

# Ya'djin Women's Collective

Meanjin Rising

Our Dawn welcomes in song

Feels like I belong

Deadly sisters from everywhere

Looking to yarn and share

A meeting place in a safe space

With Lemon Myrtle Tea

I'm weaving into healing

I'm dancing the pain away

Our sisters dance to an old tune

I'm warmed by the light of their fire

Meanjin Sunrise for our babies

Meanjin Sunrise, Rise Up Ladies!

Meanjin Sunrise for our babies

Meanjin Sunrise, Rise Up Ladies!

Lyrics and music copyrights of specific women in the collective and includes the talented sister, Jessie Lloyd who worked with the group to create the words & lyrics for which it was performed at Brisbane Festival 2022 & 2023.

As women we are sacred, we are the strong backbone to our families and communities. We are mothers, grandmothers, aunts, daughters sisters & nieces. We create ways for women to use their voices and express themselves.

Through all the trauma we still carry a beautiful voice that needs to be heard.

Ya'djin Women's Collective



We are all sisters needing guidance and healing together. Our healing journeys are expressed through our art/storytelling. As sisters we come together as Women with one voice and many stories.



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Ya'djin Women's Collective

We're a sisterhood of strong courageous woman who as empowered and informed advocates, of family & domestic violence (FDV) &/or sexual violence (SV). We collectively work together to walk with our community to reclaim safe spaces and break the impacts of intergenerational trauma.

Within our collective cultural strengths, we create safe spaces for women & children experiencing FDV &/or SV to participate in healing, self-care and creativity embodying our ancient practices of yarning, weaving, dancing, singing, sharing of meals, being on country and just being together in our strength of womanhood.

We draw from the wisdom of our elders & sisterhood, especially our matriarchs, who continue to teach, guide, support, advocate and fight for women. We join in their aspirations to break generational trauma & to raise the next generation of strong men and women to thrive in every aspects of their lives.





## Vision Statement

To create the next generation of culturally resilient, strong and empowered matriarchs to pass on our cultural practices for generations to come.

## Goal Statement

The goal of Ya 'djin is to transform generations of families to stand strong in the love, hope and strength of our cultural practices that gives us the freedom and courage to thrive, regardless.

## Our Values

Love, Hope, Family, Resilience, Security, Authenticity, Creativity & Transparency

## How We Support Women?

- We create cultural safe spaces for women, experiencing family, domestic &/or sexual violence, a safe place to be, to participate & be heard.
- We connect with & support Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander woman & their children
- We facilitate access to support services, through our partners & allies - such as counselling, advocacy & other relevant assistance.
- We can refer women through our extensive networks to other appropriate services within Brisbane and surrounding suburbs.
- We advocate for women & challenge the discriminative institutions to enact positive change for the liberation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women.
- We harness and utilise the knowledge systems & expertise of our sisterhood as experts in our field.
- We document and record our stories, with full participant consent, as learning sources for future generations

## Our Journey

Originating in 2021 as an 8 week program, facilitated by Aunty Sharyn Malone, with support from Aunty Chantay Link, Aunty Dawn Daylight & other women who fought to keep the program going and to hold space. Since 2021 the group has continued to meet & deliver activities across South East Queensland & to create safe spaces for women & children experiencing or healing from family, domestic &/or sexual violence.

In 2023 the group decided to work on their governance structure to better meet the needs of the women they serve and to create stronger ally-ship with our aspiring body the Women's Community Aid Association (WCAA) which includes BRISSC & The Women's Shelter. .

***Ya'din means "speak" in Kabi Kabi language and our collective is a place for women to speak, to find their voice and to be heard.***

*Ya'djin Women's Collective*



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## What We Do

Collective Every Thursday  
Cultural Camps  
Capacity Building  
& Information Workshops  
Significant Events  
Connection to support services  
Reclaim Space in the Family,  
Domestic & Sexual Violence  
Spaces  
Activism

Ya'djin holds space weekly from 10am - 1pm in Ipswich on Tuesdays, Kabi Kabi Country on Wednesday & our main group at East Brisbane on Thursday. Contact us for more details.

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