

June 2021

Newsletter



Welcome to the New Year with a Good News Story



My time at Leila Rankine House of Hope

My name is Theresa Carter, I am a 45 year old Aboriginal woman from Mount Gambier South Australia.

I entered the Aboriginal Sobriety Group's House of Hope in July 2020. I completed a three month live in rehabilitation program and graduated in October 2020.

I have struggled most of my life with substance use and addiction.

In 2020 I decided to reach out to Tammy at ASG (Outreach) to gain support for my substance use issues, she was very welcoming and supportive in me entering into the ASG program.

In this program I learnt that I am strong, I have had a lot of really bad things happen in my life including my children being removed by DCP, physical and emotional violence in family/relationships and been taking advantage of numerous times because I am vulnerable.

I thought my time at ASG was one of the biggest things I have learnt is that boundaries are ok, I am stronger than I ever thought I would be as a result of putting in clear boundaries with those people in my life that have had such significant impacts on my mental health. I have learnt that putting yourself first is not a bad thing and that rewarding milestones you reach is also helpful to keep motivated. At the house of hope I was supported to find out more information about my Aboriginal Heritage and the importance this has in my everyday life. Being supported to grow as a person also helped me strengthen my spirituality and maintain a supportive relationship with god.

I have made tough choices in the 27 years I used substances on and off like making sure my children were well taken care of, I did not want them to be raised the same way I was and use drugs to cope.

On the 26th of June 2021 I have been one year sober. I am extremely thankful to all the staff at House of Hope and Tammy at Outreach for the support to abstain from substance use and learn more effective ways of coping with everyday life.



Hi my name is Tessa Peisley and I am currently the Manager at Western Adelaide Aboriginal Specific Homelessness Service. I have been employed within this program since 2016 when I was the Client Case Worker. However I first started at ASG in 2014 completing my work placement in Community Services then to start employment as a Residential Support Worker. Since 2015 I have been employed in all positions at WAASHS and I appreciate ASG giving me the opportunity to grow and upskill me for the position I am in now.

I have just completed a Diploma in Management and Leadership Course to continue to upskill and learn new leadership skills.

Starting at ASG as a Residential Support Worker has shown me how important each position is when working with clients. I have been the Coordinator for WAASHS and now the Acting Program Manager.

My career background has always been within the homelessness Sector and providing support to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. My passion is to support and empower people to be the best versions of themselves.

Our Program: Western Adelaide Aboriginal Specific Homelessness Service provides support to those who are at risk, in crisis or experiencing homelessness. We have two 24/7 crisis accommodations situated in the Western Suburbs- Annie Koolmatrie House and Cyril Lindsay House in Woodville Gardens. We also provide assistance to those in need in the Western Areas of Adelaide. This includes 10 Supportive Housing Properties that are for families and adults that need high intense support to sustain a tenancy for 12 months. These properties have attached with them a full time Client Case Coordinator that provides support around all areas of Case Management to end the tenancy with long term Housing exits. Our other services include outreach support, waitlist support, post crisis support, early intervention and gateway for service. Due to the complexities of each individual's journey we provide sensitive case management that is always client focused. Our Case plans are culturally safe and we like to work together with the individual to reach a successful outcome to overcome issues and unmet needs on exits from our program. Each day we receive many referrals for support however due to capacity we cannot assist all, I am hoping in the future we can build our program to meet all needs of clients and have the capacity to assist more clients and grow our service to assist with the barriers in the homelessness sector. I would like to thank all the stakeholders that have provided support to our community, including our Residential Support Workers that go above and beyond to support each client on their journey while in our program.



I am Spoken, My voice and my feelings - Through my eyes

What are my and my son's rights with this situation with Housing, job network, DCP, all snowballing into one? Feels like I'm set up for failure, eviction on my own lands.

Who runs Human rights? Can I meet them? Everyone has God given right?

My sons and I don't want any more or less than what we are entitled to, between Centrelink, Job network, housing, and Police someone has chosen for me.

What my family including my father have dealt with and been treated- absolutely inhumane.

Being degraded by police after losing my sister. Police pulling myself over with my children, lies and checks for no reasons, checking my tattoos, taking photos to traumatize me.

I lost my voice and know I have to find it. Degrading me and my sister's name in the courts I was shocked with the lies.

I am now standing for my family. I will not bow down for what we have been through so disrespected, Government and other organisation mobs.

I don't want to be cheeky also I'm not going to lie, but I don't want to lay down and die.

I wouldn't give that satisfaction to them. But I ask a question and no answer.

I go around in circles, passed around, told to go here and there. I feel stupid!

WE— my family won't give up or give in. They want us in Jail. Out of the way.

I get bombarded with 101 things at once losing my house, homelessness, child protection, Police looking for my older children. Where do I start... it gets worse!

I won't kick scream or shout. I have done my time in custody, being isolated, and then found NOT GUILTY after 2 years' time!

Head games, and scares, someone is playing.

I reported my son missing to police and they said he probably doesn't want to talk to you.

They don't care! We are human. I am a Mother, Aunt, Daughter.

Everyone has a god given right!

