

Seeking First Nations Peoples' Experiences in Victorian Hospitals

[Karabena Consulting](#) has been contracted by St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne (SVHM) to undertake a [multi-year cultural safety audit](#) (please refer to our website for additional information) to explore the experiences of First Nations patients and staff regarding cultural safety issues and to improve the cultural safety of the hospital's services.

During the first year, we reviewed [St Vincent's Historical Complaints](#) made by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander patients, their families and kin. One of the recommendations that came out of this piece of work is for SVHM to develop a culturally safe feedback process for First Nations people.

We will be holding a focus group on **May 8, 2-4pm**. If you, or someone you know, have experience with feedback processes within hospitals in Victoria and would like to contribute to improving the cultural safety of receiving and responding to feedback, please [sign up here](#).



Close The Gap Report

We are excited to share with you our latest report, "[Strong Culture, Strong Youth: Our Legacy, Our Future](#)".

We are proud to share with you our latest report on the Close the Gap campaign, which aims to address the significant health and life expectancy gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

The report highlights the progress made over the past decade and underscores the urgent need for continued action to close the gap. While there have been some improvements in Indigenous health outcomes, Indigenous Australians still experience significantly higher rates of chronic disease, mental illness, and infant mortality compared to non-Indigenous Australians.

The report identifies several key factors contributing to these disparities, including social determinants of health such as poverty, education, and healthcare services. It also highlights the importance of community-led solutions, cultural safety, and meaningful engagement with Indigenous communities in addressing these issues. The Close the Gap campaign has been instrumental in raising awareness of these issues and advocating for change. However, much more must be done to ensure that all Australians have access to the same opportunities for good health and well-being.

We invite you to read the full [report here](#) and the [project review here](#).

By working together, we can help to close the gap and create a healthier, more equitable society for all Australians.

Farwell Lucy

With a heavy heart, we bid farewell to our Consultant Assistant, Lucy Moodie, as she embarks on an exciting new adventure exploring Europe. Lucy has been an integral part of our team since she joined us as an intern, and we are grateful for her invaluable contributions during her time with us.



Lucy's dedication and hard work as a Consultant Assistant have been instrumental in supporting our Consulting Team to deliver high-quality projects and ensuring that compliance requirements are met. Her passion for social and environmental justice, and her commitment to advocating for the rights of Australia's First Nations peoples, have inspired all of us at Karabena.

Lucy holds a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies from the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, and her expertise in stakeholder engagement and community consultation activities has been invaluable to our team.

Although we are sad to see Lucy go, we are excited for her as she embarks on a new chapter in her life. We wish her all the best as she explores the wonders of Europe, and we look forward to hearing about her adventures upon her return.

Lucy, you will be greatly missed, and we want you to know that you will always have a place in our hearts and our team. We wish you all the best for the future and hope your journey is filled with joy, excitement, and unforgettable experiences.

Farewell and Bon Voyage!

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