## MENTAL HEALTH MONTH OCTOBER 2023

**BE ACTIVE** 

LEARNING

# NEWSLETTER

GIVE

CONNECT

Keep an eye out for the 5 ways to wellbeing popping up throughout the newsletter

5 WAYS TO WELLBEING



#### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

- MENTAL HEALTH MONTH
- CARING FOR YOURSELF DURING THE VOICE REFERRENDUM
- COMMUNITY HOME SUPPORT SERVICES
- PHONE LINES
- MEDIA RELEASE: NDCH REFERENDUM STATEMENT
- R U OK? DAY
- MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID
- 5 WAYS TO WELLBEING
- LOCAL ACTIVITIES
- UPDATES FROM OUR STAFF
- OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY WEEK
- INVITE TO OUR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
- SIR JOHN GORTON LIBRARY CELEBRATIONS
- SENIORS WEEK CALENDAR
- COHUNA DISTRICT HEALTH MIDWIFERY GROUP PRACTICE
- TINS & TOYS DRIVE
- MDAS BBQ INVITE
- WE ARE HIRING!
- HEALTHIER ALTERNATIVES TO A
   TRADITIONAL BBQ



ΤΑΚΕ

NOTICE

Pictured: Matt holding the 3rd edition of Flipside.

### Introducing FlipSide

Have you heard or seen NDCH Freeza's new mini magazine, Flipside? The 3rd edition of this captivating magazine is now available, just in time for Mental Health Month. What makes Flipside truly unique is that it's a joint effort, co-designed by young people for young people.

In this latest edition, Flipside shines a spotlight on the importance of prioritising our mental health, featuring an engaging interview with Kirsty from headspace Swan Hill.

Previous editions have taken us on exciting journeys through "Summerwave on Tour" and the world of "Jobs and Employment," catering directly to the interests and needs of young people. What's even better? Flipside is completely free and easily accessible at NDCH, don't miss out - grab your copy today for the young person in your life.

## We Acknowledge

#### ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES

NDCH acknowledges that our work occurs on the country of the Traditional Owners of the area, the people of Barapa Barapa, Wamba Wamba, Yorta Yorta and DjaDja Wurrung and acknowledge their ancestors who have been custodians of this land for thousands of years.

We acknowledge and pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging, and through them, to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



#### LGBTIQA+ COMMUNITIES

NDCH proudly supports the LGBTIQA+ communities.



## @ndchvic

FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



If you want to stay up to date on our latest news, events and social happenings find us on social media. Caring for your mental health during
The Voice referendum debate

Is talk about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice affecting your mental health and wellbeing? Help is available at \_

health.gov.au/voice-mental-health-support



Is talk of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice affecting you?

Take time-off social media. Unfollow,

Help is available, find out more: health.gov.au/voice-mental-health-support

block, unfollow, repeat!

**Check-in** on and connect with loved ones, community, mob, and Elders

**Create** safe boundaries for yourself. It is not your responsibility to advise anyone on the referendum, or even share your opinion.

**Connect** with Country and culture. Get some fresh air, move your body, play.

**Get creative.** Use art as a means to channel your energy.

**Don't hesitate** to reach out if you're struggling, this is a difficult time and support is available. See next slide for resources

Sourced from ID. Know Yourself



#### **Commonwealth Home Support Services**

Community Care is gearing up for the full transition of services to NDCH since the announcement of Council's withdrawal from all in-home and community-based services effective from 31 October 2023. The massive recruitment round for all 68 Community Care Workers has been completed and we are currently interviewing for all internal coordination positions for the Corporate and Community Care departments at NDCH.

It is planned throughout October to conduct a staggered approach for onboarding of staff and the commence of some tasks. The planning is in line with deadlines for the transition with the intention for all clients, staff and services being in full swing commencing 1 November 2023.

The Community Care team are excited for the move and celebrate the benefits to both clients and community through this opportunity. All clients will be well informed and supported through this transition.



#### Important Notice: Phone Line Issues



We're experiencing intermittent phone line issues.

