



Memorandum of Understanding between the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation and the Royal Australian Air Force 2015-2019

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) and the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) highlights our shared commitment to improved outcomes across the lifespan of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- 1.2 The MoU details the role of NACCHO and the RAAF (the parties) in delivering mutually agreed projects into Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.
- 1.3 This collaboration between the parties is not legally binding. It is built upon the values of: Respect, Excellence, Agility, Dedication, Integrity and Teamwork. Further, it recognises that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have served Country for millennia and have participated in the RAAF since its inception.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 NACCHO is the national body which represents the health and wellbeing needs and interests of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. Managing around 300 fixed and mobile clinics, our 150 Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation Member Services speak authoritatively on what constitutes the effective delivery system of comprehensive primary health care to Aboriginal people, families and communities. As an integral and growing part of Australia's primary health care infrastructure over the past 45 years, NACCHO's Member Services work with governments, private providers, hospitals and specialists to increase access, provide affordable quality care, and close the gap on health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.
- 2.2 The RAAF is the second oldest independent Air Force in the world and provides air and space power for Australia's security. The RAAF is committed to maintaining enduring relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across Country and to recognise world views that have served Aboriginal peoples – the longest continuing culture in the world – into all aspects of its work.
- 2.3 The Kummundoo program (the Kalkadood word for eagle) and its various initiatives are a key part of the RAAF Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Strategy - Our Place, Our Skies.

3 PURPOSE OF THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

- 3.1 To outline the roles and responsibilities of the parties in relation to the provision and support of any of the agreed Kummundoo program initiatives.
- 3.2 To outline working relationships between the parties in negotiation and liaison with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, Commonwealth and State agencies, and other organisations.

4 AIM

- 4.1 The overarching Kummundoo program is about walking the talk in community engagement. It creates opportunities for our people to deploy into unique environments to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities on mutually agreed projects across the breadth of our capability.
- 4.2 This particular Kummundoo initiative will work with NACCHO, as the national peak body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, to develop a partnership in which RAAF can contribute to enhancing primary health care outcomes in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

5 OBJECTIVES

- 5.1 In delivering joint Kummundoo initiatives under this MoU, the parties will:
 - 5.1.1 Champion culturally safe and mutually beneficial community engagement.
 - 5.1.2 Develop respect for the expertise, membership and role of each organisation through peer to peer professional engagement.
 - 5.1.3 Encourage and support those who provide services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.
 - 5.1.4 Build on the reputation for excellence for both organisations.

6 NACCHO'S ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 6.1 NACCHO will broker local community support and act as liaison between RAAF and the communities into which RAAF personnel will deploy.
- 6.2 NACCHO will liaise with Commonwealth and State agencies.
- 6.3 NACCHO will provide cultural induction briefings to RAAF personnel engaged in joint Kummundoo initiatives (pre-deployment).

7 RAAF'S ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 7.1 RAAF will supply skilled and accredited personnel relevant to the agreed initiatives.
- 7.2 RAAF will cover all costs related to the participation of its people.
- 7.3 RAAF will provide a brief post activity report and a process evaluation following each joint initiative.

8 GENERAL

- 8.1 This MoU will come into effect on the date on which the MoU is signed by the parties and will remain in effect for a period of five years, unless terminated earlier by either party after providing 60 days written notice of its intention to do so.
- 8.2 The parties may vary or extend this MoU by agreement in writing.
- 8.3 The parties will jointly review the performance and content of this MoU on an annual basis. Where disputes arise, consultation between the parties will be encouraged so that these disputes can be amicably settled.
- 8.4 The primary points of contact for this MoU are: the NACCHO Chief Executive Officer and the RAAF Director of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs.

Matthew Cooke
NACCHO Chairperson
March 2015

AIRMSHL Geoff Brown AO
Chief of Air Force
March 2015