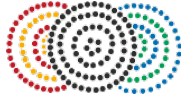




NATIONAL RURAL
HEALTH
ALLIANCE INC.



NATSIHWA
National Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander Health Worker Association



CATSINaM
CONGRESS OF ABORIGINAL AND TORRES
STRAIT ISLANDER NURSES AND MIDWIVES



...good health and wellbeing in rural and remote Australia

MEDIA RELEASE

26 May 2016

Amplifying the Voice of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Rural Health Professionals

The National Rural Health Alliance (the Alliance) today welcomed the important voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nurses, midwives and health workers to its membership.

The Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives (CATSINaM), and the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Worker Association (NATSIHWA) join the now 38-member strong Alliance of key national bodies working to improve rural and remote health in Australia.

Janine Mohamed, CEO of CATSINaM, said “the Alliance provides a unique platform for national organisations across the rural and remote health spectrum to come together and deliver a united message on priority issues”.

“Chief amongst these are the vital contributions Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nurses and midwives make to improving rural and remote health outcomes, and the devastating impact of racism, wherever it occurs, on the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.”

A primary purpose of the Alliance is to provide policy advice to government and decision makers on steps to be taken to enable rural and remote Australians to enjoy fair and equal access to quality health services and life opportunities, right across the country.

NATSIHWA’s CEO, Dwayne Pearce said he looked forward to the prospect of helping the Alliance with its work, particularly that which is related to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing. “We recognise the comparative disadvantage of people in rural and remote areas and are committed to working together to highlight the important role of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers and practitioners in providing a healthier and more positive future for current and future generations.”

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The National Rural Health Alliance is Australia’s peak non-government organisation for rural and remote health. Its vision is good health and wellbeing in rural and remote Australia.