We apologise for any inconvenience and appreciate your understanding as we work to resolve this. For the latest news and updates relating to NDCH, visit



Northern District Community Health

ndchvic



Northern District Community Health

www.ndch.org.au



Thursday, 28 September 2023

### NDCH Referendum Statement

Northern District Community Health (NDCH) supports a constitutionally enshrined Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice to Parliament which aligns with our vision to 'Build healthy, inclusive and connected rural communities'.

We recognise that, as in any democratic society, some members of the community may hold different views.

We have worked closely with our Kerang Elders and Emerging Leaders and representatives from the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO) to ensure our words and actions are appropriately informed. We understand that it is important to listen to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in this debate and that this recommendation comes from the Uluru Statement from the Heart, an Aboriginal led initiative.

NDCH believes a Voice to parliament will make a real difference in the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and will contribute as an important step to closing the gap on health inequality for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

This belief has been based on the partnership approach NDCH have been actively involved with over the last 10 year with Kerang Elders and Emerging Leaders. Listening to the voices of our local Elders and leaders has led to many successful partnerships, events and has changed the way our service works and thinks. Examples of these include Reconciliation Week celebrations; Acknowledgement and Welcome to Country at local meetings and events; The Stolen Generation Garden at the Gannawarra Children's Centre; the development of a Reconciliation Action Plan; much needed cultural wisdom into all our programs and importantly in the development of our Aboriginal Children's programs: Tyipen Kwe and Kethawill Pembenguuk.

By listening to the voices of our local Aboriginal community we believe the Aboriginal community have been empowered to actively participate in decisionmaking processes that impact their health, wellbeing and lives. This has made a difference to us all.



So, as it has made such a difference in Kerang, we hope the Voice will provide a platform to speak directly to the Australian Government and empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to create better health and wellbeing. The recognition and representation that the Voice will afford Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples holds the potential to positively address entrenched health inequities.

Media

Release

A Voice to Parliament would provide Aboriginal people with a permanent body to make representations to Parliament and the Executive Government on matters that are of particular significance to their peoples. In healthcare, as well as other areas, research has shown that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have better outcomes when they are able to participate actively in decision making.

While we recognise that members of the community may hold different views, NDCH respectfully affirms our support for the Voice.

We encourage our community to make an informed and independent decision about this important issue.

#### Background information about the Voice referendum

On 14 October 2023, Australians will have their say in a referendum about whether to change the Constitution to recognise the First Peoples of Australia by establishing an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice.

The Voice would be an independent and permanent advisory body. It would give advice to the Australian Parliament and Government on matters that affect the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, such as their health and access to culturally safe services.

END RELEASE For more information or to arrange an interview please contact Mandy Hutchinson CEO <u>Mandy.Hutchinson@ndch.org.au</u> (03) 5451 0200



#### World Mental Health Day October 10th





On Thursday 14th September, NDCH celebrated R U OK? Day. R U OK? Day encourages individuals to reach out and ask their friends, family, and colleagues, "R U OK?".

This day serves as a reminder that our words can be a lifeline for someone struggling with their mental health. R U OK? Day reminds us that asking a simple question can make a world of difference in someone's life. So on World Mental Health Day, throughout mental health month and every day, let's remember to reach out, listen with empathy, and support each other in our journey towards mental wellbeing.

Mental Health Month also serves as a great reminder to check in with yourself too. Remember you can take better care of others when you take care of yourself. If you need support, reach out. You're never alone.



## Useful contacts for someone who's not OK

If your life is in danger or you're concerned for your own or someone else's safety please call 000.

You can find support by contacting your local doctor or one of these crisis lines available 24/7:

Lifeline	Beyond Blue	
13 11 14	1300 224 636	1
lifeline.org.au	beyondblue.org.au	I

MensLine 1300 78 99 78 mensline.org.au

Suicide Call Back Service 1300 659 467 suicidecallbackservice.org.au

Visit us at **ruok.org.au** 





#### Taking Expressions of Interest for MHFA |

Are you interested in Mental Health First Aid (MHFA)? If you're an employer, police officer, hospital staff member, first responder, or you care for individuals, then this might be for you! NDCH will be offering FREE, MHFA training that will be open to the community. We encourage workplaces to sign up one or two employees to undertake MHFA training as part of their commitment to fostering a mentally healthy and supportive environment for their workplace and community.

