

10 July 2019

## MEDIA RELEASE

### UnitingCare West celebrates NAIDOC week VOICE. TREATY. TRUTH.

**UnitingCare West (UCW) recognises, values and celebrates the culture of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.**

In NAIDOC Week 2019, UCW is holding events at our three place hubs in Merriwa, Fremantle and Perth to walk together and strengthen relationships with First Nations Peoples.

NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia each July to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This year's national theme is Voice. Treaty. Truth. - representing the unified position of First Nations Australians as set out in the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

Aunty Nola Kennedy is a long-term Merriwa resident, grandmother and member of the Merriwa Advisory Group, which informs the services needed for the Aboriginal community in the area.

She hopes that the very first NAIDOC event in Merriwa is just the start of something big.

"We've never had a NAIDOC Week (in Merriwa) until this year. It's so exciting for us 'cause it's just the beginning" Aunty Nola said.

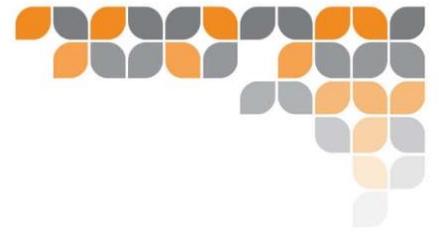
"One day I'm hoping it's going to be the best one around. Everyone wants to go to Merriwa for NAIDOC, because that's the place to be.

"Hopefully this will help us on our journey in what we're trying to do. We just have to get all these people in with us, and hear their voice so they can let us know what they need," she said.

NAIDOC Week is an opportunity to get involved and support your local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community as part of a movement of the Australian people for a better future.

Let's work together for a shared future.

\*ENDS\*



**Media Event**

Meet Aunty Nola Kennedy for a family fun day of cultural celebrations for NAIDOC Week 2019.

**Friday 12 July 2019, 10am-2pm**

**True North Block - 869 Connolly Drive, Merriwa**

**Media Contact**

Ren Adams, Lead - Communications & Engagement, UnitingCare West

M: 0422 146680

E: [ren.adams@unitingcarewest.org.au](mailto:ren.adams@unitingcarewest.org.au)