



News Release

17 June 2019

Group a boost to health and wellbeing of local Aboriginal women

Local Aboriginal women now have easier access to a range of local services to boost their social, health and general wellbeing outcomes thanks to the formation of an Aboriginal Women's Group.

Tammy Flemming, Community Participation & Tenant Engagement Officer, Compass Housing, said that the Aboriginal Women's Group has been forged through a partnership between a number of local service providers including the Broken Hill Environmental Lead Program, Compass Housing, Warra Warra Legal Service, Summit Employment & Training, Ability Links, Lifeline, Maari Ma Health Aboriginal Corporation and Uniting Family Referral Service.

"The Aboriginal Women's Group is all about building direct links with the local Aboriginal community and providing information about and access to local services in a safe and culturally sensitive 'one-stop-shop' environment.

"Aboriginal women will be able to connect with other women and make meaningful social connections, whilst at the same time gain skills and knowledge through fun and engaging activities and sessions covering a range of topics," Tammy said.

Tammy explained that there will be a focus on open, honest and supportive conversations and interactions with local women and that this may have other flow on benefits to the local Aboriginal community.

"It could provide vital early intervention opportunities for women and their families and will also ensure that local services are aware of and responsive to current and emerging issues to improve outcomes for Aboriginal people into the future."

The fortnightly sessions will be a mix of fun-filled and informative activities and sessions, including: basket weaving; cooking cheap and healthy meals; art and craft; being healthy; self-care; hair and makeup; how to minimise risks of lead exposure by being LeadSmart; being money smart; jewellery making; growing vegetables and gardening; and resume' writing. Input will also be sought from attendees into the focus areas and topics of future sessions.

The next Aboriginal Women's Group will be held on Wednesday 19 June at the 123 Community Hub, Creedon Street from 11am to 2pm. The focus of this session is basket weaving and cooking. Lunch and refreshments will be provided and transport to and from the 123 Community Hub can be organised by contacting Bucky on 0404 540 788.

Local media outlets are invited to attend and should contact Denise O'Donnell, Aboriginal Liaison Officer, Broken Hill Environmental Lead Program on 0419 623 088 to arrange an interview or photo opportunity on the day.