



12 December Meeting

Communiqué

The NHLF held their final quarterly meeting of 2019. This meeting was chaired by Donna Murray, CEO of Indigenous Allied Health Australia and Deputy Chair of the NHLF. Several items were discussed that will contribute to the development of the NHLF's agenda in 2020.

The second NATSIHP Implementation Plan and the National Agreement on Closing the Gap Refresh will continue to be priorities for the NHLF. The NHLF advocates for the revised Implementation Plan to inform the health and wellbeing domain under the National Agreement on Closing the Gap refresh.

The NHLF will continue to advocate for self-determination under the Implementation Plan, the National Agreement on the Closing the Gap Refresh and more broadly as stated by the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

The NHLF also requests that cultural safety be embedded into the Australian health care system by becoming a compliance mechanism/target under the NATSIHP Implementation Plan, including measuring racism. This is critical for government agencies to be accountable to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This compliance mechanism complements and aligns with the intent of the new National Safety Quality Health Services Standards and the structural reform priorities under the National Agreement on Closing the Gap Refresh.

The NHLF will continue to engage and inform the Coalition of Australian Governments' (COAG) development of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workforce Plan but call on governments to provide complementary and sustainable investment to support this Plan in practice.

Presentation

NHLF members also received a presentation on the Australian Hospitals and Healthcare Association 'Institutional Racism Project'; the Lowitja Institute's 'Knowledge Translation and Research Impact for Empowerment' project; and received an update and informed PhD candidate Carmen Parter's research study: Bringing meaning and understanding to Culture and Indigenous Knowledge in public health policies – A Case Study: The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan 2013 – 2023.

The first NHLF meeting for 2020, will be held in Canberra on 26 March 2020

For further information, please contact the nhlf@iaha.com.au.