

MEDIA RELEASE – 4 September 2024

Lowitja Institute welcomes Michael Newman as new deputy chief executive officer

Lowitja Institute, Australia's only national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled health research institute, has today announced the appointment of Mr Michael Newman as its new deputy chief executive officer.

Michael is a Galari Gibir (Lachlan River man) of the Wiradjuri Nation, the people of the Three Rivers. Born in Orange, he enjoys familial and cultural links to the Central West, Capital Country, and Riverina-Murray areas of New South Wales.

For the past four years, Michael was chief operations officer with Orange Aboriginal Medical Service (OAMS) where he played a pivotal role in expanding funding, workforce, and services for the community. His leadership in the community-controlled sector builds on a distinguished career in the NSW Public Service, where he contributed to Education, Communities and Justice, NSW Police Force, Aboriginal Affairs, and TAFE NSW.

Lowitja Institute CEO Paul Stewart expressed his enthusiasm for Michael's appointment, stating, 'Michael is a passionate and respected leader whose values align perfectly with our commitment to improving the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. His skills and experience will greatly strengthen our team.'

'On behalf of the Lowitja Institute Board and my fellow colleagues, we are thrilled to have Michael join us at Lowitja Institute'.

Michael sits on several boards and committees, including the Orange Local Aboriginal Land Council (OLALC), TAFE NSW Western Aboriginal Advisory Committee, Ministerial Aboriginal Partnership Group (NSW Department of Communities and Justice), and the Western Primary Health Network.

'It is an honour to become part of the journey that was started by the late Dr Lowitja O'Donoghue and other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders and Elders over a decade ago,' Mr Newman said.

'I am humbled to join such a prominent national community controlled organisation, and look forward to supporting the CEO and team in achieving our strategic goals and delivering tangible outcomes for our peoples and communities.'

Mr Newman commences his role with Lowitja Institute on 16 September 2024.

[Visit our website](#) for further biographical details.

For more information or to request an interview with a Lowitja Institute representative, please contact communications@lowitja.org.au

ABOUT LOWITJA INSTITUTE

Lowitja Institute is Australia's only national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled health research institute, named in honour of its patron, Dr Lowitja O'Donoghue AC CBE DSG. It is working for the health and wellbeing of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples by facilitating high-impact quality research, tools, resources and knowledge exchange, and supporting a new generation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health researchers.

Established in January 2010, the Lowitja Institute operates on key principles of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership, a broader understanding of health that incorporates wellbeing, and the need for the work to have a clear and positive impact.

The history of the Lowitja Institute dates back to 1997 when the first Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal and Tropical Health was established. Since then, the Institute and the CRC organisations have led a substantial reform agenda in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research by working with communities, researchers and policymakers, with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people setting the agenda and driving the outcomes.