



Annual Report

2023-2024

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Whadjuk Noongar people as the traditional custodians of the country we live and work in. We honour and pay our respects to the legacy and the vision of our Elders past and present, our founding members who paved the way and who continue to guide us, and our future generations, who rely on us to maintain our Elders self determination to improve the health and wellbeing of our people.

Our Vision

To be a successful Aboriginal owned service provider; and leader in health and wellbeing for the next forty-five years and beyond to one hundred years from now.

Our Purpose

To lead and deliver on health care, wellbeing and healing care, employment, careers and advancement for Indigenous people who are keen to work in health; and value for owners, service users and staff.

Please be advised that this document contains the names and pictures of people who have passed away.

Abbreviations

ACCHO	Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation
AHCWA	Aboriginal Health Council of WA
AHP	Aboriginal Health Practitioner
Derbarl	Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service Aboriginal Corporation
DYHS	Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service Aboriginal Corporation
NACCHO	National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation
NEAF	New Era Aboriginal Fellowship
RACGP	Royal Australian College of General Practitioners
SEWB	Social and Emotional Wellbeing

Our Logo



Our logo is a reflection of our Noongar heritage, designed by local Noongar artist Barry McGuire and represents the Swan River winding through our country.

The water is pure and it also represents our healers, the traditional healers. They have healing hands. The logo also recognises that non-Aboriginal doctors are healers with new modern medicine and gifted people who are able to heal our people. This provides us with the combination of traditional Noongar healers and Wadjella (white) doctors who heal as well with modern medicine. Our Aboriginal healers had hands-on methods to heal from our own culture. From the healer's hands, the pure water flows and drops in circles to heal our families. The circles represent all Aboriginal communities around us near the Swan River; we work together with our people from the Swan River.

Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service is the place of the long neck turtle. The circles represent the community organisations here in the Perth metropolitan area.

CONTENTS

About Us	4	Social and Emotional Wellbeing Services	56
Our Values	7	Health Promotions	60
Our History	8	Dental Services	64
Governance	12	Clinical Governance & Quality Improvement	65
Board of Directors	15	Research	66
Chairperson’s Report	20	Business Services	68
CEO’s Report	22	Business Services Director's Report	69
Strategic Directions	29	Workforce	74
Highlights	30	Finance	78
The Year At A Glance	31	Financial Report	79
RACGP WA General Practice of the Year	32		
Celebrating our 50 Years	34		
Clinical	50		
Medical Director's Report	51		

ABOUT US

MANY VOICES, ONE DREAM, HEALTH SERVICES, OUR WAY

The Whadjuk Noongar word for the Swan River is "Derbarl Yerrigan," and like our emblem, it captures the significance of our name's close ties to the river and surrounding country.

Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service was incorporated in 1973 as the Perth Aboriginal Medical Service, and in 1998 became the Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service.

Today, we are the oldest and largest Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service in Western Australia, providing care to over 14,000 Aboriginal patients on Whadjuk Noongar Boodjar.

Derbarl provides culturally appropriate primary healthcare to over 8,000 regular Aboriginal patients across four clinics in metropolitan Perth.

Our clinics are located in East Perth, Mirrabooka, Maddington, and Midland.

With a focus on prevention, early intervention, comprehensive care, and care coordination (including chronic disease management) across the life course, we aim to provide culturally sensitive and respectful comprehensive primary health services to Aboriginal people. Our treatment approach focuses on the social, emotional, cultural, and physical health of our patients.

The Derbarl service concept is built on cultural safety and awareness, the empowerment of patients and the ownership of our members and community controlled governance structures are at the heart of our service.

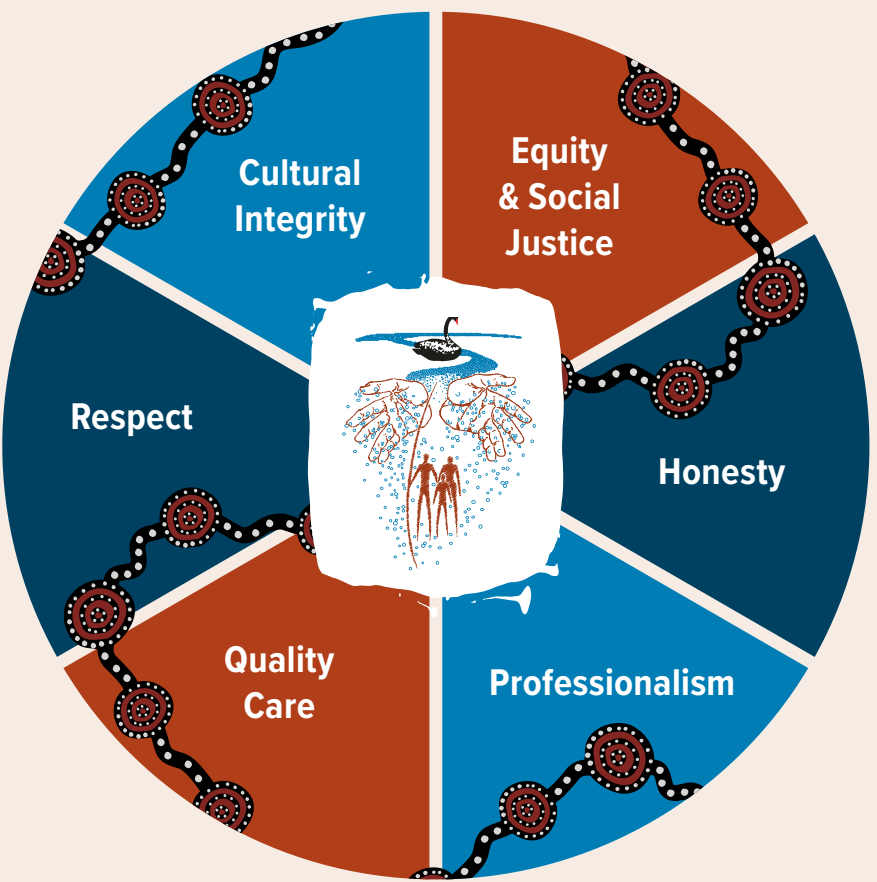
In addition to allied health and specialist services, environmental health, dental care, mental health services, social support services, and access made possible by transportation services, we lead an Aboriginal Health Practitioner-led model of care with the integration of nurses and general practitioners and a multi-disciplinary workforce.

All our clinical and social support services are underpinned by a robust and integrated system of clinical and cultural governance embedding continuous quality-improvement.





OUR VALUES



1. Cultural Integrity

We respect Aboriginal cultural distinctiveness and the lived experience of our patients and staff. We are culturally safe in all that we do

2. Equity & Social Justice

We are inclusive, respect diversity and enable equitable access to services and opportunities

3. Honesty

We act honestly and with fairness

4. Professionalism

We are accountable for our actions and always act with professionalism

5. Quality Care

We provide quality care to our patients and our staff

6. Respect

We respect the different views, experiences, values and priorities of our patients and staff

OUR HISTORY



1973

AMS Opens

NEAF obtains an old house and with donations and volunteer doctors opens its doors to the community and sets the establishment of the **Aboriginal Medical Service (AMS)** in September.

First funding of \$100,000 employs:
AMS Leader | Bill Forest (RIP)
Social Worker | Marian Nelson-Kickett
Aboriginal Health Worker | Teresa Issacs
Cleaner | Aunty Joan Saylor (RIP)
Project Officer | Neil Phillips (RIP)



1970

 \$100,000



1980

A Second Storey

The AMS leases a two-storey building at 154 Edward Street in East Perth.

Forty staff are employed including a second doctor, Dr Raji Krishnan.



1975

New Staff

The AMS employs 14 staff including eight Aboriginal staff. Three are field officers transporting patients to and from the clinic.



1983

New Opportunities

An Aboriginal Health Workers Education Program is launched creating new opportunities for Aboriginal people to work as frontline health professionals for the AMS.

1984

Over 10, 000 patients Milestone



1985

Three Doctors

The AMS receives funding to employ a third full-time doctor.

1987

Expansion

Services expand to offer medical and child health, welfare support, a transport system, an interpreter service, an AIDS awareness program and hostel accommodation.



1990

Over 15,000 Patients Milestone



1991

Accountant

ATSIC responds to a request from the AMS to meet a funding shortfall and funds the first fulltime accountant.

1993

First Aboriginal Doctor

The organisation changed its name to the **Perth Aboriginal Medical Service (PAMS)**.

Dr Sandra Eades (now Professor Eades) becomes PAMS first Aboriginal doctor. 80% Aboriginal staff achieved.

1997

New Ground

Work commences on the new East Perth clinic.

1998

A New Name

The organisation changes its name to **Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service (Derbarl)** and moves to its purpose-built premises in East Perth.

A second clinic opens in Midland in May.

2000

Opening

The Mirrabooka and Maddington clinics open. Derbarl is recognised by mainstream and government services.

Derbarl takes over the Elizabeth Hansen Autumn Centre from the Aboriginal Rights League.



1969

NEAF Begins

The New Era Aboriginal Fellowship (NEAF) is formed by a group of volunteers including Professor Fiona Stanley to drive the establishment of an Aboriginal medical service in WA.

1974

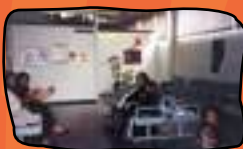
First Doctor & Recognition

Derbarl receives funding to employ its first full-time paid doctor, Dr Reid.

The Service is incorporated as the **Aboriginal Medical Service of Western Australia**.

General practice services expand to consultations, clinic treatments, referrals to specialists and health screening.

The AMS is recognised as playing a vital role in improving the health of Aboriginal people.



1976

Patient Numbers Rise

Patient consultations rise to 600 per month with many patients visiting for the first time.

1981

Major Growth

Grand opening of the Edward Street building on 7 July 1981.

The service grows to include a Home and Community Care Program and specialist clinics for dental, podiatry, psychiatric, optical and antenatal care.

A night shelter opens offering Aboriginal people emergency accommodation including the "Bull Paddock" people.



"From a small, converted house to a spacious two-storey building. From a few forgotten people to 8,330 well cared for patients.

From March 1973 to July 1981.

Only a speck of time in the history of the Aboriginal people, but now, a steadfast landmark in the improvement of Aboriginal Health, and a recognition of the Rights of a People to Self-Determination."

(Maurice Rioli (RIP), Directors Report, Annual Report 1980/1981)

1989

Dental Health

A dental service opens.



1992

Aboriginal Health Degree

First intake of students in Curtin University's Diploma/Degree in Aboriginal Community Health.

The AMS was instrumental in getting this course on the curriculum.



1995

New East Perth Clinic

With the service having outgrown in Edward Street, planning commences for a new clinic in East Perth.

1999

Two New Clinics Funded

Funding is secured to open two new clinics in Maddington and Mirrabooka.

A second dental room is opened in the East Perth clinic reducing dental wait times from six to three weeks.

2001

Funding Challenges

The Midland clinic closes due to insufficient funding. Commonwealth government appoints an independent funds administrator.

"Derbarl is best placed to deliver primary health care services to Aboriginal people living in this region."

2002

Administration

Funds administration continues until 20 September 2002.



15, 000



2013

Accreditation under RACGP & ISO

The first Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (ACCHO) in WA to receive dual accreditation under RACGP and ISO.

Derbarl celebrates its 40th anniversary year with over 15,000 patients.

2016

Remediation Plan

A commonwealth government review into Derbarl's financial management, governance, organisational capacity and capability and service delivery results in a remediation plan with 19 recommendations.



138



2017

AHCWA Adminstration

The state government defunds the Elizabeth Hansen Autumn Centre and Derbarl makes the decision to self-fund the operations.

The Aboriginal Health Council of WA is appointed as administrator to assist in the foundational rebuild of governance and administrative systems and processes. Derbarl governance transitions from the WA Associations Act to the Corporation Act (ORIC).

Income is reduced to \$15.74M with a \$824K deficit.

2019

Return to Community Control

Derbarl returns to full Aboriginal Community Control under a remediation plan.

The organisation launches a new five-year strategic plan.

2021

All Clinics Administer COVID-19 Vaccine

Derbarl returns to Aboriginal Community Control under a new rulebook and a refined governance model.

COVID-19 vaccination centres open in all clinics vaccinating patients against the virus.

A financial surplus of \$1,034,231 is recorded.

The second longest serving employee, Arnold Yarran, celebrates 30 years of service.



17,201

2022

Funding for New Midland Clinic

Derbarl secures \$4.7M for a new purpose built and owned Midland clinic.

Patient numbers grow to 18,721 and income rises to \$20.3M.

Dulcie Donaldson joins the rarefied rank of reaching 30 years of service.

Almost 14,000 COVID-19 vaccinations are administered.

Derbarl secures five-year contracts for core Primary Health Care funding and becomes the first ACCHO to operationalise a retinal screen camera for diabetic patients.

GP Registrar, Dr Dan Hunt, receives the RACGP WA GP in Training of the Year Award.



18,721



2023

50 Year Anniversary

Derbarl celebrates its 50th anniversary and is announced as the 2023 WA Best GP Practice by the RACGP.

138 staff are employed including 5 Aboriginal doctors and 24 Aboriginal Health Practitioners.

Patient numbers reach 19,062. Income rises to \$22.7M

The WA Council of Social Services presents Derbarl with a Community Service Award for its COVID-19 response. Aboriginal GPR, Dr Corey Dalton, is awarded the RACGP WA GP in Training of the Year.



19,062



138



\$26.23M

2007

Accreditation

Maddington becomes the first clinic to gain accreditation.

A Special General Meeting is held to change the constitution.

A new prison outreach service commences.

2003

Midland Turmoil

The Midland clinic re-opens in March. In June a funds administrator is reappointed due to corporate governance concerns.

Derbarl records a significant deficit of \$955,655.

Midland clinic closes in October.

2012

Midland Clinic Reopens

The clinic re opens in new premises with more sustained funding.

2010

120 staff employed

70% Aboriginal staff.



120

"At last we have a Medical Service, one that has stood the test of time, and which was established by and available for our people, to get professional care by people they know and trust."

Derbarl Annual Report 2008-2009



2018

Income Stabilised

Income stabilised in comparison to the prior year with an improved deficit of \$309K.

Derbarl continues to operate the Elizabeth Hansen Autumn Centre as an unfunded service to ensure Aboriginal patients on renal dialysis have access to safe accommodation.

2015

Income Grows

Income grows to \$16.3M with an operational deficit of \$303,210.

2020

COVID-19 Global Pandemic

Derbarl returns to a surplus financial position of \$240,755. The service is accredited under the WA General Practice Education and Training to host General Practitioner Registrars and two join the workforce. All clinics are now managed by Aboriginal Clinic Managers.

Services and patients are challenged by the unprecedented major COVID-19 global pandemic. Derbarl implements a robust and culturally responsive pandemic plan as services and work arrangements are modified under the WA State of Emergency and Public Health Act. Two temporary respiratory COVID-19 testing clinics in Maddington and Mirrabooka open.

