



#### MAY 2024 Community Newsletter

#### From Humble Beginnings

Moogji Aboriginal Council East Gippsland Inc. celebrated 30 years of service to their community with the opening of their own Medical Practice, with their first Medicare Claim submitted on Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> of October.

Historically, Moogji was created with the focus of cultural heritage and improving the cultural safety and cultural responsiveness of health access and service delivery.

From humble beginnings stories continue to be shared with the Community that capture the journey, highlighting the strength and passion of Elders and community in their continued advocacy and drive in the establishment of Moogji for better health outcomes of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community.

In the early days, before Moogji's original home of 52 Stanley Street, women were meeting in Boundary Road Orbost, to mobilize for funding to transport people to access medical services in Bairnsdale at the Gippsland & East Gippsland Aboriginal Co-operative and another family in Livingstone Street Orbost were ensuring people had access to dental treatment, provided through the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service operating from the family's home in their mobile dental bus.

Marnie Joiner our Div.1 Nurse and Luana Carter, Aboriginal Health Worker in training prepared the first Aboriginal 715 health assessment for Dr. Muhammad Ayaz who joined





Moogji on the 7<sup>th</sup> of October. Telstra Health were onsite to assist our administrators Emily Martin and Ali Wilkinson with our new comprehensive electronic health record system,

Communicare.

Louise Carey, Interim CEO of Moogji said "Over the past two weeks we embedded the clinical system and staff will be introducing our new Aboriginal Model of Care with training commencing 28<sup>th</sup> of October 2024.. Moogji understands and recognizes that a culturally safe health system is one of respect for cultural values and strengthens addressing inequalities'.

Through a collective alliance known as the 'G3' Moogji partnered with, Lake Tyers Health and Children's Services and Lakes Entrance Aboriginal Health Association Through the vision of sharing resources and having common goals, additional funding was secured to underpin the opening of the Medical Clinic.

Having our own GP onsite is life changing, it ensures we elevate, dignify, and sustain the health of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community consistent with our holistic concept of health, grounded by our values and beliefs, cultural integrity, and uncompromising self-determination. Establishing our own clinics, means having access to our own demographic data for the first time and it helps us to tailor and understand our community needs better. It positions us to plan and meet the health needs of our communities. Finally, being able to realize the long-term aspirations of our founding elders and Board members to have Aboriginal Health in Aboriginal Hands for our three communities.

Throughout the journey of Moogji many people have contributed to the legacy, providing cultural leadership, striving towards improving cultural responsiveness and the quality of health care for First Nations people. Moogji would like to acknowledge all of those who have walked the journey with Moogji. Without your contribution we wouldn't be where we are today.

Moogji will hold an opening event in the new year for community to come see our new facilities and meet the clinical team. We hope you can join us on this special occasion also in honor of all of those who have come before us in making Moogji who it is today.

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**DATE:** Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2024

**TIME:** Arrive at 5:30pm for light refreshments

Meeting will commence at 6:00pm

**VENUE:** 291 Bonang Road, Orbost

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#### **DOCTORS SESSIONS -**

MOOGJI WILL HAVE A DOCTOR FROM ORH ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

- TUESDAY 12TH
- Tuesday 19th
- TUESDAY 26TH

#### 715 Health Checks

Moogji Aboriginal Council is thrilled to announce the opening of our brand-new standalone medical practice which is dedicated to providing comprehensive and compassionate healthcare to our Aboriginal Community.

We are encouraging all Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community members to book in for a 715 health check before meeting our new Moogji Doctor.

A health check provides you with an opportunity to explore your family history, current health and identify whether you're at risk of illnesses or chronic conditions.

#### **GEGAC DENTAL APPOINTMENTS**

Moogji has allocated dental appointment with GEGAC every 2nd Tuesday at Orbost Regional Health.

For appointments please call GAGAC reception on 5150 0700

#### **MEDICAL TRANSPORT**

Moogji may be able to help clients get to and from medical appointments.

If you require travel assistance for an out-of-town medical appointment, please give Moogji Reception a call on 5154 2133. Please be aware the Moogji requires the following:

- Appointment time confirmation.
- At least a weeks' notice to organise either a driver or a fuel card

In the event of limited resources, our organisation will discus with you, alterative arrangements, this include, accessing public transporting and where possible reallocating your appointment to a closer venue.

#### Please note:

- We require at least 24 hours' notice for cancellations of medical transports.
- If you do not give enough notice, you may be declined travel.

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#### RIVIERA COUNSELLING SERVICE

Jeff Steedman from Riviera Counselling is onsite every Wednesday for appointments. Appointment can be done onsite, home visits or over the phone.

For appointments please call reception on 5154 2133

#### **AOD SERVICES**

Our AOD team are on-site at Moogji Monday-Friday, Drop in for a cuppa and a chat anytime, our door is always open and open to everyone. We can also come to clients homes if wanting an appointment, call Moogji Reception on 5154 2133 and ask to speak to Margie or Courtney.

