



Baroona embraces the advantages of both contemporary (modern day evidence based practice) and traditional (our old ways) wisdom and treatment, and strives to provide a healing opportunity that:

- Respects the individual needs and differences of all participants.
- Respects the differing values, spirituality and beliefs of participants.
- Provides holistic treatment and care to all participants equally.
- Respects each participant's right to access a range of programs, services and activities that may promote and enhance their spiritual, social, physical and emotional wellbeing.
- Encourages and promotes the participant's connection to family, community and culture.
- Promotes the concept of healthy body, mind, heart and spirit in all aspects of the healing activities.
- Provides access to a range of professional, cultural and traditional healing programs, services and strategies e.g. doctors, nurses, psychiatrists, psychologists, cultural education programs, traditional ceremonies, Bullroarer program, etc.

Baroona Youth Healing Place is a program of the Njernda Aboriginal Corporation.

*Baroona and Njernda are proud to be working on the lands of the Yorta Yorta peoples and we pay our respects to the elders of that nation, past present and future. We also acknowledge the contribution of the many people from Aboriginal nations within Victoria, New South Wales and other parts of Australia to this healing journey.*

*Njernda Aboriginal Corporation can be contacted by the following:*

84 Hare Street, Echuca  
Phone: 03 54 80 6252  
Fax: 03 5482 4577

Should you have a complaint or concerns, please see Njernda's complaints and grievances form at: <http://www.njernda.com.au/forms-surveys/>. If you cannot access the form online, please contact our office and a form will be sent to you.

## Baroona contact

**Baroona Youth Healing Place**  
**Nadine Wright, Manager**  
**Phone: 03 5480 1611/ 0438 888 021**  
**Fax: 03 5480 6116**  
**Email: [baroona@njernda.com.au](mailto:baroona@njernda.com.au)**



# BAROONA YOUTH HEALING PLACE

**Information for family and community**



## What We Do

*The Baroona Dream*

*"To reduce alcohol and drug abuse amongst young Aboriginal people in the Echuca and surrounding areas by providing a safe and culturally specific healing environment."*

## Our story

Baroona is a program of the Njernda Aboriginal Corporation. Originally started as the Echuca Aboriginal Co-operative in 1974, in 1990 the cooperative became a corporation. Njernda means "to know our living culture" in the Wemba Wemba language of northern Victoria and Southern NSW.

## Our program

The program is a 16 week journey by the young person to overcome their drug and alcohol abuse by identifying their strengths, networks, cultural identity & sense of belonging. This will be achieved through individual counselling & group work.

Our aim is to assist each young person connect to community, skills development and employment.

## How you can help

Baroona residents have a set of rules they must comply with to remain in the program (see the Program Information booklet, available from Njernda Aboriginal Corporation ([www.njernda.com.au](http://www.njernda.com.au))).

It is important that Baroona residents remain focused on their healing journey during their stay with us. We therefore ask that families and others

- understand and comply with Baroona rules
- do not put undue pressure on the young person over external issues while they are resident at Baroona (you can talk to the staff if you have a concern about this point)
- respect their healing and ensure you are not under the influence of drugs or alcohol during contact visits or calls - you will be refused contact
- respect the decisions of the young person regarding their post-program living arrangements and employment choices
- encourage and assist them to remain drug and alcohol free.



**We build strength through culture.**

## Baroona's rules

Residents must:

- be respectful of everyone: themselves, other clients, workers, community members and service providers
- participate in all aspects of the program and follow the lawful direction of Baroona staff
- remain alcohol and drug-free during the program
- be respectful: verbal or physical bullying, threats, abuse or discrimination against other residents, staff, community members or elders is not tolerated
- observe the phone call and visitor policies (no calls for the first three (3) days. After three (3) days phone calls can be made with staff supervision between 7.00pm and 9.00pm each day. Family visits take place on Sundays after the second week)
- be accompanied at all times by staff and must have permission before leaving the property.

Please do not:

- bring mobile phones, iPods or electronic games - these will be confiscated
- engage in sexual activity either at the property or while on excursions/appointments
- swear excessively or use abusive language
- bring offensive material to Baroona.