



About the Artwork

Title: Yurri Werra

Artist: Bitja (Dixon Patten Jnr)

- Gunnai, Yorta Yorta, Gunditjmara and
Dhudhuroa

This artwork depicts the healing journey of sexual abuse survivors. The dragonfly represents transformation, illumination, change, wisdom, power and adaptability.

This journey is about reclamation and self empowerment. The outreached hands represent people taking accountability for themselves. Water is a healing element and represents life's flow. The healing stones connect us to self and mother earth and help to ground us. The leaves depict connection to Country and feeling welcome in this new healing space. In our culture we observe nature; this art depicts us adopting the principles of the dragonfly.

The various circles depict different communities coming together and the large circle represents the community supporting and encouraging healing through the Cultural Healing Programs and beyond.



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**VICTORIAN ABORIGINAL
HEALTH SERVICE**

Caring for the Community

Victorian Aboriginal Health Service (VAHS)
Family Counselling Service (FCS)
238-250 Plenty Road, Preston 3072
Ph: (03) 9403 3300.
Fax: (03) 9403 3399.
www.vahs.org.au

GARRA KOMBROOK

CULTURAL HEALING PROGRAM

HEALING FROM SEXUAL ABUSE

PROGRAM AIM

To provide Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, young people and adults with a culturally safe option to heal from their experiences of sexual abuse or sexual assault.

HEALING

Providing a cultural healing space for children, young people and adults to safely heal from their experiences of sexual abuse and sexual assault as well as strengthening their connection with culture.

To mentor and guide our people through their journey of reflection and reconnection to culture with immersive and meaningful experiences that support healing and cultural connection. Our service offers:

- Play /counselling sessions
- On-country or bush healing sessions
- Art therapy
- Group work
- Family work

REFERRALS

Referrals for children, young people and adults from the areas of Banyule, Darebin, Hume, Moreland, Whittlesea and Yarra can be made to the program.

To receive a referral form please email Jeannie McIntyre, Clinical Coordinator at jeannie.mcintyre@vahs.org.au or phone one of the team:

CLINICAL COORDINATOR

Jeannie McIntyre
0419 327 528

ABORIGINAL HEALING WORKERS

Trish Woodcock
0478 131 557

Eloise Charles
0431 016 451

VAHS will NOT hold a waiting list but will warm refer to NCASA and provide cultural support and supervision to allocated workers within that service.

CATCHMENT AREA

1. BANYULE
2. DAREBIN
3. HUME
4. MORELAND
5. NILLUMBIK
6. WHITTLESEA
7. YARRA