A majority of Directors agree to put the corporation into voluntary administration to strengthen governance practices.



13,935



138



2024

High Performing ACCHO

Our Commonwealth core funding agreement is moved to a 5-year term. The government funded NACCHO First National Health Worker Traineeship Program commences. Derbarl participates in the program, designed to build our AHP workforce's capacity and upskill our workers.

The tender is awarded for the Midland Clinic project works. Two full-time, WAPHA funded pharmacists commence work at Derbarl.

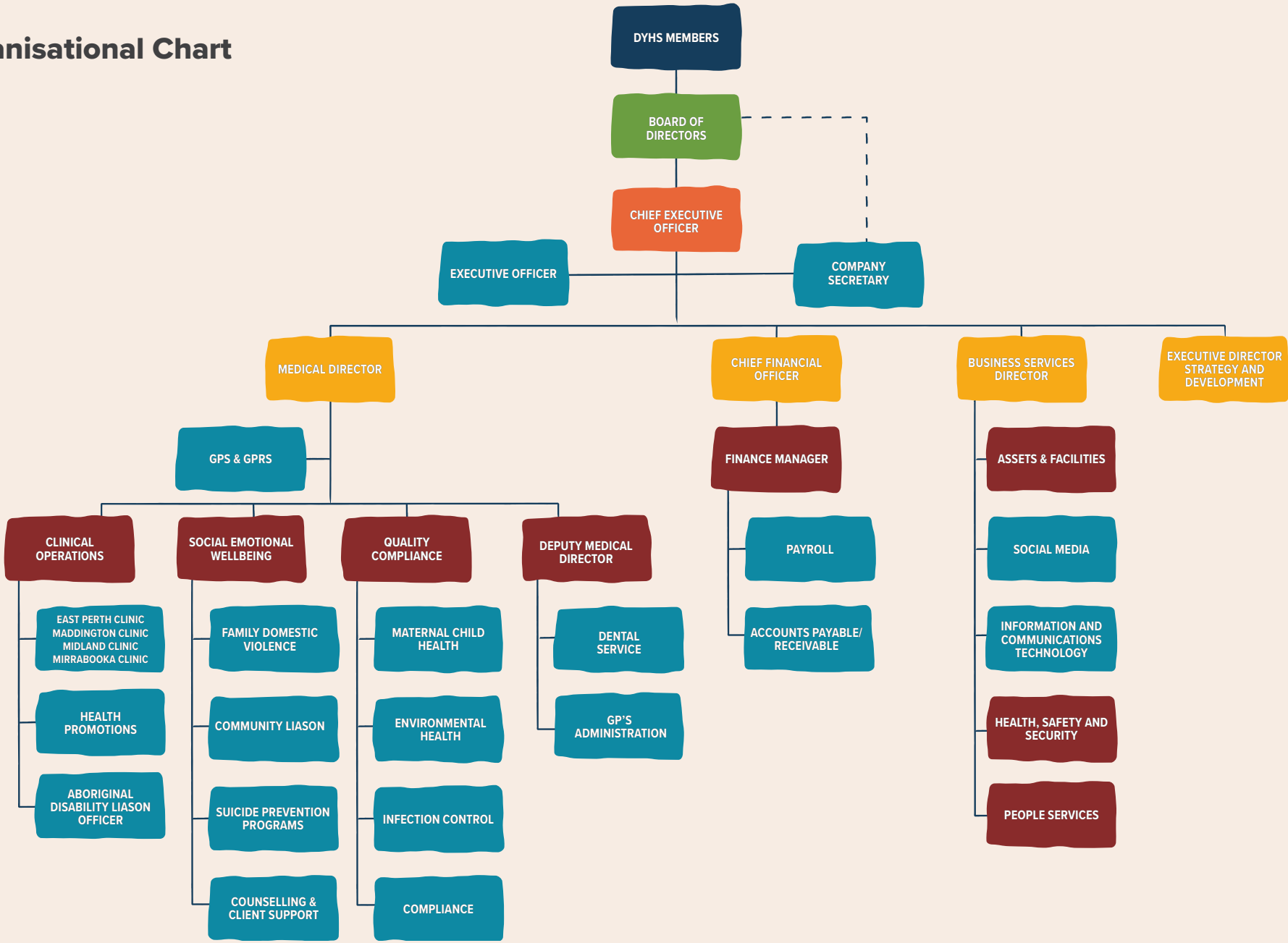
Derbarl becomes the national leader in eliminating Hep C in the community.

NACCHO Chair acknowledges the Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service as one of the highest performing ACCHO's in her address at the AHCWA Member Forum.

GOVERNANCE



Organisational Chart



BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Professor Dan McAullay

Chairperson (1 July 23 to 30 June 2024)

Dan McAullay is a member of the Noongar community in the South West of Western Australia. He is a Registered Nurse and Epidemiologist with extensive experience in Aboriginal health research, policy, and practice. He has held senior positions in these areas as well as in the tertiary sector. Professor McAullay has provided advice and worked with various Government departments, non–Government organisations, and large research institutes and groups, offering expertise to both State and Commonwealth Governments in the field of health. Currently, he serves as the Dean of Kurongkurl Katitjin and the Director of Aboriginal Research at Edith Cowan University. Dan also brings governance experience with Government and non-Government organisations to the Derbarl Yerrigan Board of Directors.



Professor Sandra Eades AO

Deputy Chair (1 July 23 to 30 June 2024)

Sandra Eades is a proud Noongar woman from Mount Barker, Western Australia. She has made a significant contribution to Aboriginal health since completing her medical degree in 1990. Sandra began her early career as a general practitioner at the former Perth Aboriginal Medical Service (now Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service Aboriginal Corporation), where she served at the East Perth and Midland clinics for almost 10 years. In 2003, Sandra became the first Aboriginal medical practitioner to be awarded a PhD, which investigated the causal pathways and determinants of health among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. In recognition of her research contributions to Aboriginal communities, she was named NSW Woman of the Year in 2006. In 2014, she was elected Fellow of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences. Additionally, she was the inaugural winner of the Lowitja Institute Cranlana Award in 2015 and was elected Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia in 2020.

In 2019, Professor Eades was appointed as the Dean of Curtin University's Medical School, becoming Australia's first Indigenous Dean to a medical school. Currently, Sandra is the Deputy Dean (Indigenous) at the Melbourne University Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences and a Professor at the Center for Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health. In 2022, Sandra was named as an Officer of the Order of Australia for her distinguished service to medical research, indigenous health, and professional organisations. Sandra continues to dedicate her career to improving the lives of Aboriginal communities across Australia.





Thierra Clanton

Member Director (appointed 18 November 2023)

Thierra Clanton is a proud Noongar, Wangkathta, Yamatji, and Kija Yorga. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Environmental Management and Sustainability. Professionally, Thierra has worked with leading resource sector companies, including BHP, Woodside, Chevron, Water Corporation, and Fortescue.

Thierra has received multiple accolades, including the 2009 WA Leadership Award. She is an emerging leader with solid facilitation and Master of Ceremonies (MC) skills. Additionally, she has undertaken director's training with the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



Robert Morrison

Member Director (ceased 25 June 2024)

Robert Morrison is a Noongar man from the Bibbulman nation. He was born on Whadjuk country and grew up in Kununurra in the Kimberley and Katherine in the Northern Territory before returning to Perth to complete his schooling. Robert's mother's family is from Katanning in Goreng country and his fathers' side of the family are Gooniyandi from Fitzroy Crossing in the Kimberley, WA.

Robert has worked in the Aboriginal health sector for the past 16 years in various roles focused on improving the health and well-being of our Aboriginal people. He has worked within the Government for over ten years and, for the past four years been working with the Aboriginal Health Strategy with East Metropolitan Health Service as the A/Senior Development Officer for Community Engagement.



Kaya Carson

Member Director (appointed 11 November 2024, ceased 9 January 2024 (reappointed 17 July 2024)

Kaya Carson is a proud Noongar Yorga, born in Whadjuk. Her family originates from Ballardong and Nyaki-Nyaki in the Wheatbelt. Kaya works for the Department of Justice and operates her small business, 'Kaya Lee's'.

Kaya's qualifications and achievements include a Certificate I and II in Leadership, Certificate IV in Training and Assessment, a Diploma of Community Development, an Advanced Diploma of Applied Aboriginal Studies, and a Bachelor of Arts in Adult Education and Community Management.

Currently, Kaya is completing a Certificate IV in Leadership and Management with a strong focus on community development. She intends to collaborate with local Noongar Aboriginal organisations to achieve self-determination and help them run their organisations in the community.



Donna Nelson

Member Director (ceased 18 November 2023)

Donna Nelson is a Njaki Njaki (Ballardong) woman and a respected member of the Noongar community. Donna has held several senior positions, including on the ATSIC Perth Noongar Regional Council, as Chairperson of the Swan Education District Aboriginal Education Council, and on the Hall & Prior Advisory Group on Aboriginal Aged Care. Donna has over 15 years of experience working in child protection and almost 25 years of experience working with young Aboriginal people at risk. Donna is a AICD course graduate with extensive governance and leadership experience.



Rosalie Kickett

Member Director (ceased 18 November 2023)

Rosalie Kickett is a strong Wilman, Beelya – Bibbulmun Nation Nyoongar Yok from Narrogin, who has an associate degree in Aboriginal Mental Health and Counselling and has been working in the Mental Health and Social and Emotional wellbeing industry for 28 years providing trauma, grief and loss intense therapeutic counselling to families and communities in the aftermath of suicides. Rosalie has been delivering AMHFA for 11 years.

In 2017, she was nominated as a Mental Health Ambassador throughout the Perth Metropolitan Area. She continues to strive towards educating Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people about the understanding of mental health through the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health First Aid.



Kingsley Burton

Independent Director (ceased 14 November 2023)

Kingsley Burton has over 35 years' experience in leadership positions in the health sector covering acute and community health care in Australia and the United Kingdom, including the private, public and community health sectors. He has a Bachelor of Arts (Psychology), Graduate Management Qualification and Executive Master of Business Administration. Kingsley's career is multi-dimensional with experience in corporate leadership, executive and management positions covering strategic foresight, change management, leadership development, innovation and reform, coaching, stakeholder, project management and fine art photographic artist.





Kimberley Johnstone
Independent Director (ceased 23 April 2024)

Kimberley Johnstone is a Certified Practicing Accountant with over twenty years’ experience in governance and board consulting, company secretarial, and executive management. Kimberley works as a Governance Consultant. She has more than 20 years of professional experience gained in commercial, not for-profit, and public sectors. Kimberley’s industry experience includes Indigenous Corporations, Health and Community Services, Aged Care, Transport and Infrastructure, Education, and Mining and Resources.



Paul Gregory
Independent Director (appointed 24 May 2024))

Paul Gregory is an executive leader with over 15 years’ legal, governance and commercial experience in Western Australia, New South Wales and Queensland. He holds postgraduate qualifications in law and business (accounting & applied finance), is a chartered company secretary, and is a Graduate and Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Paul has sat on several company boards and has a strong sense of community, having been a board member of several not-for-profit organisations.



Brian Roche
Independent Director (appointed 16 April 2024)

Brian Roche holds a Bachelor of Business Management and serves as the Public Trustee of Western Australia, bringing with him over 25 years of executive experience in both local and State Government, as well as the private sector. Prior to his role as the Public Trustee, Brian held a Senior Executive position at the Department of Treasury.

In addition to his role as Public Trustee, Brian is also a General Councillor of HBF Health, Trustee of the Give2Good Charitable Foundation, and Foundation Chair of the Criminology Advisory Board at Murdoch University. Furthermore, he holds the position of Adjunct Professor in the discipline of Law and Criminology at Murdoch University.

Brian has been honored with a prestigious Churchill Fellowship by the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust. He currently serves as a Non-Executive Director of Brightwater and has previously held positions as a Non-Executive Director of the Art Gallery of Western Australia and Non-Executive Director of Alzheimer’s Australia (Western Australia).

Board Meetings and Attendance Table

Name of Director	Position	Number of Meetings Attended whilst a Director	Number of Meetings Held whilst a Director
Professor Dan McAullay	Member Director & Chairperson	11	11
Professor Sandra Eades AO	Deputy Chairperson & Member Director	10	11
Donna Nelson	Member Director	0	5
Robert Morrison	Member Director	10	11
Rosalie Kickett	Member Director	1	5
Thierra Clanton	Member Director	6	6
Kaya Carson	Member Director	1	1
Kimberley Johnstone	Independent Director	6	9
Kingsley Burton	Independent Director	5	5
Brian Roche	Independent Director	1	2
Paul Gregory	Independent Director	1	1



CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT



"Our success is a testament to the vision and hard work of many."

Golden Anniversary

This year marked a significant milestone as we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service—a story of passion, resilience, self-determination, and remarkable achievements. For 50 years Derbarl has delivered the best health outcomes for our people and it will continue to do so for the next half century no matter what circumstances we face.

Our success is a testament to the vision and hard work of many. Throughout the year, two celebratory events were held to honour our founding members, past directors, and staff, who laid the foundations for the proud Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation we are today. I take this opportunity to thank all sponsors for your kind sponsorship that made the events possible.

RACGP Recognition as the Best GP Service

Derbarl was also proud to be announced as the 2023 RACGP Best GP Service in Western Australia. The dedication, passion, and relentless pursuit of improving health outcomes for our community not only earned this prestigious recognition but has also set an inspiring standard.

The award is a testament to the unwavering commitment and the extraordinary impact our staff continue to make and reflects the incredible teamwork and vision that define our organisation.

Board Changes

The Board experienced a few changes in Directors. I acknowledge and thank outgoing Directors Donna Nelson and Rosalie Kickett for their valuable contributions during their terms of service.

Our Annual General Meeting voted for a strong representation of youth on the Board, as we welcomed Robert Morrison, Thierra Clanton, and Kaya Carson as Directors. Unfortunately, Robert Morrison resigned later in the year for health reasons.

Independent Directors Kingsley Burton and Kimberley Johnstone resigned in November and April, respectively. Recruitment to fill the Independent Specialist Director positions fielded a strong field of quality and experienced candidates. We welcomed Brian Roche and Paul Gregory, who joined the Board, and we are fortunate to have their extensive governance expertise and qualifications in legal and commerce to complement our skill-based Board.

A new Company Secretary position was established as a dedicated high level governance support to the Board, ensuring we continue to meet our legal and compliance obligations and strengthen good governance practice and systems. A key focus of the position is to support the Board in a rule book review with member engagement. We welcomed Kimberly Johnstone to the position in April.

Midland Clinic Project

In December, the site for our new Midland Clinic was purchased at 11 The Avenue. Consultation with key stakeholders was undertaken to inform the layout of the new clinic, a Project Manager was engaged and towards the latter part of the year, tenders were released to commence the construct of the Clinic. Our new Derbarl owned Midland clinic is scheduled to open in June 2025.

The Board also bolstered internal resourcing to focus on this project and other strategic priorities and supported the establishment of a new Strategic Executive position to support the Chief Executive Officer.

