

Narelle Wickham with Dr. Margaret Chan, Director-General, World Health Organisation 2010 in Geneva, Switzerland.

Narelle Wickham is a graduating student from the MFMF9012 program in May 2010. Narelle's previous Masters was in Adolescent Mental Health. Narelle usually works as a mental health clinician with Justice Health Adolescent Court and Community team and was successful in gaining a WHO internship to work on a project in Geneva in 2010. The project involves taking forward a monitoring tool and developing a training package to assess human rights' violations in psychiatric facilities. Narelle reports that in addition to this interesting project she is able to attend a range of lunchtime seminars including HIV and young women in South Africa, debriefing from team returning from Haiti and on this occasion an address by Dr. Margaret Chan. Dr. Chan spoke on the effects of climate change and its impact on health issues. This included the spread of malaria through the excessive breeding of mosquitoes, increase in cholera through unclean water supply and disease spread through rodent populations. Dr. Chan emphasised the power of the individual in bringing about change, to always confirm information with reference to the media and the need to encourage more women to senior positions.

