

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday 16th January 2018

CLOSING THE GAP DAY 2018: STRIVING FOR INDIGENOUS HEALTH EQUALITY

The Northern Health Network (NHN) invites you to join them for a celebration of Indigenous culture at Closing the Gap Day, to be held at the Adelaide Showground on Thursday 22nd March. Closing the Gap Day brings together community members, health providers and great entertainers to promote Indigenous health equality. Featuring an abundance of entertainment with music by Nancy Bates and Ellie Lovegrove, comedy by Joshua Warrior and appearances by former AFL Crows Stars including Eddie Hocking as well as many fun activities for children including a petting zoo, jumping castle, face painting and more.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people can expect to live up to 10-17 years less than non-Indigenous Australians. The health gap exists largely as a result of decades of government inaction and a continuing lack of appropriate medical services. The Australian Government's National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan 2013-2023 identifies actions to address challenges in the current system and improve the patient journey of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The NHN is funded by the Adelaide Primary Health Network to deliver the Closing the Gap program in metropolitan Adelaide, Yorke and Mid North SA. The program is provided by a team of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Outreach Workers and Care Coordinators who work together to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to obtain primary health care as required, provide care coordination services to eligible Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with chronic disease/s who require coordinated, multidisciplinary care, and improve access for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to culturally appropriate mainstream primary care.

"The NHN is proud of its association with the Closing the Gap program and we see Closing the Gap Day as a vital step to increase the awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait people's health needs. This celebration is one way to bring the community together, to have fun and talk about what needs to be done to make people well," said Sageran Naidoo, CEO.

Closing the Gap Day will be held from 11am – 3:00 pm at the Ridley Centre, Adelaide Showground. The event is FREE and encourages attendance by people from all walks of life.

To find out more and register online for this free event, visit www.closingthegapday.net

If you require transport assistance to the event, contact the Northern Health Network by phone on (08) 8209 0700 or email info@closingthegapday.net

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About the Northern Health Network

The Northern Health Network (NHN) has a long 24 year history of working with and for general practice. The Northern Health Network has a diverse funding base which includes both the Adelaide Primary Health Network and Country South Australia Primary Health Network, headspace National, state government, in addition to private funders.

The Northern Health Network is one of the leading and largest providers of high quality, mental health services available to the community. Over the past 24 years, The NHN has earned a solid reputation for the provision of high quality, evidence-based clinical psychological therapy services that are relevant to the complex needs of the local community, delivering clinical services across the age range and complexity of mental health concerns.

Additionally, the NHN delivers a range of integrated community health services, including health projects and the Aboriginal health program, Closing the Gap. The Northern Health Network is committed to improving the patient journey through integrated and coordinated care to ensure clients are able to access multiple service types to address their requirements and receive high quality, culturally appropriate care in a timely manner.

Media Enquiries

Please call (08) 8209 0700 or email comms@northernhealth.net

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