Governance and Risk Management

Eleven Board meetings and nine Sub-Committee meetings were held over the year. We continued to refine and strengthen governance policies and procedures to ensure compliance with regulations and to mitigate risk.

Following a select tender process, a strategic planning consultant was engaged and met with the Board, members, staff and other key stakeholders.

Consultation will inform the new Strategic Plan for Derbarl and will be finalised in the coming year.

Great member engagement is a priority of the Board, and more engagement activities will be locked in to meet more frequently with our members.

Derbarl continued to expand as an organisation, with more programs and services funded. Our income grew to \$26M including a record year in Medicare claiming. We achieved another healthy financial position with an operating surplus of \$328,052 and a net surplus of \$1,539,826.

"It has been an extraordinary and proud year for Derbarl. Our team have worked hard, building on past successes, advocating for our patients, developing more partnerships with health services, embedding new services and maintaining the delivery of culturally responsive and accessible health care."

Recognition of Derbarl's Leadership

I acknowledge all Directors on the Board. I particularly thank Professor Sandra Eades AO our Deputy Chair who is coming to the end of her term. We have been privileged to leverage Sandra's extensive expertise in Aboriginal health and governance and have her leadership and support over the past three years.

It has been an extraordinary and proud year for Derbarl. Our team have worked hard, building on past successes, advocating for our patients, developing more partnerships with health services, embedding new services and maintaining the delivery of culturally responsive and accessible health care. The success and growth of Derbarl and national and state recognition are a result of the extraordinary leadership of our CEO, Executive and all staff.

On behalf of the Board, we extend our thanks to Tracey and all of Team Derbarl for their commendable work and commitment to improving health outcomes for Aboriginal people on Wadjak, Noongar Boodjar.

Professor Dan McAullay
Chairperson



CEO'S REPORT



The 2023/2024 year marked a major milestone of fifty (50) years as a proud Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (ACCHO), celebrating the establishment of Western Australia's oldest and now biggest ACCHO in Perth.

We celebrated 50 years of our incredible organisation with a Community Event and Gala Dinner, honouring the legacy of our 10 Founders, 47 life members, 112 past and current Directors who have served their organisation and the dedication and commitment of our staff over five decades.

The celebratory events brought together staff, community, members and stakeholders in a celebration of our organisation's long history and acknowledged the hard work and dedication of our community who built the Perth Medical Service, now known as the Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service, into the organisation it is today. We also proudly published the history of Derbarl in a momentous 50th celebration booklet and banner, showcasing the health service from 1973 until now.

This booklet and banner gives recognition to all Directors who served Derbarl over 50 years and our life members and details the struggles and obstacles faced by our Boards in the beginning and our journey from our first site in Beaufort Street to the four clinics we operate today. It depicts pioneering activism, resilient leadership, growth and the story of never giving up. We commemorated our milestone year with a custom Derbarl 50 years staff shirt.

In our 50th anniversary year, the Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service was announced as the 2023 RACGP General Practice of the Year in Western Australia. It is remarkable that a service started 50 years ago by a group of volunteers in an old city building with disused equipment from Royal Perth Hospital has become the largest Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service in Western Australia and the best GP

Service in the state. The award acknowledges the Board's strong leadership and the compassion and commitment to cultural safety and clinical excellence of Team Derbarl.

Our GP Registrar, Dr Corey Dalton, was also named the RACGP's 2023 GP in Training. It is the second consecutive year that an Aboriginal doctor from the Derbarl medical team has won the award.

Each year brings new challenges and opportunities to Derbarl. The past 12 months have proven to be no exception. Our revenue grew by 15% from the prior year to \$26.23M, including a record year in Medicare income of \$5.3M.



"Our revenue grew by 15% from the prior year to \$26.23M, including a record year in Medicare income of \$5.3M."



The organisation achieved another surplus position, with a net result of \$1.54M, mostly attributed to recruitment challenges and receiving grant income towards the end of the financial year for roll-over to the next financial year.

Our People Services team managed an average of 20 position recruitments each month. Staffing expanded to 178 with a decline in the Aboriginal workforce from 57% the year prior to 51%. This is attributed to the growth in our paediatric service with the bolstering of allied health services. Despite this, we are proud to maintain five Aboriginal GPs and the largest Aboriginal Health Practitioner workforce in the sector (22).

In December, we finalised the purchase of a property for a new Derbarl owned Midland Clinic, thanks to a \$4.7M grant from the Albanese government. Extensive consultation was carried out on the clinic layout, with input from Midland staff, all clinical leads and the Aboriginal Staff Advisory Committee, harnessing the experience of existing clinics and cultural safety. The new property offers an increase in size of 538 square metres from the current clinic with ample space to provide expansive primary care services, including a dental clinic, social support and visiting services. Midland remained our second busiest clinic behind East Perth and continues to experience population growth in the region.

Derbarl continued to deliver comprehensive primary health care services to 8,272* regular patients, including 1,597 new patients and an additional 2,049 visiting patients. Over 88,000 client contacts and over 54,000 Episodes of Care were delivered in the 2023/2024 year.

**A data cleanse of our patient database accurately updated our regular patient caseload.*

Aboriginal population growth across Whadjuk Noongar Boodjar continues to present a real challenge to achieving 'Close the Gap' targets. We have continued to be strong advocates for funding equality and service access, continuously reminding funders and policy makers of the burden of disease and mental health challenges of our people in the Perth metro.

Cost-of-living pressures brought more Aboriginal patients to Derbarl, and while we welcomed more of our mob returning to their service, it did challenge our GP and clinical workforce. Derbarl continued our advocacy for accessible funding to rapidly scale-up investment in comprehensive community-controlled primary health care. We remain hopeful that the important work of NACCHO in developing a core services framework will recognise these challenges, and ensures services are funded to meet the provision of community need.

Despite these challenges, Derbarl continued to complete 5,122 Health Checks, a slight decrease from last year (5,329). We delivered more GP Management Plans (1,385), Team Care Arrangements (7,379) and Reviews (3,079) than last year.

We achieved a record year in Medicare income of \$5.3M, representing an increase of \$384K on the prior year. Our partnership with the RACGP Australian General Practice Training (AGPT) program was enhanced with four (4) General Practice Registrars joining our workforce.

Derbarl increased the provision of specialist services to our patients, delivering 1,861 specialist services to 1,167 patients. We welcomed three new specialist clinics to our suite of services.



With mental health the leading cause of burden of disease for our people aged 5-44 years, responding to the mental health and emotional and social well-being of our patients remained a priority. Our Social Emotional and Wellbeing (SEWB) services continue to be bolstered. The team delivered almost 1,500 occasions of service, including counselling services (202), social work (405), suicide prevention support (50), Elders Yarning (14), emergency food and other support (653). Over 90 Elders throughout the year attended the Elders Yarning Group. Targeted support was also provided to 109 of our clients sleeping rough with health care, and social support.



We were excited to receive funding under the NACCHO Elder Care Connect Program, to support our Elders in accessing their entitlement to Aged Care services. Our Family and Domestic Violence program was well embedded in our services, with a heavy case-load. New funding under negotiation will enable more place-based support to families in areas of need. Our Suicide Prevention Services worked collaboratively with service providers and advocated and supported over 40 patients and families. Suicide Prevention promotions had an expanded presence in community events, schools and other gatherings. We continue to advocate and respond to funding opportunities for psychologists to strengthen our SEWB services.

Derbarl continued to work with other Health Service Providers including tertiary services to optimise outcomes for our patients. We welcomed a renewed partnership with East Metro Health Service with the Moorditj Djena diabetes program. The Perth Metro Aboriginal Health Planning Forum was re-established with Derbarl and Moorditj Koort co-chairing the forum.

The delivery of dental services to our community continued to fall short of community demand, with 1,600 episodes of care clients receiving treatment. Derbarl presented to the Senate Selection Commission on delivery of Dentistry, highlighting the important work of the Derbarl Dental service and significant gap of accessible dental services for Aboriginal people in Perth.

Our Child and Maternal Health Service supported 140 mums and 69 bubs. Many of our high-risk antenates are referred to King Edward Hospital, with Derbarl

maintaining the coordination of cultural safety and wrap around supports. Our efforts to partner with King Edward Maternity Hospital are nearing completion and we anticipate a great sphere of cultural safety for our antenates, fewer interventions, procedures and neonatal admissions, and more healthy bubs.

Under the leadership of Dr Kim Issacs, we continued to expand our multi-disciplinary paediatric model of care to provide early diagnoses, treatment and interventions to our children and young people. Our Paeds Clinic delivered over 2,472 occasions of services to 300 children: with a 98% attendance rate. Despite the success of the program, our ongoing advocacy, and our submission to the Inquiry into Child Development Services in Western Australia, the service is operational on short term research, philanthropic and non-recurrent government funding.



"The service remains a strategic priority to provide early interventions for lifelong improvements to our children and young people's health development, quality of life and school readiness."

Our relationship with the Telethon Foundation grew, with Derbarl now in the top five recipients. The model was presented in national, state and research forums. The service remains a strategic priority to provide early interventions for lifelong improvements to our children and young people's health development, quality of life and school readiness.

We continued to support our people to access the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and were fortunate to receive a second Aboriginal Disability Support Worker in the second half of the year for our Paeds team. Over 250 clients were supported in accessing the NDIS this year and other specialist appointments.

Supporting the development of the Aboriginal health workforce remained a commitment. Over the year, over ninety (90) Aboriginal students across five (5) disciplines were supported. Most students continued to report high levels of satisfaction with their placement.

Derbarl continued to 'grow our own', with six staff receiving traineeships to complete accredited training courses. Courses included the Diploma in Frontline Practice Management, Certificate IV in Mental Health and Certificate IV in Aboriginal Primary Care Practice Health Practitioner. Providing staff with the opportunity to develop their skills and career remained a priority for Derbarl. Over 110 staff completed mandatory training and upskilling, and over 70 attended conferences and professional development related forums.

With continued growth in clinical services, an organisational restructure was carried out which saw a realignment of services and programs and two positions elevated to respond to patient and service demands and optimisation of patient outcome.

Derbarl maintained membership on national, state, local advisory groups, committees and working committees and participated in inter-agency collaboration on our shared commitments to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for the Aboriginal population across Perth metro. Our services continue to work collaboratively with WA Health on public health, improving childhood immunisations, communicable diseases and influenza.

Through AHCWA and NACCHO, Derbarl provided input into several national and state discussion papers and surveys.



We also presented before the Select Committee on the provision of and access to dental services in Australia.

We paused our negotiations with the Department of Justice on the Banksia Hill Youth Detention Centre to fully consult with other ACCHOs delivering justice health services. Towards the end of the year, we were working towards formulating our model and costings to re-engage in our commitment to provide culturally safe and timely primary health services for our children and young people in Banksia Hill. We amplified our advocacy for investment in early intervention to prevent our children and young people from entering the youth justice system.

Four of our staff received awards at the AHCWA state conference. I congratulate Uncle Arthur Prosser, for the conferral of the Elder award, Dr Kim Issacs' incredible work in our Paeds model was recognised as the Service Award winner and our Aboriginal Speech Pathologist, Mitchell Walley, took the youth award for achieving 98% attendance of his patients in our Paeds service.

Twenty-five staff members received service and staff awards at the end-of-year Derbarl Staff Summit. Staff were nominated by their peers, and the summit provided a great opportunity for staff to receive recognition for their contribution, service and achievements.

In December, we launched the inaugural Derbarl Aboriginal Cultural Framework. The framework was developed over many months through our Aboriginal Staff Advisory Committee with consultation and input from all staff. The Derbarl Reconciliation Action Plan received conditional endorsement from Reconciliation Australia. We thank the Western Australian Primary Health Alliance for the generous funding that supported these plans.

Derbarl engaged in 16 projects with research institutions for research in clinical care, health promotion, child health, disease prevention, and actions on the social and cultural determinants of health and wellbeing. A financially viable research model is under development to inform a manageable and efficient platform for Derbarl-partnered research. To support the administrative load in logistically supporting research and its governance, a Research Manager role will be included in the organisation plan for the coming year. Our Memory (Dementia) Clinic, a research study with Dementia Australia, received national recognition, with Derbarl recognised as the only ACCHO in the country running a service. With Aboriginal people experiencing dementia at a rate 3 to 5 times higher than the general population and more likely to develop dementia at a younger age we hope with our ongoing advocacy and support from our national peak, the outcomes of this will be translated into a sustainable model.

Significant improvements and staff training were invested in our Cyber Security Framework to enhance Derbarl cyber maturity, including adaptation of the Australian Cyber Security Centre (ACSC) Essential 8 framework and additional security introduced to identify and block third-party vendors, risky emails and authentication to support remote working arrangements. The framework is one of several compliance drivers behind an overall work program developed to improve Derbarl Cyber Security.

Aunty Jane Jones (Maddington Clinic Manager and RN) and Johnene Sariago (Dental Assistant) reached their 20-year service milestones with Derbarl. Their incredible service and commitment over two decades was recognised at the December Staff Summit.



Celebrating Aunty Jane Jones' service commitment to Derbarl at the Staff Summit.

The Uncle Arnold Yarning Circle became a reality, with an official opening in February. The yarning circle on the grounds of our East Perth Clinic is a vision of our Elder in Residence, Uncle Arnold Yarran. We have all seen over the years that Unc has been the accidental counsellor as mob come and yarn with him in the East Perth gardens.

He talked about this project for many years, and we were so proud to bring his dream to reality. The yarning circle provides a safe place for mob to gather to have yarns, to heal, to connect with each other, to share worries, to hear what's happening in Derbarl and to feel safe and culturally connected and supported. It has proved to be an empowering space to share stories, wisdom and laughter. We thank Unc for persevering with his vision.

Derbarl presented at over 30 conferences throughout the year to showcase our model and practices, governance and strategy. We continued to attract national recognition and were invited to present at national and state-funded conferences.

We were proud to receive national interest and recognition of our Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) program and outcomes. It has been a model that has emerged over the last four years and reached a level of impactful maturity. The ability to collect, analyse, share and use good quality data is pivotal to improving Aboriginal health, as is access to the evidence, tools and resources that inform and support high quality improvements to health care and health outcomes.

Our partnership with the University of Notre Dame in hosting medical students under supervision of a Senior GP and undertaking clinical audits in

areas of Derbarl identified priority areas has been a tremendous support in our ability to lead national improvements in comprehensive care, which reflects Derbarl experience as leader in the ACCHO sector.

Derbarl has engaged in almost 39 CQI projects with the key projects being Hepatitis B & C, Rheumatic Heart Disease, Kidney Transplant Workup, women's health – cancer screening. Derbarl was invited to present our model at over 12 conferences throughout the year, including the Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council of NSW and the NACCHO National CEO Forum.



The Derbarl team at the AHCWA State Conference.

