

Partner Update

September 2017

Ganbina - Agents of change



Ganbina graduates inspire new generations

"I want to help young people to develop and grow as I was given the chance to do. Ganbina was one of the best opportunities in my life. I want to help other Indigenous children experience that too."

Rianne Hood

Well educated, confident and passionate about their careers, Ganbina graduates Rianne Hood and Chanoa Cooper are perfect examples of some of Ganbina's first 'Agents of change.'

Already, they are leading and inspiring younger generations of Indigenous people to fulfil their own potential, and so create a better future for themselves, their children and their children's children.

Both women have a unique blend of skills, experience and knowledge, and so we are thrilled that they have chosen to take up two important roles with Ganbina.

Rianne is heading up our three year Youth Leadership Program for Years 10, 11 and 12; and Chanoa is managing Ganbina's new Gifting Program.

After three months in their respective new jobs, we wanted to interview them to find out, in their own words, why they chose to work with Ganbina.

We hope you enjoy reading about their motivations and goals on the next page.

Pictured: Rianne Hood (third from left) working with participants on Ganbina's Youth Leadership Program.



Rianne Hood

Leadership Program Co-ordinator

Rianne has 10 years' experience in Indigenous child and youth community services. Before joining Ganbina, she was a Support Officer in the Aboriginal Best Start Program run by the Victorian Aboriginal Community Services Association Limited. Earlier in her career, she held several roles within the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency and Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation. Rianne has a Certificate IV in Community Services.

"Ganbina supported me from school to training to my employment journey and they were always there for me," said Rianne.

"My work ethic comes from Ganbina. It was an eye-opener to learn about other people's career journeys and how they overcame their personal hurdles to get where they wanted to go. It made me realise I could do that too.

"Because of that, I have always wanted to work with Indigenous organisations which support children," she said.

"I wouldn't be where I am today without the support I got from Ganbina. I really hope that one day, the Indigenous kids I am working with now, will come back to me when they are grown up and say I did the same thing for them."



Chanoa Cooper

Gifting Program Project Officer

Chanoa has a Certificate IV in Business. Her most recent role was with Business Support Group at The University of Melbourne where she provided business services to the university's academic departments. She has also held administration and finance roles with the Willin Centre for Indigenous Arts & Cultural Development and the Rumbalara Aboriginal Co-operative Drug & Alcohol Centre; and was an Indigenous tutor and mentor at Shepparton High School.

"The tagline for our new JOBS4U2 Gifting Program - *'Helping Indigenous kids step up to a brighter future'* - really describes what Ganbina did for me," said Chanoa. "They opened up so many doors and opportunities for me that I simply would not have had otherwise."

"I want to share what I have learned and give back to Ganbina and to the Indigenous community."

Agents of Change Fundraising Event

With special guests Peter Costello AC and Geraldine Doogue AO

Thursday, 2 November 2017, 6.00 for 6.30 pm
PWC, 2 Riverside Quay, Southbank, Victoria 3006
Tickets \$500

For further information, please contact:
events@ganbina.com.au