<u>Fill out the expression of interest</u>: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WY3JRZWNDCH. This training will take place next year. NDCH will be in touch when dates are finalised to take official bookings.



## **MENTAL HEALTH TOOLKIT**

Brought to you by 🎇 NOCH

Every child and young person needs a mental health toolkit to build resilience to face challenges they will experience throughout their life.

## WHAT'S IN A MENTAL HEALTH TOOLKIT?



Is there anything missing from the mental health toolkit? What would you would add?

Sourced from: Lourdes Hill College, Brisbane



### **UPDATES FROM OUR STAFF**



Pictured: Our Customer Engagement Worker, Julie and her book recommendation.

### **BOOK RECOMMENDATION** JAMES PATTERSON'S 'LION & LAMB'

"There are two sides to every story, and Private Investigator Cooper Lamb, along with Attorney Veena Lion, must work out which is the correct one.

Between them, they discover all the Hughes household secrets, along with the occasional "Baaa and Roarrrr."

Once again James Patterson has told a gripping tail, and it took only one day to get through, as I couldn't put it down.

I give this  $\star \star \star \star \star$ 



## WORKPLACE WELLBEING BINGO CHALLENGE -

The Workplace Wellbeing Team (WWT) and Health Promotion Team (HPT) organised a fun Workplace Wellbeing Bingo challenge - an engaging health promotion initiative that incorporates being active, eating healthy, and mental health into daily routines, fostering a happier and healthier work environment and encouraging staff members to build healthier habits.

The 8-week staff competition started in July and the rules were simple - staff members needed to complete bingo cards every week. Activities ranged from individual workouts like doing pushups, squats, and wall sits to more inclusive activities like brisk walking, expressing gratitude, practicing mindfulness and even laughing out loud. This initiative aligns with the organisation's commitment to creating a healthy and vibrant workplace culture. This Bingo has been a great addition to staff wellbeing initiatives and hopes to inspire long-term healthy habits.



NDC	H We	llbei	ng B	ingo
Laugh out loud	Fruited Up - Eat three servings of fruit	Say positive affirmations to yourself	Go for H20 - Drink 2L of water before consuming other beverages	Take 20 deep breaths
Healthy Lunch - Make a healthy lunch or snack substitution	5 Pushups	Breakfast Boost - Eat a healthy breakfast	20 Squats	Shop and Eat Healthy - make healthy choices when shopping groceries
White Out - Cut out processed foods for at least one day	Good Grainy - Eat two servings of whole grains	Veg Out - Eat at least 3 servings of vegetables	Listen to relaxing music	20 Squats
No Night Time Munchies - No eating after 8 pm	Start a new book	Send someone a thank you gift	Take a 2 hour social media break	20 Jumping jacks
A Spoonful of Sugar- free - No sugary foods or beverages	Snack Down - No unhealthy snack	10 Sumo squats	Check- in with a friend	20 High knees



## **OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY WEEK**



#### Occupational therapists help people who are

- frail
- aged
- or have a disability

#### So they can

- be independent
- live in their home safely
- participate in everyday activities
- apply for funding equipment and home modifications (if eligible)

#### We can help you with

- equipment and aids to make life easier
- changes to your home to make it safer
- making tasks at home easier, like cooking, showering, and dressing
- memory problems
- scooter and wheelchair assessments
- pressure care
- joint and falls safety
- finding help to pay for equipment or home changes

**Guest Speaker:** To be confirmed



# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Northern District Community Health's

Where:

Online (Zoom) and NDCH Kerang Registration: Ph 03 5451 0200 or www.ndch.org.au/events

### Wednesday 22nd of November 2023

12:30 - 1:30pm: Light Lunch provided **Guest Speaker** 1:30 - 2pm: 2pm: **AGM Starts** (Registrations Essential for catering purposes)

can me

## SIR JOHN GORTON LIBRARY TURNS 20!

On September 15th, the Sir John Gorton Library celebrated its 20th birthday, and it was a fantastic day. Many people, including library visitors and the NDCH staff, had a great time. Sourav and Rachel, part of the Health Promotion team, organised giant games like basketball, mini golf, connect 4, table tennis, twister, and cornhole for the community to enjoy. They also set up a table where kids could get free fresh fruit. Plus, there were two puppets named Chomper and Ollie who gave tips about keeping teeth healthy. Rachel and Sourav taught the kids where fruits and veggies come from. It was a fun and educational celebration for all!

