



Aboriginal Dietary Practices Nursery Assistant

Moondani Balluk & The GREEN Lab

Location: The Green Lab at Iramoo, Victoria University, St Albans Campus

Tenure: Casual position – one day per week (Thursday preferred)

Salary: HEP 4/1 - \$45.18 per hour

Organisation: The GREEN (Grasslands | Research | Education | Engagement | Nursery) Lab @ Iramoo is a collaboration between Moondani Balluk and the Cairnlea Conservation Reserves Committee of Management (CCRCoM). CCRCoM is a community-based committee that is responsible for the management of three grassland reserves in the Cairnlea area; work includes vegetation management & restoration, threatened species management, plant and animal surveys/monitoring, community engagement and education.

This Nursery Assistant position will be employed by Moondani Balluk Indigenous Academic Unit, Victoria University.

About the Position: The Aboriginal Dietary Practices Project is funded by VicHealth, positioned within Moondani Balluk Indigenous Unit and is a multidiscipline collaboration at Victoria University and Deakin University. The project aims to gather information about ancestral Australian Aboriginal dietary practices on Kulin Nation lands, and their relationship in place-making and SEWB (Social and Emotional Wellbeing), to support food sovereignty, health and wellbeing of First Nations people. Resources, trials and observations at Iramoo Native Plant Nursery will support the project.

You will assist with the collection, propagation and maintenance of a collection of specimen plants that will be used during yarning circle workshops in Aboriginal community in the west of Melbourne. Where required the nursery assistant will undertake propagation trials for various species in order to determine propagation requirements and growing conditions.

The position will involve assisting Iramoo nursery experts to work with Aboriginal community groups to set up Indigenous food production trial beds and/or demonstration gardens at Iramoo and Aboriginal Community Centres and/or organisations in the western suburbs of Melbourne, requiring capacity to travel to outer suburbs.

The nursery assistant may also be required to assist with other general plant propagation work, nursery and garden maintenance activities, and undertake field work at Iramoo Wildflower Grassland Reserve (or other grasslands).

A regular documented record (including photographs) of the activities undertaken at the nursery, community centres and grasslands will be required for inclusion in the Project reporting to VicHealth.

Karen Jackson (Executive Director, Moondani Balluk) will be the line manager, with on-ground supervision and direction from Megan O'Shea.

Cadet attributes:

- Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
- Evidence of volunteering in environmental/conservation/Aboriginal cultural/community development activities, including examples of leadership and initiative
- Good organisational skills
- Demonstrated capacity to work independently
- Evidence of ability to record and manage data and report accordingly
- Good level of fitness for nursery duties
- Reliability and ability to travel across the west of Melbourne
- Good interpersonal skills
- Basic plant identification skills advantageous

Application: Submit a video or written application (maximum two-page) outlining your interest and suitability in meeting the cadet attributes, resume and academic transcript (if relevant), including the name(s) of one or two referees. Application due Monday 10 March 2025. Send to:

Megan O'Shea
The GREEN Lab @ Iramoo
megan.oshea@vu.edu.au