After almost six years, we regained the Tackling Indigenous Smoking Program under a sub-contract from AHCWA, now known as the Derbarl Wugen Wal-Yan (Healthy Lungs) program. Throughout the year, the team achieved impressive outcomes, delivering the TIS message at 51 community events, smoking and vaping awareness to 43 school schools with 1,368 students participating, and developed five major social media campaigns with a reach of over 40,000. The team partnered with King Edward Memorial Hospital for Women with a fortnightly presence at the hospital.

The program sponsored the Barry Cameron Basketball, Nicki Winmar Football Carnival, Kirby Bentley Netball Carnival and Aboriginal Touch Football, providing naming rights to the program. The AFL Dreamtime game at Optus featured a Derbarl Wugen Wal-Yan promotional ad attracting a 1.32M viewership, and over 365,000 media views were received from our promotions at bus stops and shopping centres.

The Executive supported the Board's strategic leadership in the development of a new strategic plan. Extensive consultation with our members, key stakeholders and staff will position Derbarl to respond to member aspirations, new challenges and to take new opportunities in the ever-changing healthcare sector to strategically align Derbarl for the next five years. The plan will be finalised in the forthcoming year.

In the Work, Health and Safety sphere, Derbarl has seen a significant reduction in Worker's Compensation claims through improved safety and reporting. Claims in 2023 totalled \$530,000, and in 2024, this figure has dropped to \$38,000.

Our partnership with Jawun strengthened with three secondees delivering impactful work to assist in building our organisational capacity.

We acknowledge and are grateful for the pro-bono legal support received from King & Wood Mallesons. We thank them for their generosity.

Despite the many and varied challenges, Derbarl continued to work collectively to respond to the health and well-being needs of our people across Whadjuk Noongar Boodjar.

The commitment of Team Derbarl is integral to our achievements and all that we do at Derbarl for our patients, carers and community. Our ability to deliver and advocate for our patients and community and the extent of our influence is evidenced by our ongoing success in new services and more partnerships and being invited to be part of important working groups aimed to improve the health and wellbeing of our people. I acknowledge all our key partners and funders. I acknowledge AHCWA and NACCHO for their impeccable leadership, support, advocacy, and contributions.

I thank my Executive team and all 178 indefatigable staff who roll up their sleeves, day-in and day-out, on the foundations of cultural responsiveness to our patients, families and community across Whadjuk Noongar Boodjar. I also acknowledge the dedicated efforts of the Derbarl Board for their vision, guidance and leadership.

Tracey Brand
Chief Executive Officer



Derbarl staff with AFL player Son Son, modelling this year's 715 Health Check Shirts.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

2019 - 2024 Score Card

As we conclude the 2019-2024 Strategic Plan, it's important to reflect on our progress and accomplishments. This journey of continuous improvement has positioned Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service as a responsive and adaptable organisation, capable of navigating a changing landscape. The following report card summarises our performance against the goals and objectives outlined in the Strategic Plan.

GOAL 1	GOAL 2	GOAL 3
Protect, create and deliver keystone-holder value and benefits.	Achieve and sustain the leading edge on health and wellbeing impact and outcomes	Position Derbarl Yerrigan for long term success, knowledge, leadership and influence
<div>Surplus financial position</div> <div>Two Independent Board Directors maintained</div> <div>All Board of Directors positions filled</div> <div>Record MBS claims</div> <div>Capital refurbishments completed at all clinics</div> <div>East Perth Clinic Upgrade</div> <div>Annual client satisfaction surveys</div> <div>RACGP accreditation</div> <div>Mental Health standards accreditation</div> <div>Stability in Executive positions achieved</div> <div>Implemented new finance system</div> <div>Implemented new HR system</div>	<div>Exceeded Episodes of Care to 76,932</div> <div>Clients grown to 22,065 including visitors</div> <div>Clinical Governance framework development and operationalised</div> <div>Monthly Clinical Governance Meetings held</div> <div>Current and critical diagnoses investigations carried out</div> <div>Future site identified for service expansion</div> <div>Aboriginal Advisory Committee meetings held monthly</div> <div>Cultural Inductions embedded in onboarding</div> <div>Funding income expanded</div> <div>Quarterly Cultural awareness workshops held</div> <div>Cultural Governance Framework development and operationalised</div>	<div>Capacity to increase patient to over 15,000 patients achieved</div> <div>Funding secured to own a Midland Clinic</div> <div>Social media platform increase in followers to 1500</div> <div>Positions of Business Services Director, Medical Director, and Chief Finance Officer established</div> <div>Proposed Rule Book change to allow for membership outside Perth metro</div>
<div>Registration as a disability services under the NDIS</div> <div>ISO 9001: 2015 Quality Assurance Accreditation</div> <div>Vacant Board positions filled within six weeks</div>	<div>51% of the 70% Aboriginal employment target achieved</div> <div>Capital Investment Strategy</div>	<div>Development of a new website</div> <div>Patron position established</div> <div>Four Membership newsletters produced annually</div> <div>Three community engagement meetings held</div> <div>Comprehensive property strategy</div>
		<div>Achieved</div> <div>Progressing</div> <div>Outstanding</div>

HIGHLIGHTS

THE YEAR AT A GLANCE



RACGP WA GENERAL PRACTICE OF THE YEAR

Derbarl was immensely proud to be awarded the 2023 WA General Practice of the Year by the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP).

Our Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service was recognised for demonstrating excellence in patient care, safety and a commitment to the health and well-being of mob.

To add to the celebration, our GP Registrar, Dr Corey Dalton, was named the RACGP’s 2023 GP in Training. This is the second consecutive year that an Aboriginal doctor from Derbarl has won the award.

The RACGP awards came as we were preparing for our 50th anniversary as an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service.

Remarkably, a service started 50 years ago by a group of volunteers in an old city building with disused equipment from Royal Perth Hospital has become the largest Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service in Western Australia.

The Derbarl model is a holistic and integrated culturally responsive comprehensive primary health care model.



In addition to primary health care, Derbarl offers 14 visiting specialist services, environmental health, child and maternal health, health promotions, dental services and social and emotional well-being services, including suicide prevention programs and a family domestic violence support service.

Our strong multi-disciplinary focus empowers our patients to have autonomy and agency in their care.

Derbarl’s commitment to continuous improvement in patient outcomes through a robust clinical governance framework was also recognised.

Chairman Professor Dan McAullay said the dedication, passion, and relentless pursuit of improving health outcomes for our community has not only earned this prestigious recognition but has also set an inspiring standard.



Team Derbarl accepting the 2023 RACGP WA General Practice of the Year Award.

This accomplishment is a testament to the unwavering commitment and the extraordinary impact our staff continue to make. The Board are so proud of this recognition which reflects the incredible teamwork and vision that define our organisation.

Chief Executive Officer Tracey Brand said Derbarl was proud and grateful that the RACGP had recognised its model of care, which focuses on clinical excellence in a culturally secure setting.

These awards acknowledge our Board’s strong leadership and the dedicated Derbarl team’s compassion and commitment to cultural safety and clinical excellence.

RACGP ACCREDITATION

Earlier this year, Derbarl chose to renew and undergo their RACGP accreditation through the Australian General Practice Accreditation (AGPAL), which involved the practice team reviewing all systems and processes, prior to an independent assessment conducted by a team of AGPAL surveyors.



Dr Corey Dalton receiving the RACGP 2023 GP in Training Award.



CELEBRATING OUR 50 YEARS

It was a proud year for Western Australia's oldest, and now biggest, ACCHO in Perth as the Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service celebrated a major milestone of 50 years since our establishment as an incorporated health service.

We celebrated the golden anniversary of our incredible organisation with a Community Launch and Gala Dinner, honouring the legacy of our 10 Founders, 47 life members, 112 past and current Directors who have served their organisation, and the dedication and commitment of our staff over five decades. The celebratory events brought together staff, community, members and stakeholders in a celebration of our organisation's long history and acknowledged the hard work and dedication of our community who built the Perth Aboriginal Medical Service, now known as the Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service, into the organisation it is today.

We also proudly published the history of Derbarl in a momentous 50th celebration booklet and banner, showcasing the health service from 1973 until now.

This booklet and banner recognised all Directors who served Derbarl for over 50 years and our life members and details the struggles and obstacles faced by our Boards in the beginning and our journey from our first site in Beaufort Street to the four clinics we operate today.

At the time we were founded in 1973, the infant mortality for Aboriginal bubs was 120 to 1,000 live births, today we are 5.8 to 1,000. Life expectancy for Aboriginal men was 52 years and women 54, today our men are living to an average of 71.6 years and women 75.6 and while these are good improvements, there is still so much to be done to close the gap in health inequality.

The AMS opened its doors with a modest \$100,000 budget, today, we have an annual budget of \$25.M. Patient numbers grew from 800 patients in 1973 to over 8,000 in 1981, which doubled 9 years later to 16,000 patients in 1990 and today we have 19,230 patients. In 1976, patient numbers were rising to 600 a month with many first-time patients, today an average of 8,500 patients access care across Derbarl's 4 clinics every month.

Today, we have 88,000 patient contacts and provide over 54,000 episodes of care each year.

Looking back over 50 years, the service started with 5 staff including a Director, 1 AHP, 1 Project Officer, 1 Cleaner and 1 Social Worker – today we have 178 staff (138 FTE).

We are the country's largest ACCHO employer of Aboriginal Health Practitioners and one of the few health services with 5 Aboriginal doctors.

We continue to play a significant role in training Aboriginal health practitioners and medical students, including GP registrars. Over the last two years, our Aboriginal GPRs have won the GPR in Training Award for the State (Dr Corey and Dr Dan).

Our second largest clinic, Midland, was opened in 1998 and was forced to close in 2001 due to insufficient funding. It reopened in March 2003 and closed in October of the same year and in 2012 reopened again in new premises with more sustained funding. 10 years later, in 2022, Derbarl secured \$4.7M from the federal government to invest in a new, Derbarl owned, Midland Clinic.



Board Members Robert Morrison, Rosalie Kickett, CEO Tracey Brand, and former Board member and life member Aunty Dot Bagshaw at the 50th Anniversary Gala Dinner.

From humble beginnings that started with volunteers in a run-down old city building we have expanded to four clinics, 19,000 patients and become the oldest and largest Aboriginal community-controlled health service in Western Australia and one of the first in the country.

As we celebrated 50 years, the RACGP announced Derbarl as the best GP service in the state – it is a remarkable achievement.

Derbarl's 50-year journey is a tremendous example of an Aboriginal community-controlled health self-determinant organisation by which the Aboriginal community has taken Aboriginal health into Aboriginal hands and achieved great success.

This is what happens when Aboriginal people have a voice. Lives are saved and health improvements happen.

Derbarl's 50th Anniversary Gala Dinner

In November, over 250 guests attended the Derbarl 50 Year Anniversary Gala Dinner. The evening was attended by founders, past and current Directors and staff, patients, and key stakeholders.

We were fortunate to attract great sponsorship that made the event possible.



50th Anniversary Elders Luncheon

Team Derbarl assisted in making our community launch for our 50th anniversary, a momentous celebration for many of our founders, life members, past and current directors, members, patients and visitors. The work of the team truly defined the team Derbarl ethos.

At the launch in late September, we heard from one of Derbarl's first employees and Elder, Aunty Marian Kickett, Founding Member, Aunty Marie Bartlett and current CEO, Tracey Brand, the story of the Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service; spanning over half a century it is one of pioneering activism, leadership and growth and never giving up.

The room looked moortidj, the tucker was good. Aunty Marian Kickett welcomed guests to country, and keynote speeches were delivered by Professor Sandra Eades (AO) and Associate Professor Ted Wilkes (AO).

The Brothers band and Natasha Eldridge entertained, and there was plenty of dancing.

It was lovely to have so many Elders and past Director's attend. We are what we are because of them and their fight for self-determination and health services their way.



Celebrating 50 Years



Celebrating 50 Years



Celebrating 50 Years of 'Our Health, In Our Hands'



Celebrating 50 Years of 'Our Health, In Our Hands'



Celebrating 50 Years of 'Our Health, In Our Hands'



Celebrating 50 Years of 'Our Health, In Our Hands'





Honour Roll

The Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service honours the legacy and vision of our founding members, life members and past Board Directors that have paved the way and set the strong foundations and leadership of health care and advocacy for our people and community.

We also honour our current Board Directors who continue the legacy of providing strong leadership and direction.

Today, we are the largest Aboriginal Community Controlled Health service in Western Australia and a living embodiment of the vision and aspirations of all those on our honour roll.

We honour, remember, reflect, and respect those that came before us and led the way to where we are today.

Founding Members

President

Gloria Brennan ^(RIP)

Secretary

Marlene Chesson

Treasurer

William Carson

Chairman Medical

Executive Committee

Roger Dawkins

Council Member

Phillipa Cook

Council Member

Sue Broun

Council Member

Marie Bartlett

Council Member

Brian Wyatt ^(RIP)

Council Member

Iole Burkett ^(RIP)

Council Member

Sue Cooper

Life Members

Elizabeth Hanson MBE ^(RIP)

Phillippa Cook

Freda Ogilvie

Gloria Brennan ^(RIP)

Beth Woods

Florence Springs ^(RIP)

Rose Pell ^(RIP)

Jean Collard ^(RIP)

Robert Isaacs OAM JP

Minnie Van Leewin^(RIP)

Dr John Troy ^(RIP)

Dr Don Hicks ^(RIP)

Lorna Humes ^(RIP)

Francis Ward

Sister Marie Clements ^(RIP)

Father Brian Tiernan ^(RIP)

Sister Bernadine Daley ^(RIP)

Syd Blurton ^(RIP)

Dr Joan Winch ^(RIP)

Teresa Isaacs OAM

Dr Raji Krishnan

Richard Wilkes

Daniel Jackson ^(RIP)

Dean Collard

Marjorie Nelson ^(RIP)

Marian Kickett

Jack Davis ^(RIP)

May McGuire

Joan Isaacs ^(RIP)

Venis Collard

Roslyn Yarran ^(RIP)

Kathy Penny ^(RIP)

Shirley Lowden ^(RIP)

Arnold Franks ^(RIP)

Helena Pritchard ^(RIP)

Dorothy Winmar ^(RIP)

Dorothy Bagshaw

Dulcie Donaldson

Arthur Garlett

Shirley Garlett ^(RIP)

Denis Hayward ^(RIP)

Danny Jackson ^(RIP)

Beverley Ladyman

Irene Nannup ^(RIP)

Pearl Sathasivam

John Troy ^(RIP)

Arnold Yarran

Past & Current Directors

Abigail Harry

Barbara McGillivray

Barry Bartlett

Betty Dann

Brian Wyatt ^(RIP)

Bruce Loo

Charne Hayden

Colin Garlett

Professor Dan McAullay

Daniel Morrison

David Collard

David Dolman

Dean Collard

Deanne Lewis

Debra Bennell

Delphine Clark

Denis Hayward ^(RIP)

Dennis Eggington

Dianne Taylor ^(RIP)

Don Farmer ^(RIP)

Donna Nelson

Dora Parfitt

Doreen Nelson

Dorothy Bagshaw

Dorothy Henry

Dorothy Winmar ^(RIP)

