and brings you into our family – download an application form or speak to one of our friendly staff members and join today.

In other news, we continue to build on our learning and development framework, and have recently introduced a new learning management system for all staff.

Our NDIS program is performing well, and we now have more than 20 people accessing our support coordination services.

We're also pleased to announce that we are expanding our NDIS services even further to include psychology services and peer support groups.

With that in mind, BRAMS is still looking for additional staff to join our excellent NDIS team, so if you know of family or friends who may be interested, please pass the word along.

*Cassie*  
CEO

## CONTENTS

Staff Profile .....	2
New Staff .....	2
Employee Of The Month :) .....	2
Kimberley Model of Care .....	3
Going Through a Rough Patch? .....	4
Infection Control Audit .....	4
R U OK? Day .....	5
Peer Support Groups for NDIS.....	6
Have Your Say .....	6
Big Honour for Local Legend.....	6
BRAMS Website .....	7
Patient Story .....	7

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## EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH :)



### CONGRATULATIONS

Please congratulate our Employee of the Month for September - **Peter Clifton**.

Colleagues say that Peter "is always happy to help", he "takes pride in his work", and is "a great addition to the BRAMS family".

*Well done Peter on a well-deserved accolade.*

## NEW STAFF

Please welcome our newest staff members



Kelly Langford  
RMO



Clare Kennedy  
Child Health Nurse



Geoffrey Clark  
Evidence and  
Access Coordinator



Katy Crawford  
Chronic Disease  
Nurse

## STAFF PROFILE

**Arthur Segundo**  
Family Support Worker



**How long have been employed at BRAMS:**  
5 months

### What I like best about my job?

I get to help families, especially young children with the support they need. I enjoy collaborating with other medical and non-medical professionals.

### What would you like to achieve?

I want to make sure that I am able to provide the services of our program. Also, I want to increase the awareness among the Indigenous communities in Broome about our early childhood support program and we are happy to accommodate them.

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

Playing basketball, fishing and walking at the beach with my new baby.

### What do you like about Broome?

Beautiful scenery and laidback lifestyle

### Random Fact(s):

If you lift a kangaroo's tail off the ground it can't hop.

### Tell us your favourite quote:

"A man is not finished when he is defeated. He is finished when he quits." - Richard Nixon

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# KIMBERLEY MODEL OF CARE

On 2 September, all of the Aboriginal Medical Services in the Kimberley came together to facilitate our first workshop on developing and implementing a Kimberley Model of Care.

A wide range of health professionals attended from across the Kimberley, including Aboriginal Health Workers, Administration Managers, CEO's, GPs and Health Centre Managers.

The workshop identified some great initiatives for each organisation to work together to implement. Further workshops will be held with NDIS, Social and Emotional Wellbeing and Population Health teams.

Together with BRAMS, the Aboriginal Medical Services that are working in partnership for the Kimberley Model of Care are Yura Yungi Aboriginal Medical Service, Derby Aboriginal Health Service, Ord Valley Aboriginal Health Service and Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service.



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## GOING THROUGH A ROUGH PATCH?

If you or someone you know is going through a hard time, or facing personal problems, then drop into BRAMS to have a confidential yarn with one of our supporting staff members.

BRAMS employs a Social and Emotional Wellbeing Team Leader, a Psychologist and three SEWB Case Workers.

We can help you with generalised counselling, goal-setting, advocacy, transport support, participation in cultural activities and group sessions, and referrals to external agencies for additional services and supports as necessary.

All you need is a referral from a school or other service provider, or internally from BRAMS through a GP, nurse, or Aboriginal Health Worker.

Alternatively, you can complete a form and refer yourself.

Call us on **9192 1338** for more information, or send an email to **sewb@brams.org.au**

All our services are 100 per cent confidential and culturally safe.

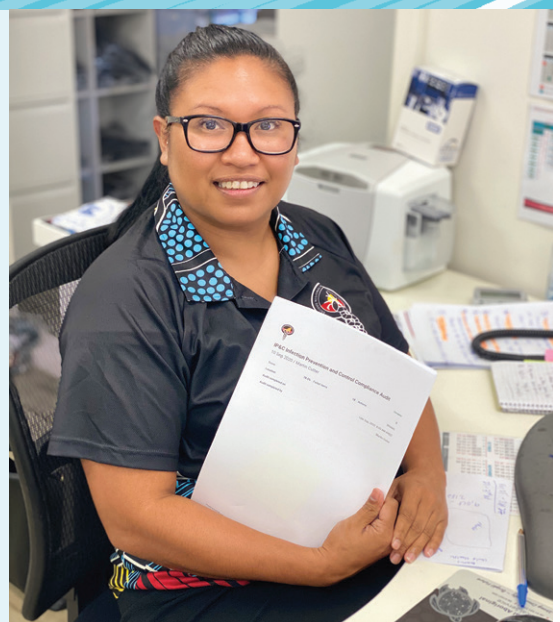


## INFECTION CONTROL AUDIT

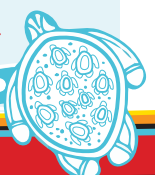
On 10 September, our Quality and Governance Officer Rashidah Bin Rashid, together with Martin Cutter, Infection Control Coordinator from Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service, conducted our annual Infection Control Audit.

