

AUNTY JUNE

We celebrate the leadership of strong black women and their commitment to the rights and safety of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children

Aunty June was invited to be matron in charge of the first female refuge for Aboriginal women in Melbourne, now known as Elizabeth Morgan House. Aunty June recognised the issues that family violence created and that the refuge could provide an opportunity to heal and work through support needs

Aunty June worked at the Aborigines Advancement League's Gladys Nichols Hostel in Northcote

The hostel offered safe and affordable accommodation for young Aboriginal people in Melbourne for work or study

Alarmed by the high numbers of suicides amongst young Aboriginal people, including that of her own grandson, Aunty June helped to introduce culturally appropriate mental health counselling and services at Rumbalara



June Atkinson-Murray

A Wiradjuri Elder, Aunty June grew up on Erambie Mission in New South Wales.

She was unafraid to tackle problems that were often not openly acknowledged by the broader Aboriginal community. This was despite resistance to these services by some community members.

We acknowledge our founding Aunties' tireless work against systemic racism, and passion for social justice which directly led to the establishment of EMH. ELIZABETH MORGAN HOUSE ABORIGINAL WOMENS' SERVICES INC.