Welcome to Law Yarn #1

STOP PRESS
Law Yarn will be officially launched in Cairns on May 30 by the Queensland Attorney-General, The Honourable Yvette D’Ath at Wuchopperen Health Service as a Reconciliation Week event.

So...what is Law Yarn?

Law Yarn is a unique resource which supports good health outcomes in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Law Yarn helps health workers to yarn with members of remote and urban communities about their legal problems and connect them to legal help.

Legal problems with money, housing, crime and families will lead to poor health if they are not resolved.

Without Law Yarn the problems won’t be identified and will instead be ignored. This turns them into bigger problems.

‘Your Law Yarn’ artwork created by Riki Salam WeAre27 Creative © 2018
Law Yarn uses images of cyclones, mangroves, stars and journeys to help vulnerable communities recognise their legal problems in context and learn where to get help.

Four icons embedded in the artwork represent the main legal problems and help structure the yarn.

Based in Cairns, the Law Yarn project is led by LawRight, a community legal service and delivered in collaboration with Wuchopperen Health Service and Queensland Indigenous Family Violence Legal Service (QIFVLS).

Law Yarn will be trialled at Wuchopperen Health Service where LawRight and QIFVLS operate legal clinics on-site weekly. Fiona Allison and Chris Cuneen, distinguished academics in the field of Indigenous legal need will independently evaluate the trial.

These services, together with Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Legal Services (ATSILS) met in Cairns in 2017 to develop culturally safe resources based on LawRight’s successful Legal Health Check resources, which can be viewed at www.legalhealthcheck.org.au. Noted artist, Riki Salam designed Law Yarn using the content and inspiration of the workshop.

“I am really excited about this work and the impact it will have on the Aboriginal health and legal sectors”, noted Sam Wild, Director of Awakening Cultural Ways and workshop facilitator.

Donnella Mills, proud Torres Strait Islander woman and Deputy Chair of National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (NACCHO) is the LawRight Project Lawyer.

Legal and health services throughout Australia have expressed interest in this innovative and holistic approach to the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

For more details about Law Yarn, please contact Sue Garlick, LawRight Joint Director at sue.garlick@lawright.org.au.