We have been tormented traumatized, nearly taken out.

I want to be respected! My family want to be respected! NOT WAR!

WE are the next role models for the next generation.

It won't stop unless we stop it here. Let's be the voice for our Mob.

I found my voice at Annie Koolmatrie House. Thank you to Tessa and workers who supported me and listened to my voice.

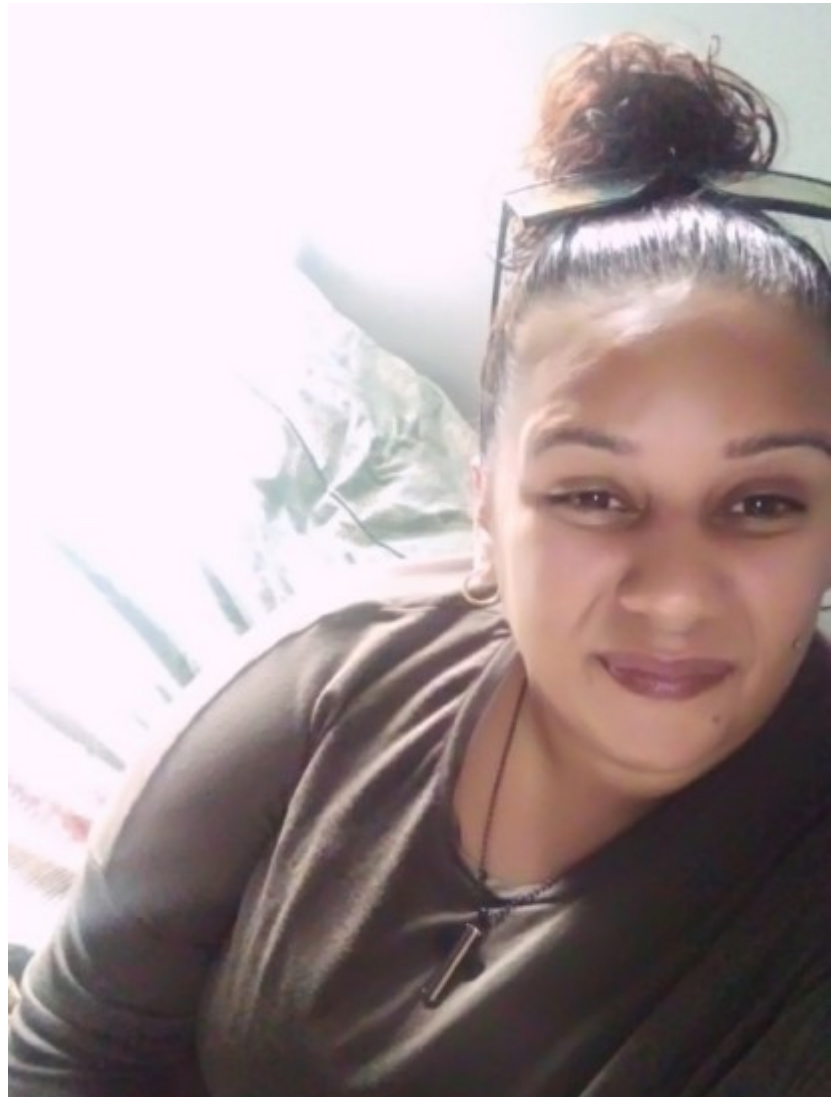
BEFORE AND AFTER DRUGS !!

Proud to say I've been clean since November 6th 2019 and still maintaining my sobriety smashing my goals without no thoughts of ever touching methamphetamines.

I had so much support being out the rehab completing my stay getting my certificate and appreciation of the workers guidance and support whilst staying there and I'm forever thankful they have this support for indigenous women in our community I don't know we're I'd be if I didn't go to .

Leila Rankine—House of Hope has changed my life for the better and given me the confidence to move forward with my goals which I've completed and already set more for this year I had the courage to look for work and study.

I'm currently studying certificate IV in Community services with Celtic Training and whilst being out I've had the best support from my ASG worker Tammy Rankine before and after my stay at rehab she has always been there continuously throughout my struggles and I'll will always be happy of the outcome she has guided me though and still does till this day and most of all the support of my mother who has stood by me through thick and thin I got my family friends and ASG by my side and I'm forever grateful.



Lakalinjeri Tumbetin Waal (LTW)



We are having our daily Men's Group at LTW, As you can see the Men are relaxed and listening to Ngarrindjeri Elder Uncle Ken



Uncle Moogy attended LTW for his weekly Cultural program, One of the clients feeding horses hay and We also had Kangaroo Tails cooking in the coals



The men are making Coolamons for the Cultural Artifacts day we have each week at LTW

Leila Rankine - House of Hope



Residents participating with TAFE SA



Yarning with Uncle Moogie

Night out to see High Ground



Respect Sister Girls 2

Leila Rankine - House Of Hope—Horse Therapy



Leila Rankine - House Of Hope—Recent Graduations



Leila Rankine - House Of Hope Cultural Days

Our women went to Colebrook Reconciliation Park where they cooked kangaroo tails in a traditional fire pit, prepared damper and had Billy tea.

