

I have worked at the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Victoria for the past seventeen years and in the role of Coordinator for the past six years.

I am a Western Yalanji, Djabaguy/Okola woman from Far North Queensland but I was born on Wurrundjeri Country in Victoria. I come from a strong Aboriginal family who still reside in FNQ.

I have a history in welfare and I worked for six years at the Victoria Aboriginal Child Care Agency in the Foster Care Section.

I currently do lots of cross cultural education as part of my role at the Ministry; this brings me great joy as I am helping to educate not only children but young adults about our beautiful Culture and our rich faith that we as Aboriginal people naturally possess.



I have many duties in my role including visiting Indigenous Youth in detention, as far as disadvantaged goes these are the most disadvantaged so I appreciate having a chance to engage with them all. I hold a liturgy service on a weekly basis with the Aboriginal Elders at the nursing home in Brunswick Victoria so I am very lucky to have a job that fulfils so many things and brings much joy on a regular basis.

I am a mother to four children whom I am very proud. I have been with my husband for thirty-five years and we live in the Western suburbs of Melbourne. I am extremely passionate about my Aboriginal heritage, culture and my Catholic faith. I love my job and see it more as a lifestyle than anything else, I am passionate about social justice issues and try to offer support whenever I can, we strive at this ministry to continue to fight for Justice for all Aboriginal People.

Contact details are: sherry.balcombe@cam.org.au

<http://natsicc.org.au/victoria.html>