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Mallee Family Care celebrates reconciliation through new Indigenous artwork

Mallee Family Care is proud to mark the beginning of National Reconciliation Week by launching a bespoke artwork that represents the organisation's ongoing reconciliation journey.

The striking piece, created by Barkindji artist Channy Mitchell was inspired by the Country, rivers and communities of the Mallee region and tells a story of belonging, shared learning and commitment to reconciliation.

"The flowing blue waterways throughout the artwork represent the Murray and Darling Rivers – the lifeblood of the region – carrying stories, culture, and connection across generations," Ms Mitchell said.

"These moving pathways also symbolise Mallee Family Care's ongoing Reconciliation journey: a journey of listening, learning, and walking together in meaningful partnership with Aboriginal communities."

Ms Mitchell explained that the meeting circles woven across the artwork represent the many communities, families, and individuals Mallee Family Care supports.

"They are places of gathering, yarning, understanding, and care – spaces where relationships are built and strengthened. Each circle is connected by pathways, reflecting the importance of unity and the idea that when we walk together, we create stronger futures for children, families, and generations to come."

Raised in Mildura and now based in Adelaide, Channy has built a strong reputation as both an emerging Aboriginal artist and talented athlete, balancing her role with the SANFL as a First Nations Game Development Trainee while continuing to create artwork that celebrates culture, storytelling, and identity.

Ms Mitchell said her passion for art began during her time at Red Cliffs Secondary College, where she discovered a love for creating works that reflected her cultural heritage.

"My artwork is deeply connected to my family, my culture, and my connection to Country," he said.

"The greatest influence on my art has been my pop. The first artwork I ever painted was for him, and he told me, 'You're going to be a famous artist one day'. After he passed away, every piece I create is for him and inspired by the stories and wisdom he shared with me."



Media enquiries

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Mallee Family Care commissioned the artwork as part of the development of its Reconciliation Action Plan, selecting Ms Mitchell following an extensive expression of interest process.

CEO Teresa Jayet said the artwork's launch was an important milestone in the organisation's reconciliation journey.

"We are honoured to have Channy create this beautiful and meaningful artwork for us," Ms Jayet said.

"This artwork is more than a visual piece – it reflects the strength, resilience and rich cultural heritage of the Traditional Custodians of the lands Mallee Family Care serves, and our ongoing commitment to reconciliation, cultural safety, and meaningful partnership with Aboriginal communities."

The artwork will be featured in Mallee Family Care's next *Innovate* Reconciliation Action Plan, marketing materials, digital platforms, and organisational spaces as a lasting reminder of the agency's commitment to reconciliation and community.

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