Edward (Ted) Wilkes

Eileen Taylor ^(RIP)

Eric Hayward ^(RIP)

Fabian Yarran

Farley Garlett

Francine Eades

Fred Collard ^(RIP)

Gail Yarran

Gary Williams ^(RIP)

Geoff Harben

Geraldine Hayden

Glen Taylor

Gloria Brennan ^(RIP)

Gloria Walley ^(RIP)

Gningala Yarran-Clanton

Greg Ugle

Harry Thorne ^(RIP)

Helen Corbett

Helena Pritchard ^(RIP)

Iole Burkett ^(RIP)

Irene Stainton

Jackie Oakley

Jim Drayton ^(RIP)

John Penny

Joshua Collard

Joslyn Eades-Tass

Karen Glover

Kathleen Penny ^(RIP)

Kaya Carson

Kenneth Latham

Kerry Hunt

Kevin Cox

Kevin Fitzgerald

Kim Isaacs

Laurence Riley

Lesley Nelson

Lex Collard

Lillian Passmore ^(RIP)

Lorna Hume ^(RIP)

Lorna Lewis ^(RIP)

Lorraine Bellotti

Lorraine Morrison

Louise Tucker

Margaret Culbong ^(RIP)

Marian Kickett

Marie Bartlett

Marlene Jackamurra

Chesson

Marley Nelson

Maureen Colbung

May McGuire

Michelle Nelson-Cox

Miranda Farmer

Morris McGuire

Morton Hansen

Neville Collard

Patricia Bushby

Patricia Yarran ^(RIP)

Patricia Yarran

Patrick Smith

Peter Phillips

Peter Woods

Phillipa Cook

Professor Patricia Dudgeon

Reginald Yarran

Richard Wilkes

Robert Eggington

Robert Isaacs OAM JP

Robert Morrison

Robert Smith ^(RIP)

Robin Yarran ^(RIP)

Roger Turvey

Ron Villaflor

Rosalie Kickett

Roslyn Yarran ^(RIP)

Sandra Blurton

Sandra Collard

Professor Sandra Eades AO

Sharon Bushby ^(RIP)

Sheridan Walley

Sherma Ugle ^(RIP)

Sue Broun

Sue Cooper

Sylvia Nelson

Ted Hart ^(RIP)

Thierra Clanton

Venis Collard

Walter A McGuire Jnr

William Carson

Yvonne Axford

Cultural Governance

We are proud as the Co-Chairs of the Aboriginal Staff Advisory Committee (AAC) to provide this year's report.

The AAC met monthly with the Chief Executive Officer throughout the year to provide advice on cultural safety issues in Derbarl, a cultural lens and cultural clearance for new policy documents, publications, and business matters, and share local community feedback to maintain culture and ensure the Noongar values remain grounded in all that we do in Derbarl.

Key achievements for the Committee included:

- Providing the local cultural lens and leadership in the Cultural workshop to inform the development of Derbarl's inaugural Cultural Governance Framework. With funding provided from WAPHA, Derbarl procured the expertise of the Indigenous Allied Health Australia and had the IAHA CEO, Donna Murray, facilitate and challenge our thinking.
- Over almost six months, a few reiterations and staff consultation, the framework was finalised and launched at the December Staff Summit.



- The Derbarl Cultural Governance Framework aims to embed our lived culture as mob and our families and communities and recognises the layers of governance, embedding culture and cultural legitimacy across all Derbarl services and cascading decision-making. It validates cultural ways of working at Derbarl that values and aligns mutual accountability to meet the cultural needs and expectations of our mob and the way we care for our people and community. The AAC supported the CEO in providing the cultural leadership of embedding the Cultural Safety Framework into Derbarl everyday practice.
- AAC members facilitating cultural inductions for all new staff and ensuring full day, quarterly cultural awareness training sessions are attended by all new staff.
- Endorsed Kambarang Services Pty Ltd as the cultural awareness training provider.
- Endorsed Walbrininy as the Noongar name for the Family Safety Program and Wugen Wal-Yan for the Tackling Indigenous Smoking Program.

- Supported and monitored the construction of the Arnold Yarran Yarning Circle and engagement with Elders at the official opening in February.
- Recommended that all future Derbarl pre-recorded phone and telehealth messaging be done using Aboriginal talent.
- Maintained oversight in Derbarl's presence at community events of national and local importance, including Survival Day, Apology Day, Sorry Day, NAIDOC, and Reconciliation Week.
- Supported ongoing maintenance and upgrade of the East Perth Yorgas and Maamans gardens as a project in the next financial year.

The committee had many changes over the year which provided a renewal to cultural governance and some big losses with our respected Elder, Aunty Jane Jones resignation; Aunty Jane was one of our two respected Elders who served on the committee from its establishment and provided her wisdom and knowledge.

We acknowledge and thank our former departing members including past Chair, Cherylee Wallam, and retiring members, Aunty Jane Jones, Rebecca Woods and Toby Hayden for their contributions and service.

The Aboriginal Advisory Committee consists of Co-Chairs Martin Penny and Tricia Yarran and members, Uncle Arnold Yarran, Joanna Clinch, Cowan Bonson, Stephanie Blurton, Tyrone Brownly and Rikita Ryder.

Martin Penny & Tricia Yarran
Co-Chairs

Aboriginal Staff Advisory Committee and the CEO



Cherylee Wallam



Arnold Yarran



Jane Jones



Joanna Clinch



Steph Blurton

Back Row: Cowan Bonson, Corey Jacobs, Rikita Ryder
Front Row: Cameron Taylor, Tracey Brand, Tricia Yarran, Martin Penny



Over almost six months, a few reiterations and staff consultation, the framework was finalised and launched at the December Staff Summit.



CLINICAL

MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT



8,272

Regular Patients

2,049

Visiting Patients

14,433

Current Patients

5,107

Health Checks

1,597

New Patients

54,748

Episodes of Care

Derbarl's holistic and multidisciplinary model of care significantly grew over the 2023/2024 financial year. The collaboration between our Aboriginal Health Practitioners (AHPs), General Practitioners, Nurses, Allied Health and Visiting specialists has led to improvements in the health outcomes of Aboriginal people living on or visiting Whadjuk Noongar Boodja. Derbarl's clinics, under the leadership of our exceptional clinic managers, have continued to provide evidence-based and culturally appropriate care to our patients.

This year, Derbarl achieved accreditation for the first time against the National Standards for Mental Health Care as well as re-accreditation with the Australian General Practice Accreditation (AGPAL). Derbarl became the first Aboriginal Community Health Service to win the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) prize for the General Practice of the year for General Practice. This award recognises the extraordinary work of Derbarl GPs, Aboriginal Health Practitioners, Nurses, receptionists and allied health staff in delivering excellence in clinical services.

Derbarl's work to support the Community during the COVID outbreak was also recognised as we were awarded the WA Community Services Award.

Dr Corey Dalton won the National Prize for 'GP REGISTRAR of the YEAR', in recognition of his outstanding commitment to our patients, and Derbarl's commitment to teaching and training.

Derbarl's work in improving clinical governance and Clinical Quality Improvement (CQI) initiatives has been nationally and internationally recognised. A strong clinical governance framework, as well as the established CQI committee, has led to tangible improvements in health outcomes.



GP Registrar of the Year, Dr Corey Dalton, with Derbarl Elder Aunty Jane Jones.

Through the CQI process, 83% of Derbarl’s patients with Hepatitis C have been cured which is the highest rate of any primary care clinic in the country. Derbarl’s syphilis point of care program and registry has meant that 100% of our patients have been treated for infectious syphilis leading to the prevention of the terrible condition known as congenital syphilis. Derbarl is currently committed to 39 clinical quality improvement activities.

Derbarl has been involved in more than 16 active research projects in the last Financial Year. These projects have included partnerships with Telethon Kids, Curtin University, the University of Melbourne, and the University of WA.

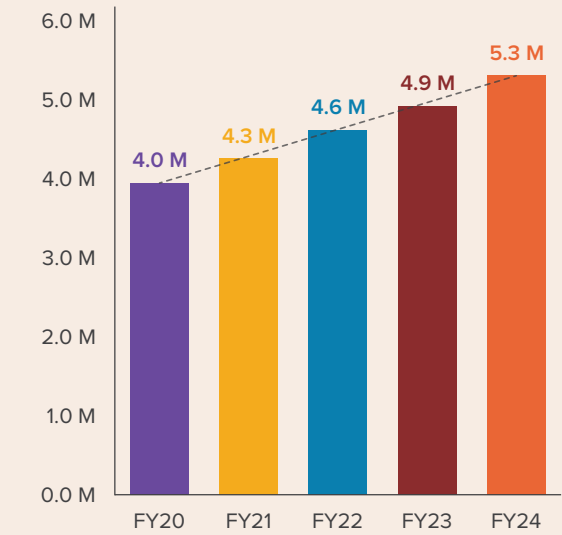
Derbarl is committed to ensuring all research aligns with the organisation's strategic goals, and has a service delivery arm, and translational findings into practice.

Derbarl has seen a rapid expansion of its visiting specialists including adult and paediatric dermatology, developmental paediatrics, gynaecology and general paediatrics.

The Social and Emotional Wellbeing team has grown significantly with the establishment of a family and domestic violence program, suicide prevention and aftercare, and ongoing counselling.

Derbarl’s growing paediatric model of care has enabled more than 300 children to access holistic and culturally safe services improving the health outcomes of children.

Our Medicare Trajectory by Financial Year



Derbarl's revenue has grown by 35% over the last 5 years

"Through the CQI process, 83% of Derbarl’s patients with Hepatitis C have been cured which is the highest rate of any primary care clinic in the country."

The maternal and child health team has been firmly re-established with the recruitment of more midwives and child health nurses ensuring our mums and bubs are cared for.

Derbarl’s holistic model of care now includes an Elder’s Connect team, an expanded health promotions team and a Tackling Indigenous Smoking program. Derbarl is seeking to expand its environmental health program to address rising rates of rheumatic heart disease and acute post streptococcal glomerulonephritis.

Derbarl’s transport drivers continue to remain busy ensuring our patients have access to their appointments at clinics, specialists and hospitals. The Aboriginal Liaison Officers assist clients with chronic disease discharged from hospital to ensure they receive the care needed for 6-8 weeks post discharge. Derbarl’s cleaners have done an exceptional job in improving environmental cleaning, with a complete review of products used and the highest level of infection control to keep our patients and staff safe.

It has been a privilege working at Derbarl Yerrigan in it’s 50th year, and being a part of a growing model of care which is improving the health and well being of Aboriginal people living on Whadjuk Noongar Boodja. Personal thanks go to our CEO, Tracey Brand, for her tireless advocacy and leadership, members of the executive team and the clinical services team.

Dr Richelle Douglas
Medical Director

Maternal and Child Health Team

The Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Team welcomed a new Coordinator, who together with our midwife have supported over 65 women with antenatal education in the last 6 months.

These services include providing support at home at the 2-week post-natal period to assist with feeding issues, checking baby weight gain, supporting post-natal mental health issues and providing many other supports for the family. Additional support involved liaising with tertiary hospitals to assist our mothers attend critical appointments, bloods, and urgent ultrasounds.

Feedback received from our families include stories of our mums feeling safe, listened to, not feeling judged and feeling respected with their choices. Our MCH team have assisted our GPs to provide wrap-around support through attending home visits. An important milestone is the increase in immunisation rates in the 6-8 week age group by recalling mums for their 6 week post-natal check. Looking into the future, the team hope to coordinate playgroups for pregnant mothers to network, yarn and create lifelong friendships.

"Feedback received from our families include stories of our mums feeling safe, listened to, not feeling judged and feeling respected with their choices."



65

Women provided with antenatal support (over the past six months)

Paediatric Team

Over the past year we have expanded our Paediatric service. Due to the generous philanthropic funding for the program, there has been a rapid expansion in service delivery over the past 12 months, resulting in the addition of a Coordinator role.

Additional services include the commencement of a Speech and Occupational Therapy service, staffed by two Speech and two Occupational Therapists. Other new roles created have included an Allied Health Coordinator, Ear Health Coordinator, Aboriginal Disability Liaison Officer, Paediatric Social Worker, Clinical Psychologist, Administration Support Worker and General Practitioner, who now all work alongside our two Paediatricians to provide a holistic service. Over the past 12 months our Paediatrician service, operating 1.5 days per week, have case managed 229 children. Our attendance rates for our Paediatric clinics continue to be outstanding with the past 6 months showing an attendance rate of 93%.

These tremendous achievements are due to the great team work our staff have by collaborating closely with our families and ensuring we provide a comprehensive culturally safe case management model. Our Paediatrics team integrates with the GP clinic to address various health issues, ensuring referrals are coordinated on the same day as the child's appointment and completed in a timely manner.



Derbarl Paediatric Model, graphic courtesy of Will Bessen of Tuna Blue.

229

Cases

93%

Attendance rate
(over the past six months)



Paediatric Allied Health Team

Our new Allied Health Coordinator has led Derbarl's Paediatric Allied Health Team to provide support for our clients to access services.

In the last 6 months, the team have supported 25 paediatric clients to gain access into the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), with many applications in various stages of the process. In the last 3 months, our multidisciplinary team have completed a small number of in-house, culturally safe Autism assessments for older kids. Due to waitlists, external services providing the same assessments may take years to reach a diagnosis. This service has also assisted our young people, particularly those who may have fallen through the cracks. The assessment, reporting and feedback processes has been incredibly well received by families, clinical services and external providers.

On a fortnightly basis, an under-8s drop-in Speech & Occupational Therapy group has been in operation, which has been positively received by families and well attended.

These fantastic results would not have been achieved without the support of our funders that have assisted us to continue our journey, and the team's hard work in designing and improving our Paediatric and MCH Program.

NDIS Support

With our people almost twice as likely as non-Aboriginal people to have a disability and our children 2.5 times more likely than other children, with funding provided from NACCHO, Derbarl continued to support our patients and provide advocacy. Our Aboriginal Disability Liaison Officers assisted 69 adult patients and 250 children with disabilities to navigate the National Disability Insurance Scheme and provided the cultural interface to support patient maintain engagement with services. The team also assisted just over 200 patients attend appointments and specialist referrals.



Other Programs

Needle and Syringe Program

Derbarl is the only ACCHO in the State which offers a Needle and Syringe Program to ensure harm minimisation for people using intravenous drugs, reducing the chance of transmission of blood borne viruses including Hepatitis C. Derbarl will be implementing new technology to improve record keeping and data collection. Across our clinics, 925 fit packs were provided.

Sexual & Reproductive Health

The Sexual Health team act as a resource to support Derbarl staff with sexual health information and resources, as well as enabling the recall of clients to administer treatments.

The team implements the syphilis point of care testing and participates in regular meetings with syphilis outbreak response groups.

During the previous year, 310 syphilis point of care tests were conducted. Derbarl's staff collaborate with a wide range of services, including the Syphilis Metro Response team/Metro Communicable Disease Control, Flinders Syphilis Point of Care Testing team, NACCHO, AHCWA, Syphilis In Pregnancy and homelessness working groups.