All sat together to yarn about the history of Colebrook.



Botanic Garden Cultural tour was a unique cultural experience of the picturesque Adelaide Botanical Gardens located in the Adelaide CBD, presenting a shared knowledge of traditional methods of conversation and land management and how they are interrelated with Aboriginal Kinship Systems and intertwined with ancient yet living social structures and learning about flora and fauna, Aboriginal land management.



Our women visited the SA Museum, Kaurua Cultural Centre where they sat and had their yarning circle with their AOD Counsellors. They then went on to visit the Tjilburke monument



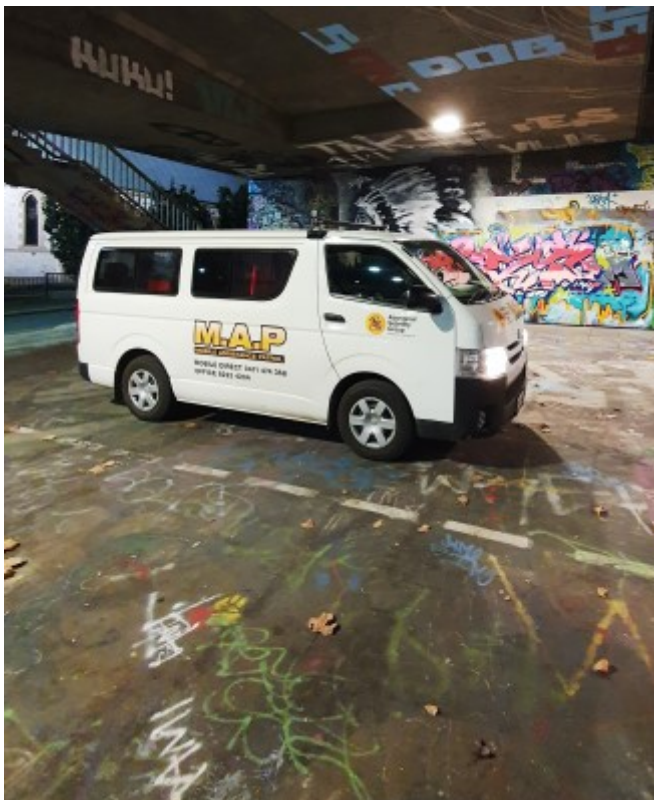


This was taken by a program facilitator one morning as they were driving up to LTW/ HOH. It is an amazing photo and very fitting for our rehabilitation facilities.



This is our new LRHOH resident Amekia. She is only 22. A very vulnerable young girl. This horse was all over her on this day. He just knew she was sad.

A couple of snaps whilst patrolling with Adelaide MAP



**Aboriginal
Sobriety
Group**
INDIGENOUS CORPORATION
ICN 8376

Newsletter enquiries to dons@asq.org.au

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June 2021

National Sorry Day Honoring the Stolen Generations held in The Riverland



Western Adelaide Aboriginal Specific Homelessness Service



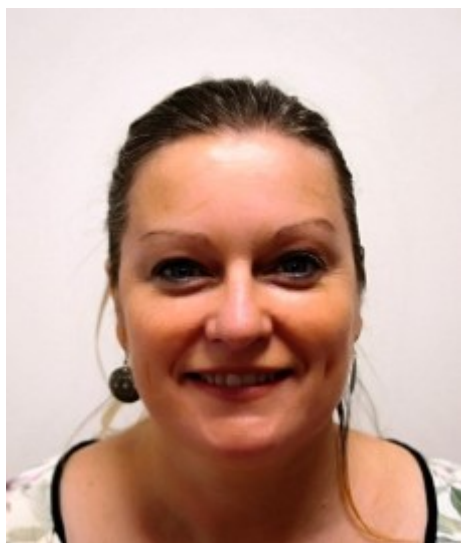
Uncle Moogy has been coming to our program Monday and Fridays for his cultural programs – Healing through art and spirit. Recently clients have been painting journey/stories on boomerangs and Clap Sticks.



We all had fun at Kart Mania on Friday, being together and supporting each other as a team! I must say though, Wayne was the champion by .2 seconds!!



New additions to the ASG family



Shannon Clarke
Client Case Coordinator
LTW



Katrina Karpany
Residential Care Worker
LTW



Arlinda Sedjiu
Residential Care Worker
Homelessness



Ari Rigney
Residential Care Worker
Homelessness



Claire Hose
Client Case Coordinator
Homelessness



Michelle McNeill
Client Case Coordinator
LRHOH



YOUR FEEDBACK IS IMPORTANT TO US

If you have any suggestions regarding this newsletter, please contact Don Scordo at dons@asg.org.au

Do you want to be an ASG member?

Membership Applications to Bianca Kreft

Phone (08) 8223 4204

Email biancak@asg.org.au

or visit our website to download our membership form and read our rule book.

<http://asg.org.au/memberships/>

Aboriginal Sobriety Group Indigenous Corporation encourages the employment of Aboriginal people in the provision of respectful services to our Community and Clients.

79% of our workforce are Aboriginal. 90% of our Directors to the Board are Aboriginal.



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