

Working with and learning from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people workshop

The *Working with and learning from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people* workshop will be jointly facilitated by Aboriginal and non-Indigenous facilitators, drawing on cultural, personal, and professional knowledge, and experiences across a broad range of settings.

Utilising the principles and capabilities of the IAHA Cultural Responsiveness in Action Framework, and experiences and learnings within the occupational therapy profession, the workshop will focus on effective allyship and how to walk alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Clinicians, policy makers, researchers and academics will be supported to understand what effective allyship for non-Indigenous allies looks like, building on effective models and examples at the interpersonal and systemic level, as well learning about vulnerability and openness to learning from mistakes and challenges.

The workshop will support participants to:

1. Increase understanding of effective allyship and how to work in meaningful partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and organisations.
2. Improve confidence and individual and collective ownership for change, including understanding your internal motivations and drivers for allyship.
3. Identify proactive strategies and actions to apply cultural responsiveness in your context and allyship.
4. Apply decolonised ways of learning, teaching, policy, and practice.

Participants are also encouraged to complete levels one and two of the *IAHA Cultural Responsiveness in Action* training. Sign up [here](#) before 30 June to access the lower rate.

Jo Cairney is an Occupational Therapist living on Wurrundjeri lands and currently working as a Project Manager in hospital operations for Alfred Health. Jo has been co-convenor and convenor of the Koori Occupational Therapy Scheme for more than 10 years and is proud of the ongoing connections and friendships with past and present KOTS scholarship recipients. Jo has been a longstanding friend of IAHA and was honoured to receive the IAHA Commitment to Indigenous Health Award in 2021. Jo is looking forward to working with IAHA members and friends and building on past workshop experiences to deliver a collaborative, engaging learning opportunity at the 2022 IAHA Conference.

Jodie Booth is a non-Indigenous Occupational Therapist living in Meanjin (Brisbane). Her current role is as the Occupational Therapy Clinical Education Liaison Manager at the University of Queensland. This role partners with the Occupational Therapy community to support, train, develop and review models of practice placement with Occupational

Therapists and service providers. Jodie previously worked within a state-wide population health role with an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander service, establishing a strong interest in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, culturally-responsive practice, reflective practice, working with groups and communities, and developing new models of clinical education. Jodie is also involved in clinical education for all final year occupational therapy students in partnership with an Aboriginal and Islander Independent school. She is humbled to be a part of this workshop and looks forward to building new connections and re-connecting with others after too many years on Zoom!

Dr Emma George is an occupational therapist and academic, living with her family on Kaurna country in southern Adelaide. She has worked mostly in primary health care and community development and is currently leading the occupational therapy program at the University of Adelaide. Emma's research draws on decolonising methodology and shared knowledges to explore implementation of the 'Closing the Gap' strategy and the way that Indigenous rights and self-determination are recognised and acted on within communities. Emma has been a friend of IAHA since 2011 and she continues to learn from and with Aboriginal friends, colleagues, clinicians, and academics to reflect on her own personal journey as an ally, and to enhance occupational therapy learning, teaching, practice and research.

Kelli McIntosh is a proud Muruwari Kooma woman from Bourke in Western NSW. Kelli is passionate about working with Indigenous communities across Australia. Career highlights include Bachelor of Health Science Occupational Therapy from the University of Newcastle, recipient of Rowan Nicks Russell Drysdale Fellowship – University of Sydney, founding member of Weenthunga Health Network, Chair of the Koori Occupational Therapy Scheme (KOTS) Melbourne.