



## Joint Media release – Djirra and Dardi Munwurro

*For immediate release, Wednesday 28 August 2019*

### National gathering with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities leading the discussion on our local solutions, our self-determination

Djirra and Dardi Munwurro are pleased to announce this gathering to be held in mid-November 2020 in Melbourne: ***‘Women’s Business, Men’s Business, Everyone’s Business, Our Cultural Way’***. This national gathering is for our people to come and discuss solutions which work to address the most significant issues impacting us since colonisation. Too often we are invisible to policy and decision makers and face many barriers to deliver as specialist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations.

***Women’s Business, Men’s Business, Everyone’s Business, Our Cultural Way*** is for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations, communities and individuals, and others who work to address issues impacting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women, men and children. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations will lead the discussion as we take an in-depth look at community owned, designed, led and controlled solutions.

“As Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, we know what we do, we have the trust of our communities and people, we are the experts, and we have the solutions,” said Djirra CEO Antoinette Braybrook.

“Djirra works with and for Aboriginal women and their children at the frontline and in communities building on their resilience to thrive in culture and identity”

***Women’s Business, Men’s Business, Everyone’s Business, Our Cultural Way*** is a partnership between Djirra and Dardi Munwurro, two leading organisations recognised in Victoria and nationally for their work. The event will draw on the strengths from lived experience and what works on the ground in our diverse communities.

“For Aboriginal people, issues like racism, colonisation, the stolen generation, and intergenerational trauma continue to be a part of our lives,” said Alan Thorpe, Director and Facilitator at Dardi Munwurro.

“At Dardi, we draw on cultural strength to find solutions and model effective programs of our own. It’s that strength that we want to share at the national gathering.”

Self-determination in practice will be front and centre at the national gathering. The event will provide an opportunity for our people to discuss what works, local solutions and present the diverse and unique ways in which we as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities manage and determine our business, our way.

#### Information:

Details of the event will be publicised on the Djirra and Dardi Munwurro websites [www.djirra.org.au](http://www.djirra.org.au) and [www.dardimunwurro.com.au](http://www.dardimunwurro.com.au) and through social media on Twitter and Facebook.

--- end ---

#### Media contacts:

For further information or to arrange an interview please contact:

Carole Sarasa, Marketing & Communications Advisor Djirra, 0428 112 356, [mcadvisor@djirra.org.au](mailto:mcadvisor@djirra.org.au)

Amanda Bresnan, Manager Strategy Djirra, 0448 060 765, [abresnan@djirra.org.au](mailto:abresnan@djirra.org.au)

Alan Thorpe, Director Dardi Munwurro, 0450 607 078, [alan.thorpe@dardimunwurro.com.au](mailto:alan.thorpe@dardimunwurro.com.au)

#### About:

**Djirra** provides culturally safe and holistic support and specialist family violence legal assistance and representation. Djirra also designs and delivers early intervention and prevention programs, and undertakes policy and advocacy work to influence systemic change. Djirra is a place where culture is shared and celebrated.

**Dardi Munwurro** is the specialist Aboriginal men’s family violence service in Victoria. Our vision is to build stronger families and safer communities. We do this by delivering a range of healing, behaviour change and family violence programs in a culturally safe environment, designed to break the cycle of inter-generational trauma in Aboriginal families and communities, by empowering and inspiring individuals to heal the past, acknowledge the present and create a positive vision for the future.