NIHLA MEMBERS

Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association
https://aida.org.au/

Australian Indigenous Psychologists' Association
https://indigenouspsychology.com.au/

First Nations Eye Health Alliance
https://fneha.com.au/#

First Peoples Disability Network
https://fpdn.org.au/

Gayaa Dhuwi (Proud Spirit) Australia
https://www.gayaadhuwi.org.au/

The Healing Foundation
https://healingfoundation.org.au/

Indigenous Allied Health Australia
https://iaha.com.au/

Indigenous Dental Association Australia
https://idaa.com.au/

The Lowitja Institute
https://www.lowitja.org.au/

National Association Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Practitioners
https://www.naatsihwp.org.au/

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ageing and Aged Care Council
https://natsiaacc.org.au/

National Association of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Physiotherapists

Thirrili Suicide Postvention Service
https://thirrili.com.au/

Torres Strait Regional Authority
https://www.tsra.gov.au/

NIHLA
National Indigenous Health Leadership Alliance
Leading Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and Wellbeing

Our vision is for the Australian health system to be free of racism and with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people leading and determining their own solutions that are culturally informed and governed by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities. This Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander way of working can improve access to culturally safe and responsive health care services that are effective, high quality, appropriate and affordable.

WHO ARE WE?

NIHLA, formerly the National Health Leadership Forum, is a partnership of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing organisations committed to dismantling systemic barriers within Australia's mainstream health system. NIHLA was established in response to the 2005 Social Justice Report and has evolved as a leading voice advocating for equitable health and wellbeing outcomes through Indigenous-led strategies.

Our work aligns with the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan, National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workforce Strategic Framework and Implementation Plan, and the National Agreement on Closing the Gap. The Alliance drives strategic reforms, including the integration of cultural determinants of health and accountability mechanisms, ensuring Indigenous voices lead the decisions affecting their health and wellbeing. We hold expertise across health, aged care and disability policy and service delivery, as well as workforce, research, organisational and business development, healing, mental health, and social, cultural, and emotional wellbeing.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health is viewed in a holistic context that recognises not only physical health and wellbeing but also the social, emotional and cultural wellbeing of individuals, families and communities throughout the entire life course (2021-2031 Health Plan).

Foundations to a Healthy Life

OUR OBJECTIVES'

- Eliminate Racism within health and aged care systems (to improve health and wellbeing outcomes).
- Assert systemic and structural reforms through the implementation of the Priority Reforms that underpinned the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.
- Assert self-determination and Indigenous peoples right to be actively involved in developing and determining health, housing and other economic and social programs affecting them.
- Assert support for and investment in community-led solutions.
- Lead collective decision-making in national health policy
- Assert investment and prioritisation in the determinants of health (socioeconomic, cultural, and environmental conditions that impact on health and wellbeing).
- Ensure that Indigenous peoples' free, prior, and informed consent before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measure that affect them (UNDRIP Article 19).

OUR PURPOSE

To drive systemic and structural transformation of mainstream health systems.

Empower Indigenous communities to exercise their right to self-determination (UNDRIP Article 3), enabling them to lead and make informed decisions about their bodies, their health and the healthcare systems that serve them.

Build and strengthen partnerships with governments, healthcare providers, and other stakeholders to collaboratively address health disparities and improve health outcomes for Indigenous peoples.

Support the self-determination of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled organisations.

Advocate for the recognition and protection of the health rights of Indigenous peoples as outlined in the UNDRIP and CRPD, ensuring access to culturally appropriate, inclusive and equitable healthcare services.

