21 February 2018

We are very pleased to announce the recipients of the 2018 AHPA (WA Branch) Health Promotion Scholarship program funded by Healthway. For more information visit contact the scholarships coordinator Keira Bury at scholarshipswa@healthpromotion.org.au

Aboriginal recipient Suzanne Clews will work with the Child and Adolescent Community Health to establish health promoting playgroups for Aboriginal children aged 0-4 years in the south metropolitan area. The project will involve formalising links with external agencies for playgroups in Bentley, Cockburn and Maddington to address area specific objectives. Suzanne will also work with Aboriginal staff to design and implement culturally-appropriate activity planners, build capacity in Aboriginal parents to act as parent play leaders for each playgroup and develop an evaluation tool for Aboriginal parent/carer knowledge on child-parent attachment.

Graduate recipient Melissa Evans will work with The Collaboration for Evidence, Research and Impact in Public Health (CERIPH) exploring the influences on alcohol consumption, nutrition habits and club connectedness amongst young people (age 18-24 years old) involved in sports clubs. Melissa aims to identify what socio-ecological factors influence healthy behaviours to provide strategies that could be used in the future interventions to address the issue of excessive alcohol consumption in young people involved in sports clubs.
Graduate recipient Shea Hatch will work with The Heart Foundation (WA) to develop a framework for translation of evidence for Healthy Active by Design (HAbD). The project will involve a robust evaluation of the program, and to investigate opportunities in which the program could be utilised and recognised by relevant stakeholders as part of their core business. Shea aims to establish systems for continual quality improvements in program implementation, increased uptake of the HAbD program, and dissemination of the outcomes to relevant stakeholders.

Regional recipient Tori Jamieson will work with the Kimberley Population Health Unit on a community development project to improve social inclusion and mental health outcomes in a selected neighbourhood in Broome. The project will pilot a series of pay-as-you-feel suppers where people can come together to eat, drink, make art, listen to music and meet new people. During the project Tori will develop partnerships with community members and stakeholders to ensure cultural competency and sustainability as well as designing and implementing two of the events and a robust evaluation framework.