#### **OPTOMETRIST** Australian College of Optometry

For appointments please call reception on 5154 2133

PLEASE ENSURE PAYMENT IS MADE ON THE DAY

#### **HEARING**

For appointments please call reception on 5154 2133

#### FINANCAIL COUNSELLER

Next visit to Moogji: Please contact Moogji reception on 5154 2133

Bec Hough from Anglicare Victoria can assistant clients with:

- Explain options, if you can't pay bills
- Suggest payment plans for gas/electricity, debts
- Offer details of government concession and other assistance
- Help to deal with credit card/loan repayments
- Give you information on the bankruptcy process
- Refer you to other services that may be able to assist

#### YOUR FEEDBACK IS IMPORTANT TO US

Have a Complaint, Compliment or Feedback?





Scan the QR code and give us your feedback .

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## Gippsland Primary Health Awards

Moogji has been nominated for the upcoming 2024 Primary Health Awards that celebrate outstanding achievements and innovation across Gippsland and has been short listed in the category: Transforming access to care through inclusive practice

This year's theme, "Transformation," honoring teams that have driven impactful change in patient care, workplace culture, and access to healthcare.

34 nominees have been named across the 4 categories.

- Transforming practice through multidisciplinary care
- Transforming workplace culture
- Transforming care through digital solutions
- Transforming access to care through inclusive practice



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#### **BONANG ROAD**

'Crew members from the Moogji Bonang depo represented Moogji recently in the 2024 Deadly in Gippsland Business expo, showcasing our Native Nursery & Enviro Works, Moogji was very popular on the day with many people showing interest in what Moogji is up to, so much so we ran out of business cards. All in all it was a great event for Moogji to take part in.'







"The environmental team has been hard at work at our local rain forest center undertaking some much-needed maintenance to restore the site to its former glory. The team will dedicate 1 - 2 days per month to contribute and give back to the community"

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#### Senoirs festival at GLaWAC

On Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> of October, in celebration of Seniors Month, GlaWAC (Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation) invited our Elders from Moogji Aboriginal Council to their Seniors festival held at GLaWAC's new Amphitheatre. On arrival at GLaWAC we were welcomed with a beautiful morning tea on arrival and then walked out to the new arena, where there was live music for the older generation. Everyone was singing along to the beautiful music. Around midday, we were welcomed to country and had live traditional dancers who performed 8 dances showcasing local culture.

After listening to live music and watching the deadly dances we were invited into the Bush café for lunch we had the most mouth-watering Lamb Shanks with veggies, cooked by Kevin Murry, Trish, and the team at the Bush Café.





## FOR SALE

Pricing is \$1.50 per brick.

Pick up only between 9-2pm Monday to Friday.

Please call reception on 51542133 to organize a time to collect or for further information.

Electronic payment available.



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## Does your home need simple repairs?

Call **1800 973 433** and our Local Maintenance Repair Crew will connect you with an onsite handy person to fix things such as:



For all other maintenance repairs please call the Housing Call Centre on 13 11 72 or visit housing.vic.gov.au/repair

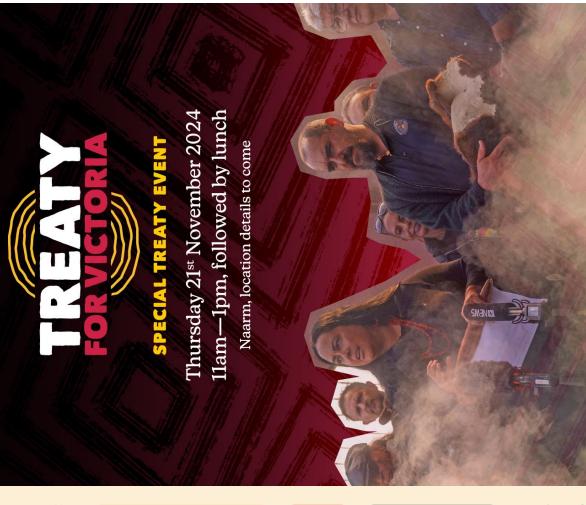
# Are you a First Nations renter?

We've partnered with proud GunaiKurnai/Gunditjmara man, Renee McDonald, Senior Advisor, Aboriginal Self-determination and Outcomes team. To learn more about our free repair service, call Renee on 0439 195 749.





# SAVE THE DATE!





### Community Meeting

Update from the Board regarding AGM, ORIC & special general meeting

Meet & Greet
Interim CEO
Louise Carey

Have a yarn over
a Cup of Tea or
Coffee & Light
Refreshments

Date: Wednesday 13th November 2024

5.30 - 6.30pm

291 Bonang Road, Orbost For more information and to RSVP please call reception on 5154 2133