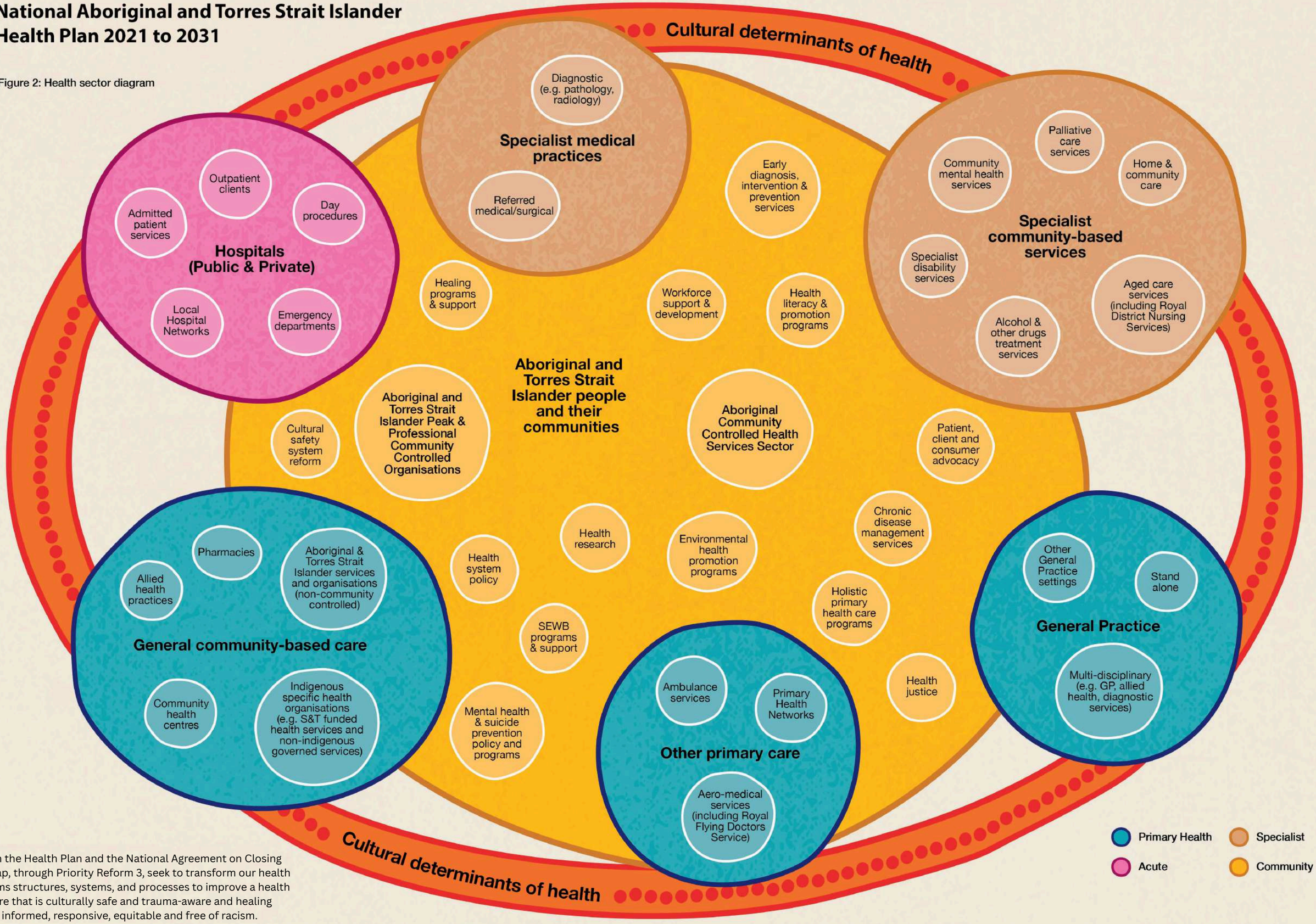
Advance the health and well-being of Indigenous peoples in Australia, guided by the principles and priorities of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and other relevant human rights frameworks such as the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

CONTACT US

Email: admin@nhlf.org.au
Phone: +61 2 6285 1010
PO Box 324, Curtin ACT 2605
www.nihla.org.au

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan 2021 to 2031

Figure 2: Health sector diagram



Both the Health Plan and the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, through Priority Reform 3, seek to transform our health systems structures, systems, and processes to improve a health care that is culturally safe and trauma-aware and healing informed, responsive, equitable and free of racism.