

OVERARCHING POLICY

Closing the Gap Refresh - Priority Reform Areas (DRAFT)

Closing the Gap aims to improve the lives of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. Since 2008, Australian governments have worked together to deliver better health, education and employment outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and to eliminate the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

Priority Reform Area 1

Develop and strengthen structures to ensure the full involvement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in shared decision making at the national, state, local and regional level and embedding their ownership, responsibility and expertise to close the gap.

Priority Reform Area 2

Build the formal Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled service sectors to deliver closing the gap services and programs in agreed priority areas.

Priority Reform Area 3

Ensure mainstream government agencies and institutions that deliver services and programs to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people undertake systemic and structural transformation to contribute to Closing the Gap.

National Aboriginal and Torres Islander Health Plan 2013-2023

Vision: The Australian health system is free of racism and inequality and all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have access to health services that are effective, high quality, appropriate and affordable. Together with strategies to address social inequalities and determinants of health, this provides the necessary platform to realise health equality by 2031.

Continually striving to improve accessibility, appropriateness and impact

A robust, strong, vibrant and effective community controlled health sector

Based on the best possible evidence

Free of racism and inequality

Supported by housing, education, employment and other programs focussed on eliminating the causes of health inequality

Individuals and communities actively engage in decision making and control

Social and emotional wellbeing is a central platform for prevention and clinical care

Older people are able to live out their lives as active, healthy, culturally secure and comfortable as possible

Adults have the health care, support and resources to manage their health and have long, productive lives

Youth get the services and support they need to thrive and grow into healthy young adults

Growth and development of children lays the basis for long healthy lives

Mothers and babies get the best possible care and support for a good start to life