Susannah Summons

Susannah Summons is an accredited practicing dietitian who has been working in the fields of urban, regional and remote Indigenous health for the last eight years. After working in St Kilda, spending time in the western Top End, and living in Ngukkur in Arnhem Land for around six months, she started visiting the Utopia region of the Northern Territory, which is located around 280 km north-east of Alice Springs. She is now entering her fifth year of working in that region.

The work in Utopia has evolved in response to the expressed needs of the community. Community members expressed concern about the cost of foods in the local store, the difficulty obtaining healthy food, and the subsequent desire to establish remote food gardens. Knowing nothing about gardening herself, Susannah embarked on a three-year food gardens project.

After completing a Certificate 3 in Permaculture and covering her entire lawn with food production gardens and a chook run, she has also now worked in partnership with the people of Utopia over a three-year period to do the same in their backyards.