



Aboriginal Kidney Care, Together Improving Outcomes Now – AKction2

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Kurna people, the traditional owners of the Tarntanya, (Adelaide Plains). We respect their spiritual and physical connection to the land, seas and water ways, and acknowledge their cultural practices are as strong and thriving today as it has always been. We honour First Nation's people, those who have passed, the living and future generations.

We invite our collaborators and our relational networks to walk beside us to look and listen, think and discuss and take action together.

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Message from the AKction team:

Welcome to May, team! 2022 is certainly speeding along, we hope you are all keeping safe and like us, adjusting to this new covid normal!

National Close the Gap Day is fast approaching, this year's theme is:

Transforming Power

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led transformation
- Gender Justice: Equality and Equity
- Allyship

AKction and Sam Bateman are holding a stall at Sonder's CTG day at Wayville Showgrounds on 18th May, coordinated by Sam Bateman, Kelli Owen and Amy Graham. We will be raising awareness and building both professional and community networks on the day – we encourage everyone to attend and for those who can't we encourage you to take advantage of your social media and raise awareness about the un-fair disadvantage of Australia's First Nations people.

Update from AKction:

- **Ethics** – we have received ethics approval from CAHLN, and are finalising approval requirements for AHREC. This will cover all AKction 2 research and student activities until 31 March 2026.
- **Health Journey Mapping** – Our online HJM workshop was successfully held on April 13th with the tools officially launched the same day – To access the tools please visit <https://www.lowitja.org.au/page/services/tools/health-journey-mapping>
- **Croakey** – we have finalised and published the third sponsored content article, "More than a patient: cultural and clinical knowledge on a healing journey" which can be found here: <https://www.croakey.org/more-than-a-patient-cultural-and-clinical-knowledge-on-a-healing-journey/>
- **Oral Health** – we are continuing to work collaboratively on improving access to oral health and dental care for Aboriginal people with kidney disease with the Indigenous Oral Health Unit, TAFE and Kanggawodli. On Friday July 1, we are co-facilitating and presenting at a student and staff workshop at Gilles Plains TAFE.

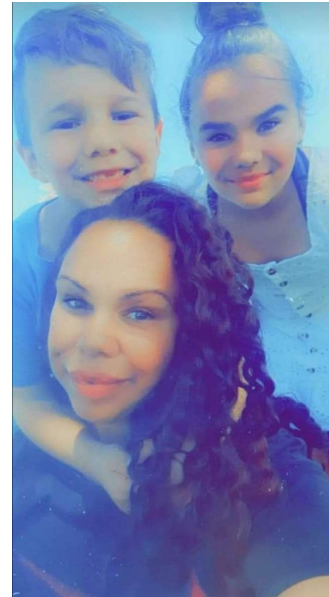
Staff updates:

This month we would like to introduce you to our wonderful project coordinator Amy Graham, a Kurna and Narungga woman from South Australia who holds together our AKction team.

Amy has worked for many years as an Aboriginal Health Practitioner, and more recently as an Aboriginal Maternal and Infant Care Practitioner at the Lyell McEwin Hospital. In the last year she has stepped into the research space and joined us in the AKction project, bringing with her unique knowledge and experiences that are essential for patient centred care and public health research. She is now responsible for the

coordination of the AKtion project, teaches into the nursing and medical courses and is an associate investigator on the health journey mapping and kidney mums' projects. In her spare time, she is also super mum to Orlando and Marley.

Amy hopes to inform meaningful change and see a real life, real time impact on the on the way Aboriginal people and recipients of healthcare are observed, assessed and portrayed.



Amy and her children

Good News Stories

- Our research assistant Kynesha graduates on Wednesday 11 May after completing a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in International Development and a minor in Indigenous Knowledges
- Health Journey Mapping tools are officially launched – keep an eye out for the follow up sessions and upcoming HJM Community of Practice

Students – current

We warmly welcome Ella Rigney who has officially started her Honours project with Public Health and AKtion, and is focusing her studies on Indigenous Governance. Ella is studying full time.

There are another 3 Honours students in the Adelaide Nursing School studying part time with AKtion2 over 2 years.

