

Artwork by Karina Jeffrey

Turn over to learn more about the inspiration for this artwork.

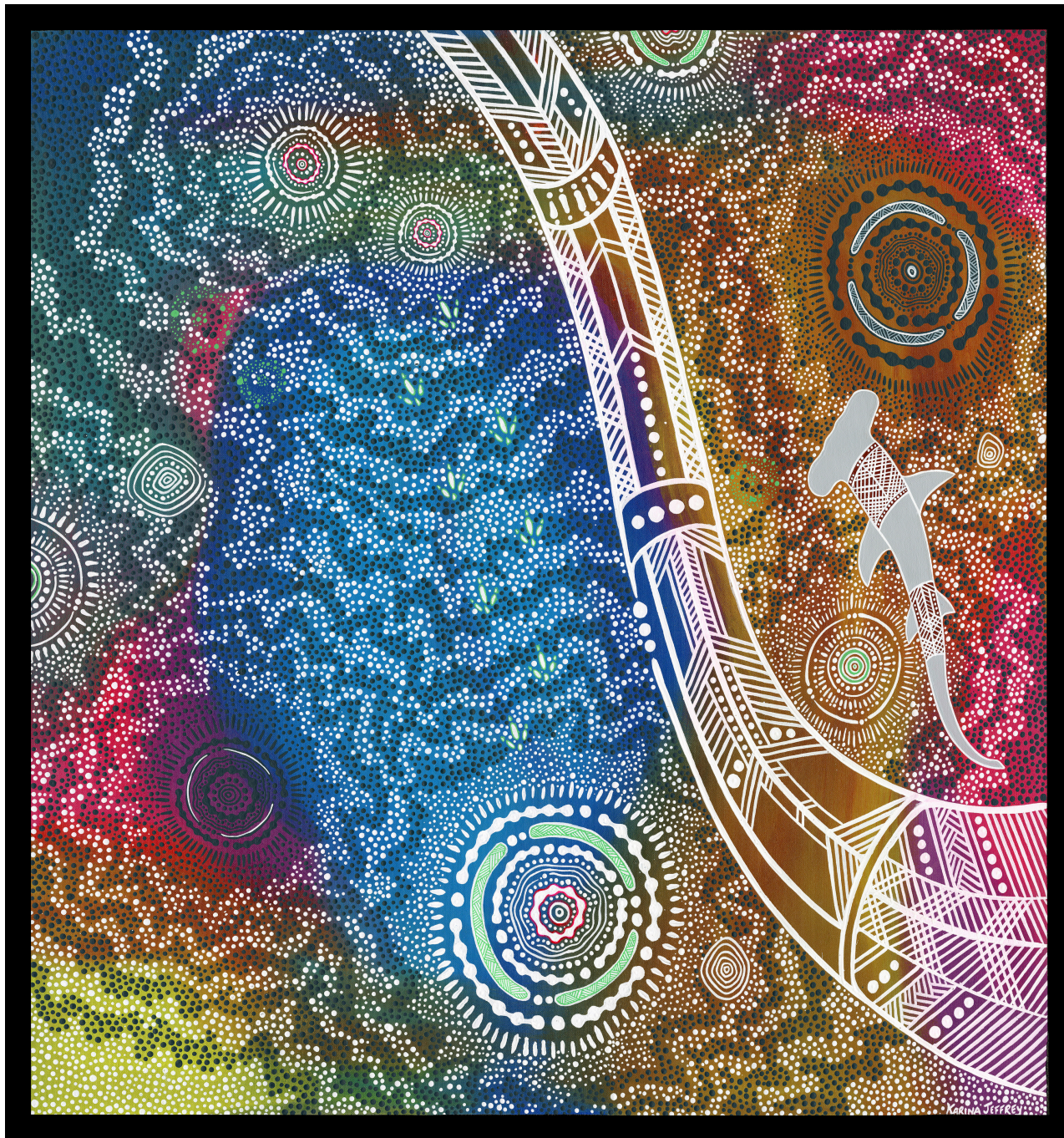
NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK

6-12 September 2026

NAPCAN PREVENT CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT

www.napcan.org.au

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ARTIST STATEMENT

Karina Jeffrey
Garawa Aboriginal Designs

Overview:

This artwork has been created for National Child Protection Week 2026, continuing the theme “Every Conversation Matters: Shifting Conversation to Action.” The design reflects the importance of moving beyond awareness and into meaningful, collective action within communities.

Concept & Symbolism:

The motifs throughout the artwork represent people from all walks of life coming together, sharing, listening, and working collectively towards positive change. Each element reflects connection, support, and the strength found in unity.

Running through the centre of the artwork is a journey line, symbolising the path we take each day to create safer, stronger communities. It represents both individual and shared responsibility in taking action.

On one side of the journey line are emu footprints, symbolising forward movement and progress. The emu was intentionally chosen as it cannot walk backwards, representing the importance of continuing to move forward, one step at a time.

On the opposite side is the hammerhead shark, representing resilience and strength. This symbol reflects the idea that even during challenging times, we must continue to push forward, taking each day as it comes.

Dot Work:

The dots throughout the design represent people across Australia from all different backgrounds, communities who have been supported by, engaged with, or are part of NAPCAN’s work. Together, they form a visual representation of nationwide connection and shared responsibility.

Overall Message:

This artwork speaks to the power of conversation as a catalyst for action. It highlights that through connection, understanding, and collective effort, we can create meaningful change and safer environments for children and communities across Australia.