The Sexual Health team continues to provide opportunistic HPV screening to increase patient participation in the National Cervical Screening Program. In addition, self-collected cervical screening has been well-promoted with the Derbarl clinicians.

The Sexual Health team have presented at numerous conferences where they have showcased Derbarl's successes in tackling syphilis and Hepatitis C to key health stakeholders at the WA Health Department Quarterly STI/BBV forum, NACCHO conference, ASHM – Curing Hepatitis C in Primary Care and the AHCWA state conference.

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL WELLBEING SERVICES

Social and Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB) is all about looking after the whole self, not just the mind, but the heart, spirit, and how to stay connected to culture and community.

The SEWB team’s efforts have supported the community in their social and emotional wellbeing. The team have expanded our stakeholder partnerships with local organisations to strengthen service networks and support systems for clients.

The SEWB team is made up of:

Suicide Prevention and Aftercare Team (Culture Care Connect)

The Suicide Prevention and Aftercare Team delivered 50 interventions under the Culture Care Connect programme, reducing immediate risk and providing follow-up care. 14 Elders Yarning groups were facilitated by Culture Care Connect, providing a space for cultural exchange and support.

Family Domestic and Sexual Violence Team (Walbrininy)

The Family Domestic and Sexual Violence Team managed 186 counselling and case management clients, providing crisis intervention, counselling, and safety planning for families and individuals.

Counselling Team

The Counselling Team received 202 referrals, addressing a wide range of mental health issues through individual and group counselling sessions. Additionally, 85% of clients reported significant improvements in their mental health and overall wellbeing after counselling.

Community Liaison Officers

Community Liaison Officers conducted 41 outreach events (North and South of the river), significantly increasing community awareness and engagement with SEWB services.

Social Worker

The Social Worker managed 405 clients, providing comprehensive support including housing, financial aid, and access to additional services.

SEWB Client Engagement Officer

280 food boxes and 373 food vouchers were distributed to individuals and families through the SEWB Client Engagement Officer and Social Worker. This distribution ensured that basic needs were met, alleviating immediate pressures on families and individuals in crisis.

This year the SEWB team was challenged to meet an increased demand for services. Some programs face barriers to uptake where there is ongoing stigma within the community, such as the Family Domestic and Sexual Violence Team; highlighting the need for continued education and awareness campaigns.

To ensure longevity and to meet future demands, Derbarl continues to advocate to secure sustainable funding to address the social determinants of health.



Our Elders Yorgas Yarning Group making wreaths for mob.



405

Social Work Cases

280 Food Boxes
373 Food Vouchers



202

Counselling Referrals

85% Improvement
in Mental Health &
Wellbeing



186

Counselling and Case
Management Clients



50

Self-Harm
Interventions

14 Elders Yarning Groups



Djeran Dodgeball event during the school holidays.



41

Outreach
Events



Cancer Support Group yarn while engaging in activities.

500

Hours of Professional
Development



Elder Care Support

Our new Elder Care Support Program is a holistic approach to improving aged care services for our Elders. The program focused on supporting Elders engage with the aged care system, and helps Elders and their families understand, navigate and access the services they are eligible for.

In May, the small team of three achieved 41 connections with Elders through in-person appointments, phone consultations and home visits. We are continuing to expand the team due to the demand of the services.

A Yarning Circle was held, featuring direct information from service providers across the aged care sector and allowed Elders to directly yarn with the support workers about their needs.

Along with professional development, the team attended the NACCHO Elder Care Support Conference on the Gold Coast, which allowed networking with other similar programs across the country.



Arnold Yarran Yarning Circle

The Arnold Yarran Yarning Circle opened in February, receiving much use over this year and becoming an integral space for the Elder's Yarning Group, patients and community. The project was envisioned by Uncle Arnold seven years ago after seeing a yarning circle in Northam. He advocated for it for many years before the project was undertaken. Unc has acted as an accidental counsellor to many mob who have come to yarn with him in the East Perth gardens.

The Yarning Circle provides a safe place for mob to gather to have yarns, to heal, connect with each other, share worries, and hear what's happening in Derbarl. It makes sure patients can feel culturally connected and supported.

Derbarl is grateful for Unc for persevering with his vision. It has proven to be an empowering space for the sharing stories, wisdom and laughter.



HEALTH PROMOTIONS

Derbarl's health promotion ensures that the community is engaged with timely information and advice regarding health and lifestyle activities.

The team has been active across the community, representing Derbarl's services and yarning with mob. This is supported by regular promotions at community events and health messages posted on our social platforms.

Some highlights of the year included the many NAIDOC community events across the week.



Birak Concert
Held on 26 January, the Birak Concert, featured music, dance and art and lived up to its name as WA's premier celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.



RU OK Day
The teams attended Ballajura College, it was a great opportunity to promote health to our youth, who engaged well with not just Derbarl but other services that attended.



Immunisation Week
Run in collaboration with the Maternal Child Health Team, the promotion provided sensory activities, a colouring station, and healthy snacks making the experience of immunisation less scary.



Midland NAIDOC
A fantastic event to yarn with the community on Derbarl programs and services.



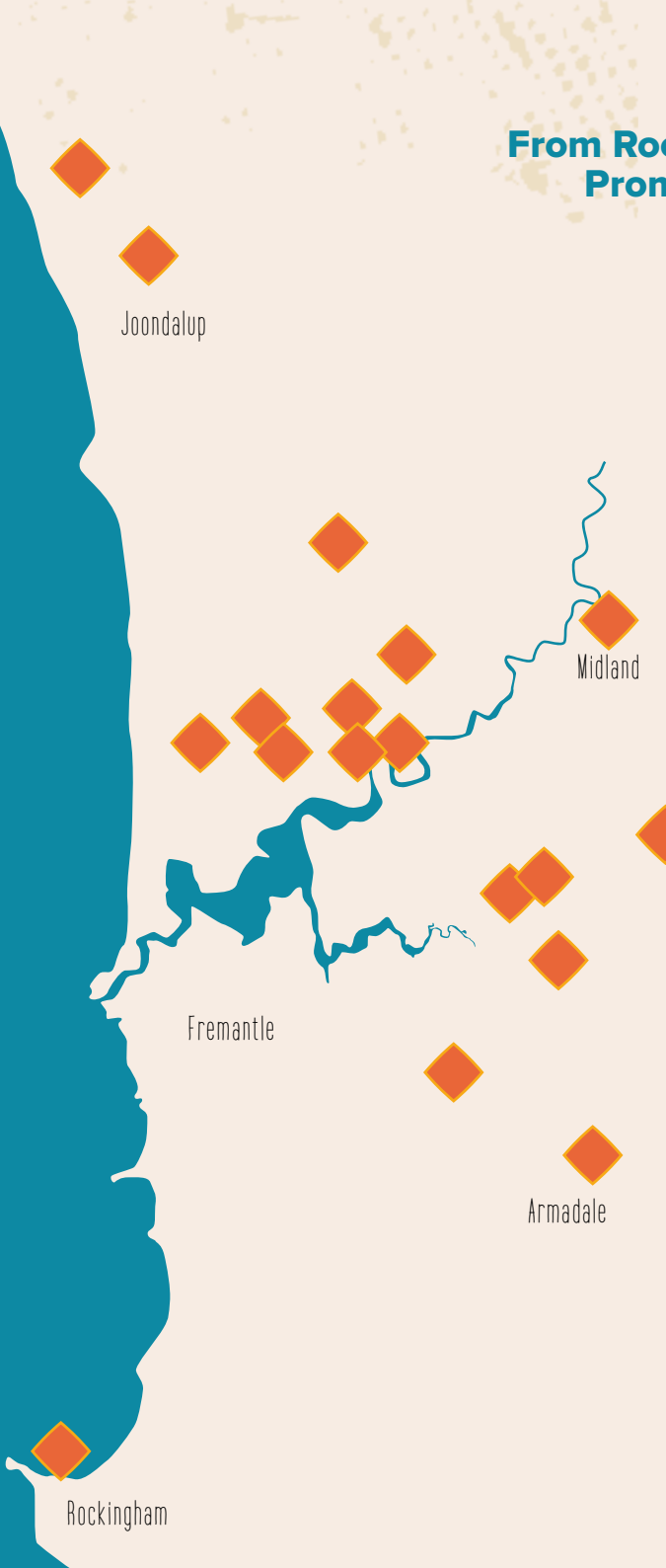
Sorry Day
Derbarl partnered with Yorgum to host a Sorry Day event for our Stolen Generation members and their families.



Nicky Winmar Cup and Kirby Bentley Cup
The event, held at UWA Sports Park had roughly 300 people in attendance. Youth engagement was high and education was delivered through fun activities, competitions and prizes.



World No Tobacco Day
The TIS Team organised a day of activities, including an obstacle course run. The kids had a lot of fun, and engaged with the TIS and Derbarl Health Promotions messages.



From Rockingham to Joondalup, the Derbarl Health Promotions team had a presence at community engagement events across the metro area.

- July**
2nd NAIDOC Event Perth
17th Apple Study with Telethon Kids Institute
28th Research Project Workshop
31st Mirrabooka NAIDOC Event

August
4th National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Childrens Day
7th Dental Week Campaign
8th Apple Study Meeting Telethon Kids Research
9th International Day of the World's Indigenous People
11th Red Nose Day
16th Chronic Wet Cough Promotion, Langford Aboriginal Association
17th Chronic Wet Cough Promotion, Warripaendi Primary School Parent Playgroup
21st Hampton SHS Opening of 6 Seasons Garden Ceremony
21st NAIDOC Assembly at Hampton Senior High School
22nd Belmont City College Expo
23rd Health Information Day at Hampton SHS
30th HP Info Day at SMYL College Rockingham

September
21st Kaat Koort event

October
3rd Midland Naidoc Event
6th Odd Sock Day
13th Nicky Winmar – Kirby Bentley Cup
23rd-27th Breast Cancer WA Screening Bus

November
2nd St John of God Midland Smoking Ceremony

January
12th-14th Barry Cameron Basketball Carnival
24th CLO Event, Clarkson Hub
26th Birak/Survival Day
- February**
2nd Red Feb
12th-18th Sexual Health Week & Melaleuca Women's Prison Visit
16th-18th WA Baseball Indigenous Round

March
3rd Clean Up Australia Day in Wellington Square
8th International Women's Day & Breast Screen WA Anniversary Event
22nd King Edward Memorial Hospital for Women
21st St John Of God Midland Close the Gap Day

April
4th Tranby Centre Northbridge Health Information Session
24th- 30th World Immunisation Week

May
2nd Tranby Centre
6th- 12th Heart Week
7th School Visit at St Brigid's Grammar
16th Sorry Day Event
20th Grief & Loss Group Event at King's Park
23rd Elders Yarning Group
24th Welcome Baby to Country, Champion Centre Armadale
27th- 3rd National Reconciliation Week, Walk for Reconciliation
31st World No Tobacco Day

June
1st- 30th Men's Health Month Yarning Group
18th Women's Health & Wellbeing Event
19th Red Apple Day / Bowel Cancer Awareness Day
24th Beckenham Primary School NAIDOC Morning Tea

Environmental Health

The Environmental Health program works within the multi-disciplinary team setting, and ensures delivery of holistic and culturally responsive care to community.

Our Environmental Health program aims to support our patients maintain good health and wellbeing, live in healthy homes and prevent communicable and chronic health conditions.

The personal living spaces are reviewed for physical, chemical, and biological risks with the Environmental Health Officer, implementing corrective measure conducive to improving health and wellbeing outcomes. The focus areas within the home are generally communal, wet, and food preparation areas, with an additional focus on ensuring that bathrooms are safe to use.

The assessment provides education about healthy



160

Patients supported
(including 36 families)

“Our Environmental Health program aims to support our patients maintain good health and wellbeing, live in healthy homes and prevent communicable and chronic health conditions.”

living within the home. The service works closely with our Clinical and Social Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB) team. Community education and yarning groups are run in collaboration with the SEWB team, Maternal and Child Health team and Health Promotions team promoting initiatives such as;

- Annual Influenza Vaccinations
- Tackling Indigenous Smoking and promoting no smoking in homes
- Promoting infection control practices to prevent COVID-19
- Supporting families to get their homes treated for infestations



Wugen Wal-Yan
Tackling Indigenous Smoking

After almost six years, we regained the Tackling Indigenous Smoking (TIS) program under a sub-contract from AHCWA. The program was badged as the Derbarl Wungen Wal-Yan (Healthy Lungs) program. Throughout the year the team achieved impressive outcomes delivering the TIS message at 51 community events, smoking and vaping awareness to 43 school schools with 1,368 students participating, developed five major social media campaigns with a reach of over 40,000.

The team partnered with King Edward Memorial Hospital for Women with a fortnightly presence at the hospital. The program sponsored the Barry Cameron Basketball, Nicki Winmar Football Carnival, Kirby Bentley Netball Carnival and Aboriginal Touch Football providing naming rights to the program. The AFL Dreamtime game at Optus featured a Derbarl Wugen Wal-Yan promotional ad attracting a 1.32M viewership, and over 365,000 media views were received from our promotions at bus stops and shopping centres.

“The focus of the Tackling Indigenous Smoking program is on improving exposure and engagement with communities to reduce smoking uptake and rates including vaping and e-cigarettes.”



5
Facebook Ad campaigns

40,589
Ad Campaign reach

26,695
Organic Facebook Reach

3
Spotify Ads

256,127
People reached

365,000
Reach through Ooh Media
(Bus stop, shopping Centre)



8.1 MILLION

saw TIS Advertising on the AFL

43
Schools Visited

51
Events

1,368
Students

4,765
Stall visitors

689
Indigenous students

1,235
Indigenous stall visitors

6,133
Total TIS Reach

1,924
Indigenous reach

DENTAL SERVICES

1,210 Dental Exams	802 Teeth Extracted
850+ Emergency Appointments	776 Fillings (teeth restored)
880+ Non-Emergency Appointments	45 Full dentures made
222 Clients referred to GP	50 Partial dentures made

Derbarl's Dental services continue to operate and remains one of the only services in Western Australia to provide comprehensive dental care that is accessible and culturally appropriate for Aboriginal people. The Dental Clinic aims to provide comprehensive dental care to Aboriginal people aged 13 years and above.

Patients who are regular clients of Derbarl or undergo their Aboriginal Health Check by a GP, are able to access the Dental services. This ensures that all aspects of a client's health are reviewed, providing a holistic approach to health care.

Services provided by the Derbarl Dental Services include:

- Emergency Treatment
- Scale and Cleans
- Fillings (restorations)
- Root Canal Therapy
- Extractions
- Dentures
- Crown and Bridgework
- Mouthguards

Service improvement to the dental area over this year have seen the purchase of a second autoclave to enable faster sterilisation of equipment, and therefore improving patient wait time. In addition, the acquisition of Piezoelectric surgery equipment will expand the range of treatments available with a less invasive approach.