- Veda Mitra - Exploring the experiences of First Nations people with chronic kidney disease during the covid-19 pandemic.
- Millicent Baker - What is the experience of Aboriginal patients' following their discharge post renal transplant in South Australia?
- Ayleen Castro - What are the experiences of Aboriginal patients' from admission to hospital for kidney transplantation to discharge in South Australia?

Upcoming Events / Presentations / Conferences

- National Close the Gap Day 18th May 2022! Event held by Sonder at the Wayville Showgrounds

- Renal Society of Australasia (RSA) annual conference on Larrakia (Darwin) Country from 16th-18th June – AKction have a poster display and Nari, Jared and Melissa are attending on behalf of AKction. If you're attending, please stop by for a yarn!
- Health Services Research Association of Australia and New Zealand 30th November until the 2nd of December 2022, on the Traditional Lands of the Gadigal people (Sydney). We have 2 presentations accepted (accepted in 2021 and extended due to COVID). We will be presenting with Canadian colleagues including Josee' Lavoie.
- Save the Date!! - Lowitja Institute 3rd International Indigenous Health and Wellbeing Conference – 14th – 16th June 2023 on Gimuy land (Cairns). This will be a great conference.

Nukkin (See you next time)

Thank you for keeping updated with AKction2. If you would like to promote any work/training currently happening within the renal space, we would love to hear from you! Deepest thanks to everyone working towards improving outcomes, de-colonising and co-designing safer health and wellbeing spaces.

Memories in the making...



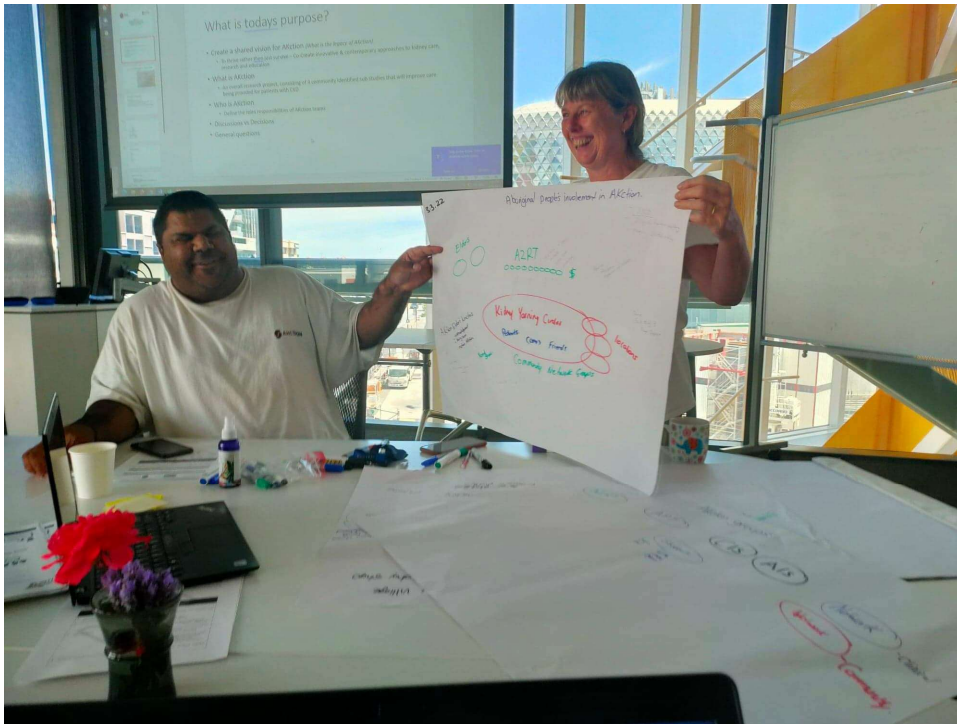
Sam Bateman, Amy Graham and Inawinytji Williamson, approving final versions of publications between paintings.



AKtion team with guest Kim Morey and Odette Pearson from Wardliparingga Aboriginal Health Equity, SAHMRI



Nari Sinclair, Kelli Owen and Kynesha Temple-Varcoe working on a painting for an upcoming Indigenous Oral Health Unit activity.



Jared Kartinyeri and Janet Kelly



Nari Sinclair and AKctions' nephew Baby Daniel (Kelli's grandson)