

Statement of Support – Annalee Stearne

2025 Melbourne Poche Indigenous Health Leadership program

The 2025 Melbourne Poche Indigenous Health Leadership Program offers significant benefits for Annalee Stearne, the ALIGN network, our team, and the broader First Nations Australian community.

Annalee currently serves as the Operations Manager for the Australian Alliance for Indigenous Genomics (ALIGN), where she is helping to develop pathways that benefit Indigenous Australians in genomics research. Through 2025 Melbourne Poche Indigenous Health Leadership Program, Annalee will have the opportunity to further her personal and professional development as an Indigenous health leader. The skills and connections she gains will enable her to enhance the network's efforts and support its continued growth, contributing to our goal of improving the health and wellbeing of First Nations Australians. Annalee is already fostering a diverse, collaborative, and motivated team across Australia, and this opportunity will contribute to her leadership capabilities, ensuring further success for both her and the network. Her continued development as a leader, particularly through a strong First Nations cultural lens, is of immeasurable value. Efforts like this are vital to developing, supporting and retaining First Nations Australians working in the health space.

For the broader First Nations Australian community, effective leadership fosters stronger social responsibility. Annalee's leadership development will assist her, as a Wardandi-Nyungar woman, to advocate for increased community engagement and ethical decision-making, to assist in building a pathway to benefit for First Nations Australians in the Indigenous genomics space. This leadership program will cultivate a cycle of positive change that extends beyond the individual. The development of leadership skills among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples is vital for improving the health and wellbeing of First Nations Australians and their communities.

Annalee also supports both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal coordinators within our network. Her leadership style is collaborative, consultative, and communicative – walking alongside coordinators to achieve local and national goals. She has fostered an environment of open communication, facilitating peer learning and network collaboration. Through this, she empowers coordinators to develop their own approaches while building relationships. Outside of her professional role, Annalee contributes to governance through key positions on two boards: Children's Ground and the National Centre for Clinical Research into Emerging Drugs. In these roles, she provides invaluable perspectives as both an Aboriginal person and a researcher.

We are very supportive of Annalee's application to participate in the 2025 Melbourne Poche Indigenous Health Leadership Program and would be happy to provide any further information in support of this application if required.

Respectfully,



Professor Alex Brown (BMed, MPH, PhD, FRACP (hon.), FCSANZ, FAHMS, FATSE)
Professor of Indigenous Genomics (The Kids Research Institute Australia)
Director of the National Centre for Indigenous Genomics (ANU)
Scientific Director, The Australian Alliance for Indigenous Genomics (ALIGN)

Friday, 22 November 2024

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To Whom It May Concern,

This letter serves to confirm that Annalee Stearne, the Operations Manager for the Australian Alliance for Indigenous Genomics, at The Kids Research Institute Australia, has been granted approval to attend all three week-long modules of the 2025 Melbourne Poche Indigenous Health Leadership program.

We acknowledge the importance of this professional development opportunity and fully support Annalee's participation.

Additionally, we confirm that the registration fee for the program will be covered by Australian Alliance for Indigenous Genomics, at The Kids Research Institute Australia, as part of our commitment to Annalee's growth and development.

Sincerely,



Professor Alex Brown (BMed, MPH, PhD, FRACP (hon.), FCSANZ, FAHMS, FATSE)

Professor of Indigenous Genomics (The Kids Research Institute Australia)

Director of the National Centre for Indigenous Genomics (ANU)

Scientific Director, The Australian Alliance for Indigenous Genomics (ALIGN)

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