



CAHS Aboriginal Health Leadership and Advisory Committee

Members List Updated May 2016



Leah Bonson – Chair – Director of Aboriginal Health CAHS

Leah has connection to the Jawoyn people of the Katherine River region of the Northern Territory and the Murray Island people of the Torres Strait islands. Leah has been a visitor to Noongar Whadjuk country for the last 26 years.

Leah has a Bachelor of Social Work 1994 (UWA) and an EMPA in Public Administration through ANZSOG 2008 (Curtin) and has worked for the WA public service for the last 26 years in areas of child protection, policy & programs, employment and training and was Aboriginal Advisor to the inaugural WA Children Commissioner.

Leah is the Director of Aboriginal Health for Child and Adolescent Health Services and is a member of CAHS HSEC. Email: Leah.Bonson@health.wa.gov.au Phn: 9340 7067



Diann Peate – Manager Aboriginal Health Team, CACH

Diann is a Noongar yorga (woman) who worked in Government and private agencies before deciding to attend the Marr Moorditj Aboriginal Health College. Diane was the recipient of the Gloria Hedland Award for the Most Outstanding Student and the Professor Fiona Stanley Child Development Award 1995.

Diann was the first Nyoongar woman appointed to the Chairperson of the Public Housing Appeals Committee – (this was a Ministerial appointment) and served on this committee for some 9 years.

Diann has worked with Child and Adolescent Community Health for the past 15 years and is currently the Manager Aboriginal Health Team, Diann is a member of Child and Adolescent Community Health Executive Team. Email: diann.peate@health.wa.gov.au



Terri Cross –Community Clinical Nurse Manager, Aboriginal Health Team, CACH

Terri is a proud Noongar woman who has recently been exploring her Aboriginal heritage. (as Terri only discovered of her heritage 15 years ago) Terri commenced her Nursing Degree in her late twenties at Edith Cowan University where she received an award for all Excellence in Bachelor of Nursing. Following on from this Terri became a Midwife and then studied for the Child Health Certificate, Terri has worked for Community Health since 1997 as a Child Health Nurse and became the first Aboriginal person appointed to the position of Community Clinical Nurse Manager for the Aboriginal Health Team. Email: terri.cross@health.wa.gov.au



Ilana Stack – Senior Social Worker – Koorliny Moort, Aboriginal Ambulatory Care Coordination Team

Ilana is a Noongar/Yamatji woman with connections to the Kimberley. Bachelor of Social Work (UWA), Bachelor Applied Science – Degree in Indigenous Community Health (Curtin University)

Ilana's current role is Senior Social Worker at PMH with the Koorliny Moort team and Type 2 Diabetes. Ilana has worked in many government departments including King Edward Memorial Hospital as the Senior Aboriginal Social Worker and the Aboriginal Liaison Officer, Department for Child Protection East Kimberley, Family Court WA and Victim Support Services at Joondalup Family Violence Court. Email: Ilana.Stack@health.wa.gov.au



Alana Loo – Senior Aboriginal Liaison Officer, PMH

Alana is a Noongar woman with connections to the Wudjari, Koreng, Balladong and Yuet clans of Noongar. Alana worked in the Education sector for 16 years before moving across to health in 2009 and into her current role.

Alana's work at PMH involves providing advocacy and support for Aboriginal children, adolescents and their families as well as working in collaboration with medical teams and hospital staff to promote cultural awareness, knowledge and understanding. Email: Alana.Loo@health.wa.gov.au



Debra Rose – Senior Aboriginal Policy Officer CACH Policy

Debra is a Gamilaraay Woman from NW New South Wales town of Walgett and has been a visitor to Noongar Land (Perth WA) for the past 18 years. Debra's was the Senior Criminal Justice Officer in South Australia for the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody. During 2000 - 2002 worked with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women in WA in designing and implementing the WA Health's Aboriginal Women's Cervical Cancer Prevention Program.

Debra has worked in the areas of Aboriginal Alternative Dispute Resolution Service with the WA Attorney Generals, Senior Programs Officer with WA Corrective Services facilitating the cultural specific Aboriginal perpetrators Family Domestic Violence Program and was Deputy Chief Executive Officer for WA Aboriginal Legal Services. Debra is also one of the founding members of the National Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Women's Legal Services (1990 to current day) with an emphasis on Family and Domestic Violence. Email: Debra.Rose@health.wa.gov.au



Josie Ford - Aboriginal Mental Health Liaison Support Officer Armadale CAMHS

Born in Merredin, a Noongar yorga with connections to Ballardong, Whadjuk, Wilman, Minang and Yuet country. Josie's role at CAMHS is to support and advocate on behalf of our Aboriginal clients and their families, and maintain their engagement until therapy is completed. Josie provides cultural security to our clients and cultural consultation to the non-Aboriginal staff. The position enables Josie to effectively engage with the community outside the clinical setting. Josie has a Cert IV in Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care. Email: Josie.Ford@health.wa.gov.au



Ashley Feehan Senior Social Worker CAMHS Bentley Family Clinic

Ashley is a Yamatji/Banjima from the Pilbara region and who is part of the Stolen Generation and has lived primarily in Noongar country (Perth) all of his life. Ashley is a father and grandfather of two wonderful children.

Ashley completed a Social Work degree in 2004 and has been working in the area of health, mental health for over 20 years. Ashley is currently a Senior Social worker with the CAMHS Bentley Family Clinic and works in a liaison role to access the Aboriginal community. Since commencing in the role, Ashley has seen a noticeable increase of Aboriginal families accessing the service. Email: Ashley.Feehan@health.wa.gov.au



Stacy Maxted – Aboriginal Health Promotion Officer, Aboriginal Health Team CACH

Stacy Maxted is a Larrakia (Darwin), Walmun Yawuru (Broome) woman, who was born and raised in Perth, Noongar country. Stacy's working life has included many different roles and areas, such as working in a Women's refuge, an Aboriginal & Islander Education Officer, four years in the editorial section at the Sunday Times, and a cadet with Perth Zoo in the education section. Stacy studied to become a primary school teacher, however decided to make a change and continue within the health sector. Her career in health began in 2008, as she studied and worked as an Aboriginal Health Promotion Development Officer, graduating from the Graduate Diploma in Indigenous Health Promotion from University of Sydney in 2010. Stacy began working with Child and Adolescent Community Health in the Aboriginal Health Team as a Health Promotion Officer in 2011, and enjoys the role and working with the team immensely. Email: stacy.maxted@health.wa.gov.au