

# Culturally Sensitive Aboriginal RTW Service NEWSLETTER

February 2021 | Issue #1

WorkFocus Australia acknowledges the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures; and to elders both past and present.

## A message from *Corina Della-Posta*



### Executive General Manager MedHealth Rehabilitation

Welcome to the first newsletter for WorkFocus Australia's culturally sensitive Aboriginal RTW service.

For those who are new to hear about our culturally sensitive RTW service, this national service is founded on our underlying rehabilitation service delivery model, with targeted Consultants trained and educated in Cultural Competence.

The service (and training that comes with it) allows for increased cultural sensitivity, understanding and awareness of how-to best approach specific vocational and non-vocational barriers to return to work experienced by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

On behalf of WorkFocus Australia, I'd like to say thank you for your ongoing support, guidance and counsel since the launch of our service in May 2019.

**We are very proud to share that the service was recently announced as a finalist in the 2021 ARPA awards category of "Innovation in RTW".**

These newsletters have been compiled for you our valued customers with the aim of providing regular updates on the amazing work, initiatives and events our service team have been engaged in, as well as to provide information about upcoming events and initiatives.

Though 2020 proved challenging for all of us, we are extremely excited for what 2021 will bring for our culturally sensitive Aboriginal RTW service.

On behalf of the WorkFocus Australia Aboriginal RTW service team, we would like to wish you and your loved ones a wonderful and safe 2021 and we look forward to working with you again throughout the year.

## *Yabun Festival*

### 2021 Partnership

2021 kicked off with WorkFocus Australia as a proud partner of the largest one-day celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture in Australia – the Yabun Festival.

This was held on 26 January as an online event streamed live from their website and featured a variety of dance groups, musicians and speakers to commemorate and celebrate the amazing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

The festival's first ever virtual live streamed event was a huge success and continues to promote and support local and national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses. WorkFocus Australia hopes to be able to continue to partner and support Yabun for many more years to come.

To help support Aboriginal organisations and connect with Aboriginal support resources, we encourage you to check out the Yabun Festival Marketplace and Resource Centre via this link: [yabunmarketplace.com](http://yabunmarketplace.com)





## National Apology Day *13 February*

On February 13, WorkFocus Australia reflected on the public apology delivered by Prime Minister Kevin Rudd 13 years ago in 2008 to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children who were forcibly removed from their families and communities by successive colonial and Australian governments.

WorkFocus Australia recognises and supports the views addressed in the National Apology, and our culturally sensitive RTW service is testament to ensuring there are specific services available to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples during their recovery journey.

We endeavour to continue the inclusion and empowerment of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians through our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) through the greater MedHealth group.

Read some interesting information around the National Apology via the link: [nma.gov.au/defining-moments/resources/national-apology](http://nma.gov.au/defining-moments/resources/national-apology)

## *National Close the Gap Day*

18th March – the 3rd Thursday  
in March each year



As a recognised national Occupational Rehabilitation and Recovery organisation, health equality for all is a fundamental pillar in WorkFocus Australia's values and service delivery.

As the only known national Occupational Rehabilitation provider to provide culturally sensitive support to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, we are committed to ensuring and supporting the Close the Gap goal of achieving Indigenous health equality by 2030.

For more information regarding Close the Gap and their goal, please visit their website: [antar.org.au/close-gap](http://antar.org.au/close-gap)

## *Logo rationale*



The circular shape of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander service logo supports our holistic approach towards acknowledging and respecting the health, well-being, life and work goals of each person, while at the same time provides a unique visual identity. The moving arrows symbolise that our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander service acknowledges, respects and provides for the cultural and individual needs of each client, with the focal point representing the overall goal of providing a culturally tailored and appropriate recovery and return to work service.



## GET IN *touch*

Please call us on **1300 570 181** or visit  
[workfocus.com/return-to-work/aboriginal-return-to-work-service](http://workfocus.com/return-to-work/aboriginal-return-to-work-service)