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MEDIA RELEASE

The National Day of Recognition 2024

The National Association of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Practitioners (NAATSIHWP) invites all Australians to join us in celebrating the National Day of Recognition for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Health Practitioners.

The National Day of Recognition, observed annually on Wednesday 7 August 2024, provides an important opportunity to acknowledge and appreciate the invaluable contribution Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Health Practitioners make to the health care system. This year, the theme for the National Day of Recognition is **'More Men for our Mob.'**

[Data](#) shows that the percentage of men represented in the Workforce continues to be disproportionate to the percentage of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander men who require culturally safe primary health care across the nation. In emphasising the importance of increasing male participation proud Kuku Yalanji man and Chief Executive Officer of NAATSIHWP Karl Briscoe said,

"We know that having more men in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health Worker and Health Practitioner roles will encourage our men to engage with the health care system and prioritise their health. Ultimately it will lead to improved health and wellbeing outcomes for our people. We need to support our men and women, everyone, to enter these professions, NAATSIHWP is a strong advocate for this."

Whilst drawing attention to the positives of joining the workforce, annual National Day of Recognition celebrations also provide an opportunity to recognise and celebrate our practicing Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Health Practitioners. [Reports](#) highlight that the professions are integral to improving health and wellbeing outcomes. They facilitate culturally safe care and keep Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people connected to and engaged in, the health care system.

In this respect Karl said, *"Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Health Practitioners place our cultures and people at the heart of what we do. As well as it being a rewarding career path in primary healthcare, you get to work with and for Mob. To our young people wanting to make a difference, I recommend you look toward the impact Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Health Practitioners are having in our communities,"* said Karl.

You can help us to celebrate the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health Worker and Health Practitioner professions and the invaluable role they play in their local health services and communities by:

- Using a [National Day of Recognition e-signature](#) in your emails
- Printing off a [National Day of Recognition poster](#) to stick up in your workplace
- Holding an office morning tea on 7 August
- Sharing NAATSIHWP social media posts about the day
- Sharing your positive thoughts about the Workforce on your socials, and using the tags #NDor2024, #MoreMenForOurMob and #GrowingOurWorkforce.

For media enquiries, please contact NAATSIHWP CEO, Karl Briscoe on (02) 6221 9221 or email ceo@naatsihwp.org.au