Derbarl is engaged with the UWA Dental School, to negotiate for additional specialist service delivery. The dental team participated in a hearing of the Senate Select Commission on delivery of dentistry in Australia, highlighting the need for dedicated dental services across Aboriginal Health Organisations.



CLINICAL GOVERNANCE & QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

Derbarl integrated Clinical Quality Improvement (CQI) initiatives into our model of care, which has enabled increased audit completion rates and clarity of management processes.

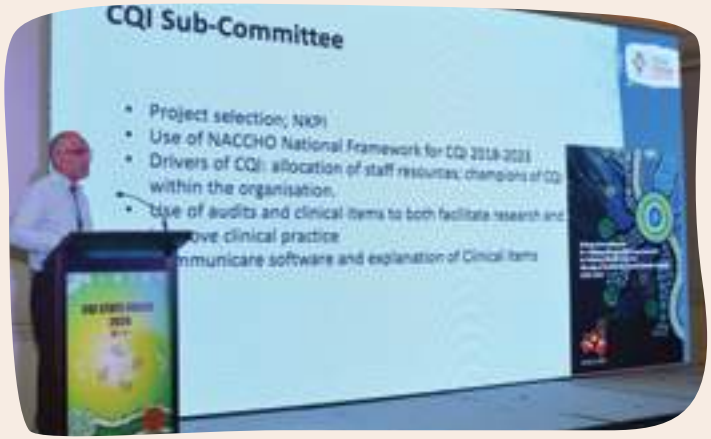
The program continues to be enhanced with the development of clinical audit programs and CQI initiatives. We were proud to receive national interest and recognition of our CQI program and outcomes. It has been a model that has emerged over the last four years and reached a level of impactful maturity. The ability to collect, analyse, share and use good quality data is pivotal to improving Aboriginal health, as is access to the evidence, tools and resources that inform and support high-quality improvements to health care and health outcomes. Our partnership with the University of Notre Dame in hosting medical students under the supervision of a Senior GP and undertaking clinical audits in areas identified.

Derbarl was invited to present our model at over 12 conferences throughout the year, including the Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council of NSW and the NACCHO National CEO Forum.

Derbarl is proudly leading the country in the management of patients with Hepatitis C, with 70.5% clearance rate of patients who commenced treatments along with having the highest treatment rate of Hepatitis C in a primary care setting in the country.

Key CQI Projects this reporting year included:

- Hepatitis B & C,
- Rheumatic Heart Disease,
- Kidney transplant Workup and
- Women's health – cancer screening.



Visiting Specialists

- Cardiologist
- Endocrinologist

Through external funding Derbarl is able to partner with specialists to deliver specialist clinics at East Perth. The attendance rate is greater than 80% when patients come to Derbarl for these services.

- Gastroenterologist
- Gynaecology
- Developmental Paediatrics
- Optometrist
- Audiology
- Allied Health Services
- ENT
- Adult and Child
- Dermatology
- Dementia Clinic
- Geriatric
- Psychiatrist
- Renal Physician
- Respiratory Physician





BUSINESS SERVICES

BUSINESS SERVICES DIRECTOR'S REPORT



Over the past year, the Business Services team has embarked on a journey to establish a solid operational foundation while setting ambitious goals to enhance support functions and service delivery.

We have identified key areas for improvement and streamlining of processes, all aligned with our strategic objectives. By thoroughly understanding our starting point, we are better equipped to measure progress.

One of our strategic priorities has been the enhancement of our emergency response capabilities. In today's unpredictable environment, it is crucial that we are prepared to respond swiftly and effectively to any crisis. Our team reviewed protocols to ensure that we are ready to protect our organisation and serve the Derbarl community in times of need.

The safety and security of our staff have also been paramount. We are introducing comprehensive safety measures and fostering a culture of vigilance and care.

As per our commitment to staff well-being, we continue to seek innovative ways to create a safe and supportive work environment. Risk management and governance have been strengthened through the Finance Risk and Audit Committee. This body plays a critical role in overseeing our risk mitigation strategies and governance frameworks, providing robust oversight and guidance.

"As per our commitment to staff well-being, we continue to seek innovative ways to create a safe and supportive work environment."

In pursuit of business improvement, we have adopted a continuous improvement mindset, using data-driven insights to optimise our operations. By embracing technology and best practices, we are driving efficiency and enhancing the quality of our business support services. The forthcoming year offers an exciting time to consolidate and enhance our business services to optimise Derbarl's health service delivery.

Damian Lambert
Business Services Director

Assets and Facilities

The Assets and Facilities team have focused on delivering improved maintenance scheduling and response to requests for support. In addition, the team have managed larger scale infrastructure projects across Derbarl's sites.

One significant project was the office refurbishment in the west wing of the East Perth clinic for the SEWB team. This required the installation of walls and partitioning along with the reconfiguration of power and services. The project was completed with minimal impact to clinical operations. The work has modernised the office space, which is further improved by the installation of ergonomic tables and chairs, thereby enhancing the health and safety of our staff whilst enabling full utilisation of the space.

The other major project addressed the flooding that was impacting the patient entrance at the East Perth Clinic. The flooding extended beyond the vicinity of Uncle Arnold's yarnning circle and was particularly extensive after heavy rains, often resulting in large dangerous puddles. This work required the installation of channel drainage to the two-foot paths with surface water causing the flooding to be directed into the garden beds supporting an environmentally friendly solution. The completion of this project has eliminated the risk of slipping and tripping hazards to our clients and members of staff.

The team are continuing to improve maintenance response times and provide more permanent solutions to some of our longer term and repeat building faults such as air conditioning and roof leakages.

Social Media and Communications

Derbarl's digital platforms have seen significant growth in engagement with stakeholders over the past year. Social media continues to play a large role in communicating key messages and information to patients and community. Over the year, our Facebook has seen an expansion in the number of people reached with organic growth achieving 298%. This result has occurred through followers sharing, liking and commenting on Derbarl posts.

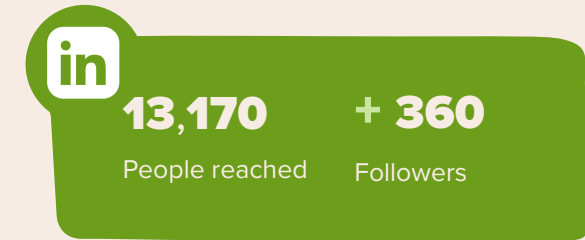
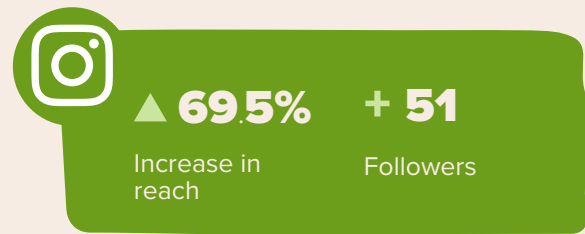
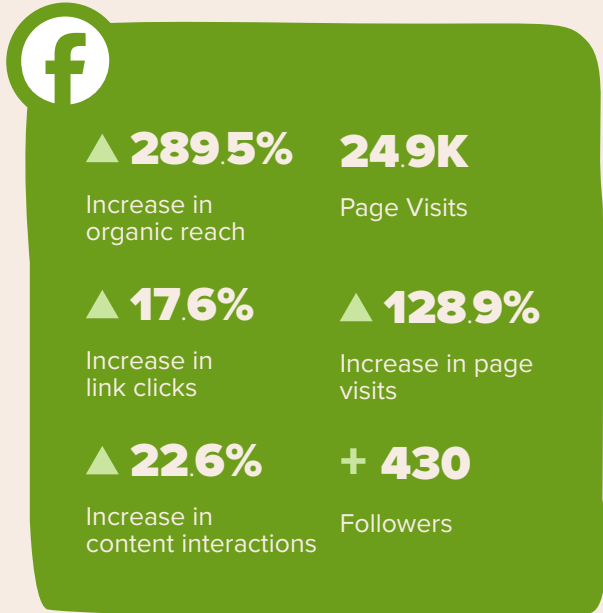
While Facebook remains the centre of Derbarl's socials, our more recently established Instagram saw growth of 51 followers. Instagram's users skew younger than Facebook's, making it an important platform to grow our engagement and reach into a different demographic.

This means that important health information is reaching more people and supporting our staff recruitment efforts.

Derbarl's presence online will continue to solidify with the ongoing refresh and further development of the website. This will include the introduction of additional video content to effectively communicate promotions and easier to navigate pages to locate key information efficiently.



Derbarl 715 Health Check Shirt Campaign
Launched with a message from Dockers' player Son Son.



Information Technology

Cyber threats continue to be a proliferation within the healthcare sector and remains the prime target for cybercriminals seeking to exploit and monetise patient data. Developing, maintaining and fortifying a cyber security posture for Derbarl is a business imperative. To safeguard our data and assets against cyber threats and uphold stringent regulatory compliance, Derbarl conducted significant upgrades to internal Information and Communications Technology (ICT) systems in line with the Australian Cyber Security Centre (ACSC) Essential 8 framework.

This strategic direction in our ICT has enhanced our threat detection capabilities, will expedite incident response, cultivate a pervasive culture of cyber security awareness, and implement a Security Operations Centre (SOC) to provide real-time monitoring and defence against cyber threats.

Derbarl is engaging in three major project milestones which are underway over the next 6-12 months: implementing the Essential 8 Cyber Controls, transitioning our cyber support to Lindentech's Ultimate Cyber Service Protection, and rolling out cyber awareness training and phishing campaigns to bolster user knowledge and understanding of online fraud and scams.

Integral to our cyber security is managing our ICT hardware and related assets. Outdated hardware and technical debt can lead to inefficiencies, increased risk of failures, and vulnerabilities that compromise security. To ensure our IT infrastructure and hardware are refreshed and patched regularly to maintain optimal security and performance, Derbarl is reviewing our core ICT infrastructure such as user

Workstations, Cisco switches, desk phones, and mobile handsets. Significant progress has occurred in the modernisation of our back end obsolete hardware and progress is continuing on identifying solutions for our end user workstations. The ICT team are actively auditing existing hardware and orchestrating a phased replacement strategy ready for Derbarl's future ICT requirements.

To support Derbarl's RACGP accreditation the SharePoint Project was commenced in the previous financial year as the first phase to establish an effective collaboration and robust document management system. Scoping works under the second phase of this project have been progressed to further optimise document management processes, enhance team collaboration, and ensure secure access to organisational information.

Further work will progress in the 2024-25 financial year beyond the existing initial development phase to incorporate workflows during the second phase and additional comprehensive user training sessions across the third phase of the project.



Health, Safety and Security

Our commitment to employee health and safety remained a top priority, reflecting our ongoing dedication to creating a safe and supportive work environment. Throughout the year, we implemented several key initiatives by undertaking workplace safety audits and inspections in all worksites to promote our focus on safety and the overall well-being amongst our team members. This action has led to a significant reduction in workplace incidents.

In addition to physical safety, we expanded our focus on mental health, launching company-wide awareness programs on workplace legislation, reporting of incidents and in lateral violence.

These efforts were well-received and continue to contribute to a noticeable improvement in employee morale, fostering a culture where employees feel valued and protected.

One of our major achievements was the considerable reduction in our workers compensation claims whereby our injuries in 2023 resulted in claims of approximately \$530,000. Due to our improved safety measures and reporting regime, this figure has dropped to \$38,000 in 2024. In the past 12 months, 65 incidents related to health, safety or security have been recorded, providing a foundation for future analysis.

Under the guidance of the Health, Safety and Security Manager, Derbarl's practices have improved which is reflected in the positively changed environment toward reporting incidents, to which we are starting to see the benefits of being able to analyse incidents and install corrective mitigations such as:

- Ongoing audits, inspections and actioning improvements
- Proactive management approach toward instilling a workplace safety culture
- Improved incident reporting through the Logiqc system
- Improved policy and procedure development
- Improved injury management processes with first capacity assessment appointments scheduled within 2 hours or, the next day, ensuring swift and effective care

"One of our major achievements was the considerable reduction in our workers compensation claims ...Due to our improved safety measures and reporting regime, [\$530,000 in 2023] has dropped to \$38,000 in 2024."

▼ **93%**

Reduction in Workers Compensation claims

32

Reported Work Health and Safety Incidents



People Services

Our commitment to fostering a culturally respectful and inclusive workplace, and recruiting and retaining our greatest assets are the keys in driving our success and supporting the wellbeing of our community. We continue to integrate the cultural awareness training in our induction process, ensuring that our services are culturally secure and respectful.

This year, we made significant strides in our recruitment efforts, successfully bringing in 47 new starters. By prioritising the hiring of Aboriginal staff, we ensure that our team reflects the community we serve. Our recruitment strategies have focused on filling immediate vacancies and in building a talent pipeline for future growth and leadership.

Our workforce planning program is well underway, with several key training initiatives to support Aboriginal staff development and to promote more Aboriginal staff in positions. We currently have 2 staff members undertaking the Certificate IV in Aboriginal Health Practice and Care under the NACCHO traineeship program, and 2 staff members undertaking the Certificate IV in Mental Health under AHCWA traineeship program. Additionally, 2 staff members are undertaking a Diploma in Practice Management which is joint funded by the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners and the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine. These programs are crucial in equipping our staff with the skills needed for future leadership roles.

The People Services team dedicated considerable effort to drafting and refining our policies and procedures, with 10 new policies developed.

This comprehensive update ensures that our operational framework supports a safe, respectful, and efficient working environment. These policies are designed to promote best practices, and provide clear guidance to our employees, enhancing performance across the organisation and compliance with relevant legislation.

As we move forward, we remain focused on enhancing our HR strategies to support an engaged and resilient workforce. We aim to build on our successes by fostering an environment that promotes continuous improvement, Aboriginal employment, cultural respect and safety for all staff.



134

Roles Recruited

60

Staff at Cultural Awareness Training

110

Staff at Lateral Violence / Bullying Training

WORKFORCE

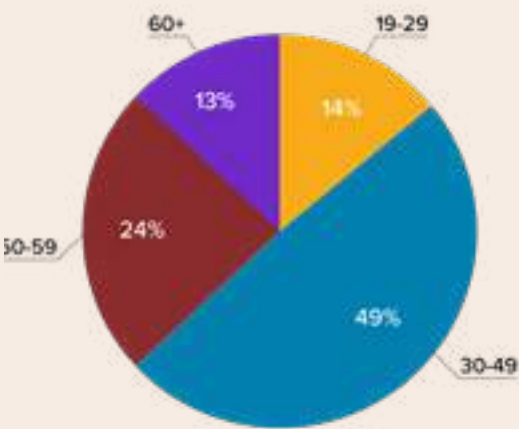
Workforce statistics have remained consistent to previous years particularly for gender, contract classification and services. Age distribution has remained consistent to previous years with a slight increase in the youngest generation aged 18-29 years.

Naturally, tenure has seen increases in the 0-2 years of service groups due to the new programs and teams that have been introduced into Derbarl.

