



## Joint Media Alert



16 November 2007

*For Immediate Release*

### **Aboriginal Health and Health Workforce Sectors Unite to Tackle Aboriginal Health**

#### **Launch of Historic Partnership on Monday 19 November Sheraton on the Park, Sydney**

National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) and Rural Health Workforce Australia are joining forces to improve Aboriginal health outcomes by addressing one of the key factors contributing to their poorer health status - health workforce shortages.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people access mainstream health services such as private general practitioners (GPs – Medicare) and the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) 80% less than the overall Australian population.

This serves to highlight the importance of the Memorandum of Understanding between NACCHO and Rural Health Workforce Australia and their determination to address these issues.

**Media are invited to attend the launch of the Memorandum of Understanding between NACCHO and Rural Health Workforce Australia.**

#### **Interview & Visual Opportunities:**

NACCHO Outgoing Chair, Mr Henry Councillor 0419 929 422  
Rural Health Workforce Australia Chair Mr Jim Birch 0401 122 367  
220 NACCHO members including doctors and Aboriginal Health Workers

#### **When and Where:**

12 pm Monday 19 November  
Grand Ballroom, Sheraton on the Park, 161 Elizabeth Street, Sydney

***For further media information, please contact  
Rural Health Workforce Australia Communications Manager Loretta Walshe on 0400 107 626 or  
NACCHO Media & Communications Officer Dr Margaret Chirgwin on 0424 644 465***