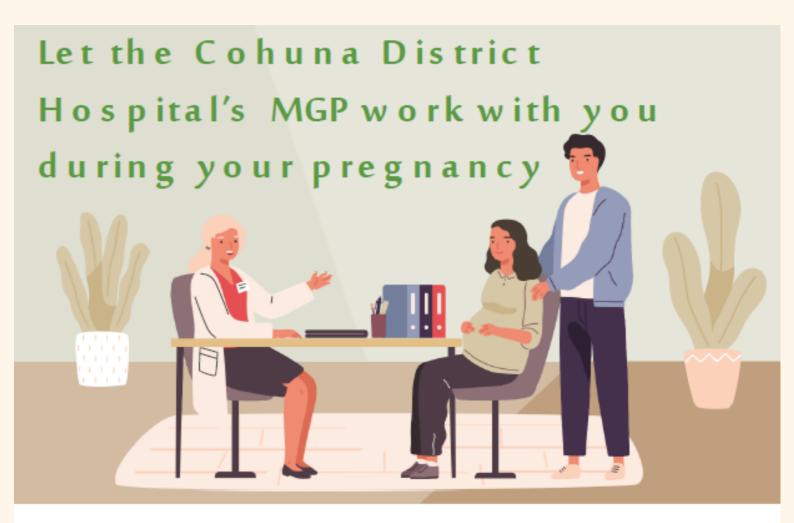
The Health Promotion team will be at the Games with Grandparents morning on the 30th October at 10.30am at the Sir John Gorton Library. We hope to see you there!

The giant games are available for community events, please get in touch with healthpromotion@ndch.org.au or call 5451 0200.









### Cohuna District Hospital is now offering Pregnancy care under the Midwifery Group Practice.

If you are pregnant get in contact with our team today We can support you through your pregnancy and after birth locally and where possible our midwives will provide care during your labour at Echuca Hospital.

Cohuna District Hospital's Midwifery Group Practice is a free public midwifery service

To find out more visit our website:

www.cdh.vic.gov.au/maternity Or call 0417 598 491





www.cdh.vic.gov.au/maternity

## TINS & TOYS DRIVE

#### Items to donate include:

- Canned Fruit & Vegetables
- Canned Puddings
- Canned Meat & Fish
- Jams & Spreads
- Tea & Coffee • Rice
- Pasta

#### **Drop Off / Collection Points**

#### NDCH Offices

- 33 Mildred Street, Quambatook
- 33 King Edward Street, Cohuna
- 24 Fitzroy Street, Kerang
- NDCH Medical Clinic 34 Fitzroy Street, Kerang
- Boort Resource & Information Centre 119 Godfrey Street, Boor



Baby Toys

- Musical Instruments
- Sports Equipment

Arts & Craft

Board Games

- 12 Victoria Street, Pyramid Hill



DONATION PERIOD 6 - 18 NOVEMBER 2023

## **Flood Recovery Support Dinner**



We're inviting all men who were affected by the 2022-2023 floods to join us for dinner.

This catch up will give you the opportunity to connect and socialise with others in the area.

Spit roast and salads provided.

Wednesday 4th October 5pm - 7pm

Murrabit Boat Ramp, Gonn Crossing Vic 3579

For more information or to register your attendance contact Mallee Family Care on 5032 4479



#### WE ARE HIRING

GIVE

CONNECT

THE QR CODE WILL TAKE YOU TO THE LATEST JOBS NDCH HAVE.



We are local, and we care!

