



NAATSIHWP
National Association of Aboriginal and Torres
Strait Islander Health Workers and Practitioners

MEDIA RELEASE

National Day of Recognition for the critical Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health Worker and Health Practitioner Workforce

The National Association of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Practitioners (NAATSIHWP) are proud to invite the Australian public to join us on **7th of August 2021** for the **Inaugural National Day of Recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Practitioners**.

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Health Practitioners are the world's only Indigenous health professions underpinned by national training and regulation. For many years, NAATSIHWP's members have been critical to the safe and effective delivery of primary health care services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and communities. Their combination of clinical, cultural, social and linguistic skills delivers an engagement capability and community reach that sets them apart from other health professionals.

NAATSIHWP, as the peak body for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Health Practitioners, believes that our members often do not receive the recognition they deserve for their crucial work. As our workforce is a world first, the unique nature of NAATSIHWP's members and their work should be a source of National pride.

Accordingly, NAATSIHWP's members have collectively agreed that the 7th of August, the day of NAATSIHWP's incorporation in 2009, would be appropriate to celebrate the achievements of the workforce over many years.

To join us in celebrating the amazing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Worker and Health Practitioner workforce you can:

1. Share your own stories about interacting with our health workforce, or alternatively share those posted on NAATSIHWP social media using the hashtag #NAATSIHWPHeroes
2. If you are a member of the mainstream community and know little about this workforce we would encourage you to take steps to find out more. The NAATSIHWP website at: <https://www.naatsihwp.org.au/> is a great place to start.
3. NAATSIHWP is also a registered charity, if you would like to support us through a donation you can find more information at <https://www.naatsihwp.org.au/>

For media enquiries, please contact David Follent on 0477 440 337 or email chair@naatsihwp.org.au