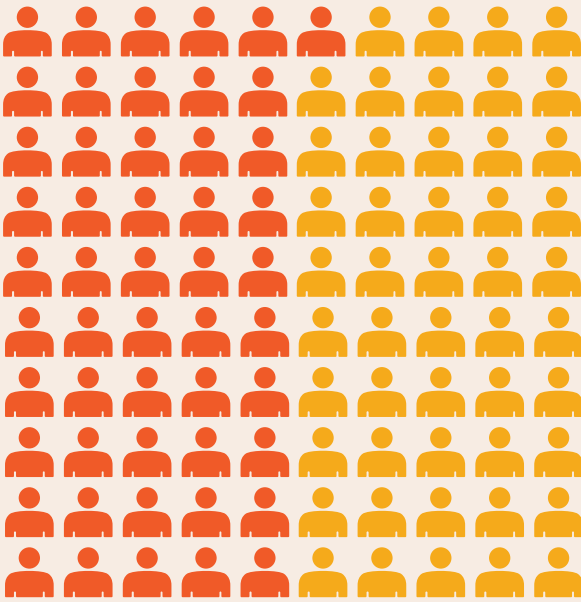
Tenure



Ages



Aboriginality



51%

Aboriginal Staff

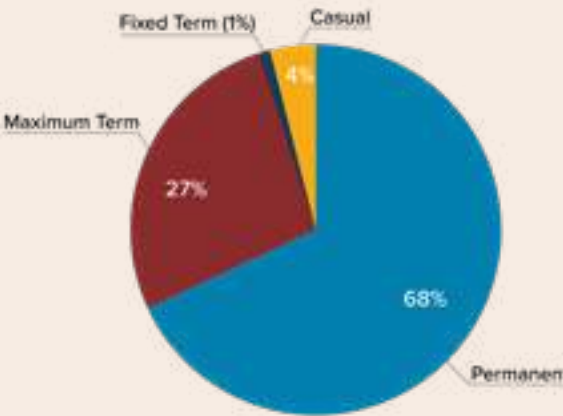
49%

Non-Aboriginal Staff

The 6% reduction from 57% reported in the previous annual report to the current 51% relates to a 14% increase in the workforce from 155 to 178 staff.

These new roles have been predominately professional health service positions where the ability to recruit Aboriginal staff is extremely limited due to the qualification requirements. This remains a priority in our Aboriginal Workforce Development Plan.

Contract Classification



Services

84%

Health Services

16%

Admin & Exec

Gender

26%

Male

73%

Female

1%

X Gender

Staff Survey Results

Team Commitment

▲ 99%

(63% in 2019)

Job Satisfaction

▲ 76%

Communication Effectiveness During Change Management

Employee Wellbeing

▲ 85%

(66% in 2021)

Awareness on bullying & harassment

▲ 83%

(33% in 2020)

Presentations

Our team presented over 33 presentations to local, state and national conferences, seminars and workshops. This year, we received more requests to present our model of care, frameworks, and achievements in Aboriginal Health and wellbeing outcomes that are receiving national recognition.

- Australasian College of Health Service Management
- Danjoo Kooliny Bunuru Social Impact Festival Summit
- Aboriginal Health & Medical Research Council of NSW, State CQI Forum
- Roundtable on congenital syphilis
- WA Health Needle and Syringe Coordinator training
- University of Notre Dame
- Woodside/Cape York Institute Leadership Academy
- Aboriginal Ear Health Conference
- RACGP International's Women's Day event
- AHCWA conference.
- NACCHO Dementia workshop
- WA Sexual Health and Blood-borne Virus Applied Research and Evaluation Network
- National Tackling Indigenous Smoking Workshop
- WA Sexual Health and Blood-borne Virus Symposium
- NACCHO CEO Forum
- Curtin University: Co-designing Pathways Research
- WAPHA GP Leaders Dinner
- ACHWA Eye Health Forum
- Communicable Diseases and Immunisation Conference
- Kaat Koort Luncheon
- AHCWA Ear Health Conference
- Indigenous Allied Health Australia deadly careers trainees
- Australian Physiotherapist Association
- Sexual and Reproductive Health conference in Sydney.
- NACCHO Maternal and Child Health Regional Workshop
- Stan Perron Charitable Foundation
- NACCHO Sexual Health and Blood Borne Virus National Workshop
- NACCHO Culture Care Connect Summit
- WA Blood-borne Virus and Sexually Transmissible Infections Advisory Group
- Rural Health West Aboriginal Health Conference
- Indigenous Allied Health Australia
- RANZCOG Conference
- The Jawun Group



Staff Recognition

AHCWA Awards

Derbarl was proud to have three of our Moorditj team members recognised for their incredible work and commitment in serving our patients and community.

Elders Award
Uncle Arthur Prosser

Contribution to Service Award
Dr Kim Isaacs

Young Achiever Award
Mitchell Walley



2023 Perth NAIDOC Awards

Perth NAIDOC Female Elder Of The Year
Aunty Jane Jones

Aunty Jane’s life is a story of survival, achievement, admiration, care and cultural authority for the health and wellness of our people. She has a long history of outstanding involvement and achievements in the health system, has sat on a number of local and national health boards, is an inductee into the Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives (CATSINaM) Hall of Fame and a member of the CATSINaM Elders’ Circle.

Aunty Jane Jones served with the Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service for 20 years, including 12 years as a Clinic Manager. She is a much loved, admired and well respected by her colleagues, patients and community. She is a wonderful example of a wise and caring Nurse who continues to achieve for her community and we are so proud to have her commitment recognised as the 2023 NAIDOC Elder of the Year.

Staff Summit Awards

Our December Staff Summit, recognised and celebrated the achievement and service of our staff and their contributions to our community.

SERVICE AWARDS

25 YEARS
Arthur Prosser

20 YEARS
Aunty Jane Jones
Johnene Sariago
Dr Basim Al-Maliki

15 YEARS
Sue Prosser
Diane Ugle
Carmen Stacey

10 YEARS
Shirley Gemo
Bianca Penny
Rachel Scott
Tanya Thorne

5 YEARS
Zuhal Hameedullah
Abhi Karunakaran
Hochee Wong
Bridget Sanders

LIVING THE DERBARL VISION AWARD

Dr Shane Turner
Embracing and living the Derbarl values.

LIVING THE DERBARL VISION AWARD

Dr Richelle Douglas
Embracing and living the Derbarl values.

CUSTOMER SERVICE AWARD

Marion Davies
Outstanding service to clients - demonstrating outstanding teamwork - for taking pride in your work - and inspiring us to go above and beyond in all that we do.

ROOKIE AWARD

Sonia Talamo
Recognising the impact and progress made by an individual in their first year with Team Derbarl.

ROOKIE AWARD

Zac Alexander
Recognising the impact and progress made by an individual in their first year with Team Derbarl.

INNOVATION & QUALITY AWARD

Jacquie Rushford
Dedication to improving processes and quality care.

AUNTY JOAN WINCH AWARD

Dr Basim Al-Maliki
Supporting others through collaboration and communication.

INSPIRATIONAL AWARD

Cecilia Cox
Selfless service and dedication to inspiring students early in their careers, by the sharing of on-the-job knowledge and experience

INSPIRATIONAL AWARD

Rachel Scott
Selfless service and dedication to inspiring students early in their careers, by the sharing of on-the-job knowledge and experience

CEO AWARD

John Dickie
Positively impacting on patients, carers and family members that access the Maddington Clinic and willingness to assist the team with a supportive helpful attitude.

CEO AWARD

Jubin Cherian
Exemplifying the meaning of teamwork.

CEO AWARD

Dr Jessamy Stirling
Outstanding care and dedication to patients





FINANCE

FINANCIAL REPORT

I am pleased to present the financial summary for the year ended June 30, 2024. This year marked another period of significant progress for Derbarl, driven by sustained growth in funding, careful financial management, and a continued commitment to delivering high-quality healthcare services to our community.

In the financial year ended 30 June 2024, Derbarl maintained a firm operational footing while navigating multiple funding agreements. Our financial results highlight an operating surplus of \$328,052 and a net surplus of \$1,539,826. These surpluses are primarily attributed to capital grants, favourable bank interest rates, and unfilled positions due to recruitment challenges. This solid performance underscores our disciplined approach to financial decision-making and commitment to the long-term sustainability of our services.

The key financial highlights are as follows:

Revenue

Our total revenue for the financial year was \$25M, with an additional capital grant of 644K and interest income of \$568K. This represents a 15% increase in revenue from the previous year.

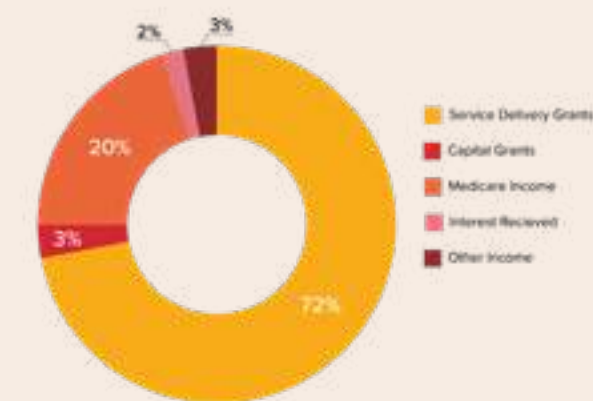
Statement of Comprehensive Income

Income	
Program Delivery Grants revenue	\$18,967,286
Medicare income	\$5,313,334
Other income	\$737,508
Total income	\$25,018,128
Expenses	
Staff expenses	\$18,465,328
Operating Expenses	\$4,501,517
Rent and other property expenses	\$1,028,709
Motor vehicle expenses	\$131,864
Depreciation	\$562,658
Total expenses	\$24,690,076
Operating Surplus	\$328,052
Capital Grants revenue	\$644,077
Interest income	\$567,697
Net Surplus	\$1,539,826



Derbarl’s primary funders include the WA State Health Department (Western Australian Country Health Service), the Commonwealth Health Department (Indigenous Australians’ Health Program), and the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation. Additionally, we generated Medicare income of \$5.3 million.

Income

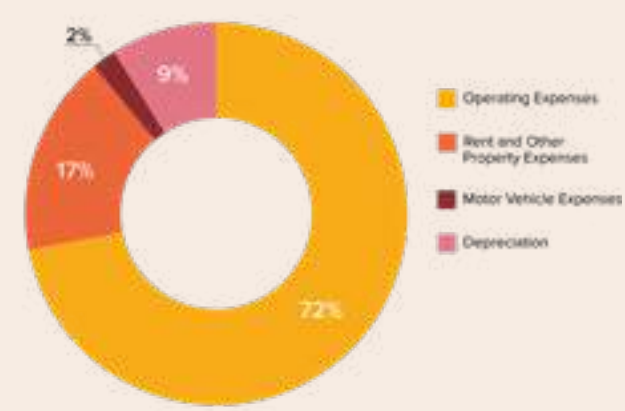


Expenses

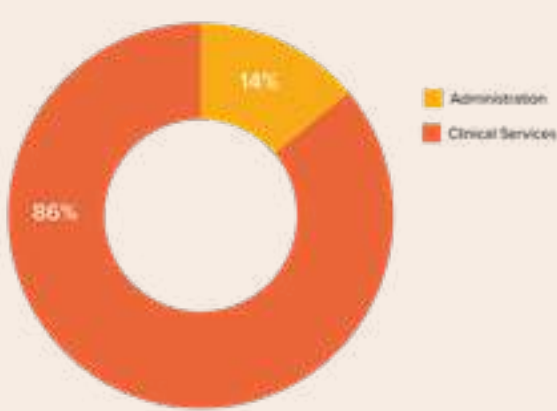
Our total expenses for the year amounted to \$24.69 million, reflecting our continued investment in high-quality healthcare delivery.

86% was directed towards frontline health services, demonstrating our ongoing commitment to clinical care. As expected, staff costs continued representing the largest portion of our expenses.

Expenditure Type



Expenditure Focus



Net Surplus

We achieved a net surplus of \$1.54 million.

The operating surplus for the year was \$328k (surplus excluding capital grant income of \$644k and interest income of \$568k). This surplus is attributed to savings from unfilled positions due to recruitment challenges and our commitment to sound financial management. This surplus will be reinvested into improving patient services in the future.

Derbarl’s balance sheet reflects a strong financial position. We are confident that our financial position will support our community’s ongoing delivery of critical health services.

Assets and Liabilities



Assets	
Current assets	\$15,384,100
Non-current assets	\$7,097,746
Total assets	\$22,481,846
Liabilities	
Current liabilities	\$12,224,600
Non-current liabilities	\$1,243,306
Total liabilities	\$13,467,906
Equity	\$9,013,940

Derbarl remains focused on maintaining our financial sustainability, operational efficiency, and strategic investment in key areas to further enhance our service offerings.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to our dedicated staff, management team, and Board for their unwavering commitment, hard work, and guidance throughout the year. With their continued support, I am confident that Derbarl is well-positioned to meet the challenges ahead and continue serving our community with excellence.

Abhilash Karunakaran
Chief Financial Officer

Our Funders and Partners

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the following funders and partners for their continued support and collaboration in our shared vision to improve the health and wellbeing of our Aboriginal community:

- Department of Health, Commonwealth
 - WA Country Health Services
 - Department of Health, WA
 - WA Primary Health Alliance
 - Mental Health Commission, WA
 - National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation
 - Aboriginal Health Council of Western Australia
 - The Kids Research Institute Australia
 - The Channel 7 Telethon Trust
 - Stann Perron Charitable Foundation
 - Cages Foundation
 - Rural Health West
 - Lotterywest
 - Cancer Australia
 - The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners
 - Services Australia
 - Pharmacy Programs Administrator
 - Uniting Church in the City
 - Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Service
 - The University of Notre Dame
 - The University of Western Australia
- The University of Melbourne
 - Edith Cowan University
 - Curtin University
 - Department of Communities WA
 - National Indigenous Australian Agency
 - Dementia Australia
 - East Metro Health Service
 - North Metro Health Service
 - Institute for Urban Indigenous Health
 - Langford Medical Centre
 - Mental Health Commission WA
 - Jawun
 - King & Wood Mallesons
 - Koorliny Moort
 - Royal Perth Hospital
 - The George Institute for Global Health
 - Telethon Kids Institute
 - Vision 2020 Australia
 - WA Cancer Council
 - Western Australian General Practice Education and Training
 - WA Primary Health Alliance
 - Wungening Aboriginal Corporation
 - Yorgum Healing Services



Corporate Office
Level 1/111 Wellington Street,
East Perth WA 6004

East Perth Clinic
156 Wittenoom Street,
East Perth WA 6004

Maddington Clinic
4 Binley Place,
Maddington WA 6109

Midland Clinic
6 Centennial Place,
Midland WA 6056

Mirrabooka Clinic
24 Chesterfield Road,
Mirrabooka WA 6061

Phone: 1300 420 272
www.dyhs.org.au