The audit acknowledged the changes made by our clinic staff over the past 12 months, and identified some areas for minor improvement. Martin then provided our clinical staff with Infection Control Training.

A big thank you to Martin and KAMS for allowing Martin to support BRAMS!



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## R U OK? DAY

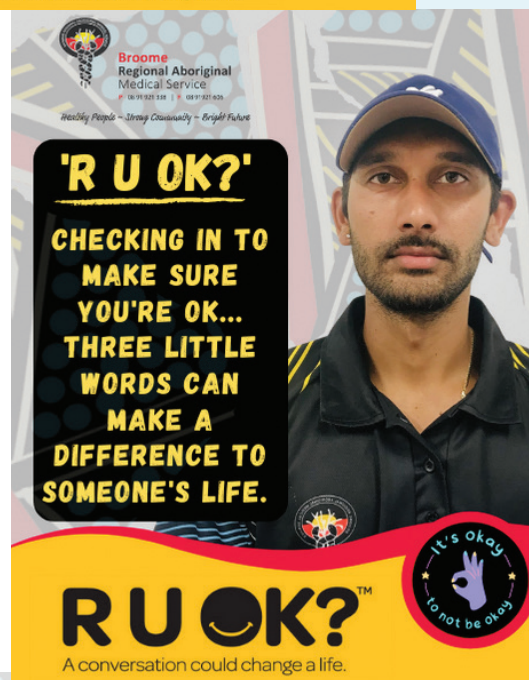
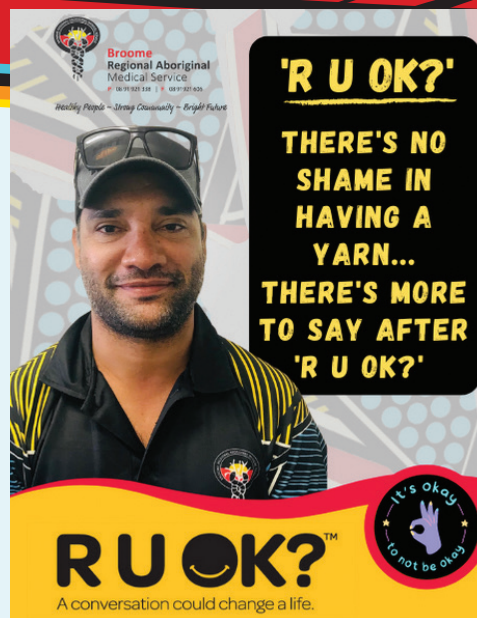
BRAMS held an R U OK? Day breakfast for all staff, and it was pleasing to see so many in attendance along with their families.

The R U OK? (are you ok?) slogan aims to get people talking about suicide prevention and promote conversation about mental health more generally.

And the day is there to remind us that R U OK? is a conversation we need to have every day with our families, friends and colleagues – to be mindful of each other's wellbeing and the possibility that someone close to you might be struggling.

The Wirrpanda Foundation also held a Footy Clinic as part of the day's activities, with girls from St Mary's, BSHS, Derby District, Bidyadanga and Beagle Bay schools participating, and also taking part in game-day matches.

Staff from the Social and Emotional Wellbeing & Tackling Indigenous Smoking Teams went down and provided information and mental health activities.





**COMING SOON**

## PEER SUPPORT GROUPS FOR NDIS

BRAMS was recently successful with its application to the Department of Social Services to commence providing peer support groups for our NDIS participants and their carers.

This program will be managed by our NDIS Manager Ms Melanie Prewett. We look forward to providing more information on these groups in the coming months.



## BIG HONOUR FOR LOCAL LEGEND

Congratulations are in order for BRAMS director Philip Matsumoto, who has been awarded a prestigious local government award in honour of more than three decades of service as a Broome Shire Councillor.

Philip, who helped establish BRAMS as the first remote Aboriginal Medical Service in WA in the 1970's, will be awarded a Long and Loyal Service Award by the Local Government Association in Perth.

He was first sworn into the Broome Shire Council in 1974 when he was just 33-years-old. He is a life member of the Broome Basketball Association and the West Kimberley Football League, and is the namesake for the outdoor Phillip Matsumoto Courts.

**Well done Philip on this tremendous honour!**



# HAVE YOUR SAY

### BRAMS wants your feedback.

We will be launching our Consumer Feedback Survey next month.

You can complete the survey online [www.brams.org.au/contact/](http://www.brams.org.au/contact/) or by collecting a copy from one of our friendly reception team.

BRAMS looks forward to sharing the results with you in November.

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# BRAMS

Our Health Services • NDIS • News • Employment  
Events & More!

**WEBSITE  
UP & RUNNING**  
**www.brams.org.au**



## THE NEW BRAMS WEBSITE IS NOW LIVE!

We are excited to announce that we recently launched our redesigned website.

Keep an eye out for news, information, stories and job opportunities.

Our website is [www.brams.org.au](http://www.brams.org.au)

## PATIENT STORY

**Thomas McKenzie**

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

24 Years

**What do you like about BRAMS?**

As an ex-employee since 2010, I enjoyed working with the community. BRAMS has provided a lot of home care during my time. Friendly, daily service within the organisation.

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

More home visits for the Elders in the community & more social activities involving our young children.



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