



Aboriginal Health Authority


Monitor Advocate Plan

A New MAP for Aboriginal People's Health Reform



March 2011

NACCHO



THE NATIONAL ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY CONTROLLED HEALTH ORGANISATION (NACCHO) is leading reform in Aboriginal People's health nationally. The National Health and Hospital Reform process has bypassed Aboriginal health as a priority.

A new model for an Aboriginal Health Authority builds on ideas endorsed by leaders in the Aboriginal health sector.

NACCHO is developing with its Members, Affiliates and stakeholders a new, well resourced, strategic Aboriginal Health Authority controlled by Aboriginal Peoples to monitor, advocate and plan for a healthy future.


Aboriginal Health Authority Roles



Monitor to provide transparent, independent national monitoring and evaluation of the range of health services delivered and the effectiveness of the spending by all stakeholders in the Aboriginal People's health sector.

Advocate on behalf of Aboriginal People's health policies and funding priorities at the national level to the Federal and State Governments through the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) and the COAG Ministerial Council on Health.

Plan for our future and be responsible for setting the direction through development of a new National Aboriginal People's Health Policy and a Strategic Plan and advocating this through COAG.





Structure



The body would be administered by a skills based Board of Aboriginal people.

It would be an independent Statutory Authority of the Commonwealth reporting to COAG on Aboriginal People's health.

To maintain its independence and impartiality the Authority would not fund or buy health services but it would advocate for policies and funding priorities **which are equitable**. This is different from the Aboriginal Health Authority fund-holding model recommended by the National Health and Hospital Reform Commission in 2009.

Benefits



An authoritative centre of expertise providing consistency in the Aboriginal People's health sector, independent of changes in governments and health departments.

A driver of cooperation, accountability, transparency between all levels of government and better coordination of services across primary and tertiary health care.

Aboriginal medical services would have access to a body, independent of governments and health departments, developing the policies and planning needed to advance Aboriginal People's health.

Where to now?

NACCHO will be seeking the views of our members and stakeholders in the Aboriginal People's health sector to develop this concept further as well as consulting with the wider community as the concept takes shape.

For more information on the Authority or to share your views
Contact the NACCHO Chairperson's Taskforce:

e: janine@naccho.org.au Janine Englehardt Senior Advisor

e: chris@naccho.org.au Chris Hallett Communications

p: 02 6248 0644

fx: 02 6248 0744

2nd Floor 3 Garema Place Canberra City 2601

PO Box 5120 BRADDON ACT 2612