

Onemda Gathering Day Highlights

Thursday 12 October 2023, 9am to 4pm

(photos to come)

Aunty Di Kerr gave a **Welcome to Country** followed by a beautiful **Dadirri** session lead by **A/Prof Carlie Atkinson**. <https://www.weallli.com.au/>.

Our Director, **Prof Cath Chamberlain**, summarised the plan for the day and continued, along with **Levi Murray** to MC the day and keep us on track and in line!

Jacqui asked the group to consider **Onemda's values**, and asked staff to place stickers on the value that they felt resonated well with them when thinking about Onemda. The most 'stickered' values were...

- Relationships
- Integrity
- Prioritisation of First Nations perspectives
- Safe Place
- Thriving

A/Prof Shawana Andrews provided an overview of the **Melbourne POCHE Centre for Indigenous Health** and shared her insights and memories from her previous time with Onemda.

Our **Patrons (Aunty Di Kerr and Aunty Doseena Fergie)** asked the group to discuss/comment on what they believe Onemda's role is/should be:

- Knowledge sharing
- Important voice/mouthpiece in the community
- Provide a central voice – provide truth, be clear, elevate community voice
- De-elite what we do
- Provide work experience and get involved in secondary Schools
- Cultural immersion, and guidance for students
- Capacity building
- Provide a safe space/community hub!
- Bridge the gap between community and the Institution
- Independence in the health sector.

Additional advice from our patrons...Talk to each other.

Our **Collaborators** (**Olivia Payne, VACCHO and Paul Stewart, Lowitja Institute**) delivered an informative panel session.

- Why partner with Onemda?
 - Relationships, history
 - Aligned goals & a shared connection.
- Benefits
 - Academic support & guidance, knowledge sharing
 - Helps to build research capacity, shadowing/partnering in grants.

The **Head of School, Prof Nancy Baxter** provided an update on the [School Strategy \(summary page\)](#), and how Indigenous Health has been embedded within the School's vision.

Some of us enjoyed a walk through Royal Park in the surrounding area, followed by some team photos as well as some other smaller group shots.

Our team from **Advancement, Hope Perkins (Senior Development Manager (Indigenous), Larnie Narayan (Associate Director, Principal and Major Gifts MDHS) and Phoebe Danaher (Development Manager, Foundations Relations)** facilitated a workshop on forward planning and thinking big for our Units and Onemda. Their team is working on bring all of the input/detail that came out of the session, and we hope to provide an update on next steps soon.

A/Prof Carlie Atkinson took us through a lovely meditation to finish.

[Spotify playlist link](#)

[Onemda Gathering Day Self Care link](#)