

Senior Aboriginal Public Health Medical Officer

The National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) is the peak body in Aboriginal health, representing over 150 Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services in urban, regional and remote Australia. The Secretariat in Canberra has responsibility for the coordination and development of policies and programs under the direction of the NACCHO Board.

See <http://www.naccho.org.au/>

Primary Objective

Working with the NACCHO Chief Executive Officer and working as part of a public health and health policy team, draw together and support Aboriginal community controlled health services, their general practitioners and other primary health care professionals to coordinate responses to key public health challenges. Take a leadership role in the implementation of the NACCHO Board's strategic direction on promoting research that will build evidence-informed best practice in Aboriginal health policy and service delivery.

Key Responsibilities

The Public Health Medical Officer will:

- Strengthen relationships and liaise with AMA, RACGP, AIDA etc;
- Provide key advice to the Chairperson and NACCHO Board through the CEO on key medical issues pertaining to Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples;
- Build strong links externally and teams internally, of policy and research officers that have the capability of leading in a dynamic community controlled sector network and impacting the wider Aboriginal health agenda;
- Provide Aboriginal leadership and coordination to the National PHMO network;
- Ensure issues of national importance are forwarded to the NACCHO Board through the CEO for their consideration and direction;
- Facilitate effective/timely communication between the eight PHMO's in each of the States and Territories;
- Coordinate input from PHMO's on relevant national consultations being undertaken by DOHA (or other government departments);
- Advise on medical workforce issues thereby fulfilling an important NACCHO strategic plan objective vital to the longevity and life of Aboriginal community controlled primary health care including:
 - Assisting the network to build capacity in the workforce and provide opportunities for succession planning
 - Encourage other younger generations of Aboriginal doctors to explore and fulfil their full potential

Selection Criteria

Essential Criteria:

- Current registration to practice as a Medical Practitioner and specialty training in either general practice or public health.
- Demonstrated knowledge of the contemporary picture of Aboriginal health and in community controlled and Government services in this context.
- Awareness of key current initiatives aimed at improving Aboriginal health.
- Substantial direct experience in the delivery of primary health care and public health programs to Indigenous people.
- Proven verbal and written communication skills suited to a cross-cultural environment and communication with government and other non-government organisations.
- Demonstrated understanding of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander culture and politics including an ability to take direction from Aboriginal management and to work cooperatively in a cross-cultural environment.
- Proven ability to work as part of a team or independently as required.
- Ability to undertake travel including remote locations by road and/or air.
- A current driver's license.

Desirable:

- Formal qualifications in public health or primary health care.
- Previous experience in the supervision of medical staff, especially GPs.

Communication Channels:

Formal – twice yearly PHMO Network meetings; NACCHO Board meetings; State/Territory PHMO Reports; NACCHO Business Plan/SDRF.

Informal – NACCHO Communication Network; Emails; Phone calls; Letters of request providing information.

Further information can be obtained through www.naccho.org.au or contact Donna Ah Chee, CEO on 02 6248 0644 or email donna@naccho.org.au.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are strongly encouraged to apply.

Applications for this position close at COB on 18th November 2011.

Applications marked 'Confidential' to:

Donna Ah Chee CEO – NACCHO
PO Box 5120
BRADDON ACT 2612

Or by email to: donna@naccho.org.au