



## **Lindy Harkness (nee Axford)**

With a background in RN (ACH) midwife (QVH) and Child and Youth health training (Torren's House) Lindy spent 4 years in Port Pirie as community Women's Health Nurse. This position gave her the opportunity to engage in community development (setting up action groups and support groups), clinical work plus health promotion and education, often appearing on local radio and TV, undertaking public speaking engagements and providing health counselling.

On her return to the city Lindy took on a senior position at (WCH) managing a nurse run immunization clinic and on a SA health advisory Forum on immunization.

Lindy developed and submitted a business plan/proposal to the WCH to convert the nurse run clinic to a general practice that would "self-fund". This was accepted and successfully achieved.

She won a scholarship study tour to the USA and UK (1999) on "Opportunistic Immunization" and later seconded to Noarlunga Health Service for 1 year to set up an afterhours, co-located GP service in the ED, successfully achieved, within budget.

Lindy eventually entered Aged Care as Director of Care (manager) of a large facility for ECH at Walkerville in 2004 and gradually worked with the team for over 8 years to transform it to a high performing site -professionally and financially -with increasingly high levels of staff engagement.

In 2013/14 (still with ECH) as manager of SA community wellness programs, using the service development and entrepreneurial aspects of her skills, she successfully managed and developed additional community based therapy services to support the community.

Lindy was Director of Nursing and Midwifery for NSW Health from 2016-2018, before she trained formally in mediation and completed a Masters in Health Science. She thrives on creating new services and fostering highly functional teams to work with determination and shared vision.

Most recently she has been project managing with RFDS to improve outback health outcomes and vaccinating including undertaking remote community COVID 19 vaccinations in SA and NT.

Lindy is now a private consultant, supporting the Official Visitor Program (OVP) NSW health (mental health), a RN in Police holding Cells (Pop Up health for SAPOL) and a consultant for One Vault, a cloud based clinical governance tool.