#### HELP PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT!

If you find any illegal rubbish dumping sites in the Gannawarra or Loddon Shire, please contact the **Environment Protection** Authority Victoria on 1300 372 542 to anonymously report dumping or visit epa.vic.gov.au/dumping



## **IN AN EMERGENCY DIAL 000**

#### **BEYOND BLUE**

Anyone feeling anxious or depressedbeyondblue.org.au1300 22 46 36

#### **KIDS HELPLINE**

Counselling for young people aged 5-25 kidshelpline.com.au 1800 55 18 00

#### MENSLINE

Men with emotional or relationship concernsmensline.org.au1300 78 99 78

#### ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUGS INTAKE

*For people needing help with alcohol & drug issues* www.acso.org.au/aod-mh-support 1300 022 760

#### **REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH TRIAGE**

Assessment service for people experiencing mental illness 1300 363 788

#### LIFELINE

Anyone having a personal crisislifeline.org.au13 11 14

# HEAD TO HELPSupport from experienced mental healthprofessionalsheadtohelp.org.au1800 59 52 12

#### **ORANGE DOOR**

People experiencing family violence orangedoor.vic.gov.au LODDON: 1800 51 23 59 MALLEE: 1800 29 09 43

#### VICTORIAN HOUSING SUPPORT

Crisis housing support 1800 825 955

AFTER HOURS GP ADVICE & SUPPORT LINE 1800 022 222

**NURSE ON CALL** *Caring, professional health advice 24 hours a day* 1300 60 60 24

## **HEALTH TRANSLATIONS**

Do you need reliable translated health and wellbeing information?

### www.healthtranslations.vic.gov.au



#### 3 free psychologist appointment available for Victorian farmers

No-cost appointments are now available via telehealth consultation.

Open to Victorian farmers who are feeling stressed, anxious, tired, angry, or depressed, or are looking to chat to someone.

Don't hesitate to reach out, and remember, in a crisis, always call 000 for immediate assistance. Your mental health matters.

Learn more and apply now here:



# Healthier alternatives to traditional barbecue ingredients

Sourced from Healthy Eating Advisory Servicel

Swap this	For this		
Regular sausages	<ul> <li>Reduced fat and reduced salt sausages</li> <li>Vegetarian sausages</li> <li>Tip: Cut some large sausages in half to provide smaller portions for different appetites</li> </ul>		
White breads and rolls	<ul> <li>Wholemeal or wholegrain varieties of breads, rolls, pita bread or mountain bread.</li> <li>Tip: Avoid using spread on bread. If you must offer olive or canola oil based margarine for people to spread themselves.</li> </ul>		
Creamy colesaw	<ul> <li>Home-made coleslaw using natural yoghurt and/or reduced fat mayonnaise.</li> <li>Grilled vegetables Try eggplant, zucchini, pumpkin, capsicum and/or mushrooms. Sprinkled with garlic and herbs.</li> </ul>		
Regular soft drinks	<ul> <li>Water: still or sparkling</li> <li>Lightly flavoured water. Try jugs of soda water with sliced fruit and mint or a dash of fruit juice.</li> </ul>		

The swaps are ideas only. Please think about your own individual dietary needs. Follow servings or daily recommended intake guidelines. Eating the food is your choice.





## MEDICAL CLINIC Patient Information

34 FITZROY STREET KERANG VIC 3579 5452 1366

#### DOCTORS

Dr John Shokry Dr Afolabi Ayeni Dr Megan Belot-on leave Dr Xin Jin (Dr Jinx)

#### NURSE PRACTITIONERS

Yvonne Fabry Heather Spence

#### NURSES

Jen Brereton-Team leader Shannon Laursen Kristen Hipwell Narelle Weekly Sharee Edge Rosi Bear Jen Emonson Marg Winship

#### **ADMIN STAFF**

Meryl Metcalfe (Coordinator) Nicole Betson Jeanette Schmidt (on leave) Aliesha O'Neill Hilda Higgins Nick Keely (Casual) Cassandra Hicks (Casual) Leonie Garner (Casual)

#### NURSE PRACTITIONERS

Yvonne Fabry Heather Spence

#### **OCTOBER 2023**

ren's C decire Dictured: Nurses Sharee and Shannon

#### PRIVACY

This practice is committed to maintaining the confidentiality of your personal health information. Your medical record is a confidential document. It is the policy of this practice to maintain the security of personal health information at all times and to ensure that this information is only available to authorised members of staff.

#### PRESCRIPTIONS

All patients must be seen for repeat prescriptions. No phone or over the counter prescriptions will be taken. You may need a blood pressure or blood sugar check, or pathology which is ordered by your doctor. This ensures better health care for you and your family.

Scripts for Schedule 8 Medications (and some schedule 4) will not be given at your first consultation and only prescribed when your Doctor establishes your treatment plan with you.

#### FEES

All accounts are required to be paid on the day of visit. The standard fee is \$80. Fees vary according to time/or services provided. Your claim will be sent to Medicare electronically who will pay your rebate direct to your nominated bank account. **We are not a bulk billing clinic.** 

#### AGE & DISABILITY PENSION CARD HOLDERS

Pension card holders will be charged an out of pocket fee of \$40 payable on the day for three visits each calendar year.

#### HEALTHCARE CARD HOLDERS

Healthcare card holders will be asked for a \$40 Gap Payment each visit instead of the \$80 pay on the day fee.

# HotDoc

Online appointments can be made by visiting: www.ndch.org.au

#### PHONE CALLS

If you need to speak to a Doctor during business hours, your call will be returned at the Doctor's earliest convenience. Please be prepared to leave your contact details with the Medical Reception. If you have an abnormal test result you will be contacted by the Doctor or clinic staff.

#### COMPLAINTS

We welcome your suggestions, complaints and compliments. Complaints should be addressed to the CEO of NDCH. If you are unhappy with how we manage your complaint, you can contact the:

Health Complaints Commissioner

Phone: 1300 582 113

Level 26, 570 Bourke Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3001.

#### HOURS AND APPOINTMENTS

Monday to Friday: 8.45am - 5.30pm Consultations are by appointment only Double appointment times can be made by request. Please let staff know if there are any specific needs. We would appreciate early cancellations where possible to allow us to contact other patients we may have on a waiting list.

#### **OUT OF HOURS EMERGENCIES**

In the event of a medical emergency please ring 000. For urgent after hours care, please attend or call Kerang District Health on (03) 5450 9200. If you are seen by one of our Clinic Doctors at Hospital, please be aware that a \$50 co-payment will be charged.



**OCTOBER 2023** 





#### MURRAY CITY COUNTRY CO GP TRAINING

## **Clinic Services**

- GP Consultations
- Health Assessments
- Nurse Practitioner Consultations
- ABI (Ankle-Brachial Index Test)
- Medicals
- Immunisations
- Travel Vaccines
- GP Management Plans
- GP Mental Health Plans
- Specialist Referrals
- Ear Wash
- Skin Check Biopsy & Excision
- Cryotherapy
- Diathermy
- Spirometry (Lung Function Test)
- 24 Hour BP Monitoring
- 24 Hour Heart Monitoring
- ECG (electrocardiogram)
- Hearing Aid Specialist
- Telehealth Services
- Cardiologist

Procedures have a practice fee. Call our Medical Receptionists for appointments or information: 5452 1366.



## Pathology services onsite Mon to Fri!



MONASH University Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine

## **Contact Us**

#### KERANG

Community Health 24 Fitzroy Street Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.00pm Phone: 03 5451 0200 Fax: 03 5452 2486 Email: info@ndch.org.au SMS: 0428 575 597

#### **Medical Clinic**

34 Fitzroy Street Monday to Friday 8.45am to 5.30pm Phone: 03 5452 1366

#### COHUNA

25 King Edward Street Monday to Friday 9.00am to 4.00pm Closed 12 Noon to 1.00pm Phone: 03 5451 0250

#### **PYRAMID HILL**

12 Victoria Street Monday to Friday 9.00am to 10.00am (other times by appointment) Phone: 03 5455 7065

#### BOORT

119-121 Godfrey Street Open by appointment only Phone: 03 5451 0260

#### QUAMBATOOK

33 Mildred Street Mon, Wed and Friday 9.00am to 10.00am (other times by appointment) Phone: 03 5457 1300

We share professional spaces in Koondrook, Charlton, Sea Lake, Donald & Wycheproof too.

NOCH

# Thanks For Reading

## www.ndch.org.au

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\*Although funding for this nursing and allied health service has been provided by the Australian Government, the material contained herein does not necessarily represent the views or policies of the Australian Government.

