

# **Health Equity Regional Consultations**



written

submissions

#### **April to June 2021**

14 April	15 April	19 April	29 April	7 May	14 May	17 May	24 May	31 May	1 June	2 June	4 June	9 June
Bundaberg	Hervey Bay	Toowoomba	Charleville	Maroochydore	Cairns	Bamaga, Thursday Is, Weipa	Longreach	Townsville	Mackay	Rockhampton	South-East Queensland (in Brisbane)	Mount Isa

### **IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES**

## **Hervey Bay**

workshops



Increase Queensland Health's First Nations employment targets

commensurate to local population or hospital presentation rates (which is greater).

Establish regional coordination care hubs and integrated care pathways.

Establish regional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Controlled Health Organisations.

#### PRINCIPLE 1: FIRST NATIONS LEADERSHIP

- Community to come together and become part of the decision making process for the new Health Equity Strategy.
- Provide mentorships for community members to become future HHS board members.
- Value the cultural and community expertise of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- Directly engage with community and find out what they need and want to improve their health

#### PRINCIPLE 2: LOCAL AND REGIONAL DECISION-MAKING

- Think smarter and differently to improve the health system engagement and partnerships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples can't be tokenistic.
- The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled health sector and HHSs need to work together to better serve the local community.
- Ensure effective partnerships have accountability mechanisms established so all healthcare providers engage fairly.
- The Commonwealth Government and the Primary Health Network (PHN) are key partners.
- Acknowledge the past but focus forward—opportunity to reset the health system to effectively meet the needs of community.

# **PRINCIPLE 3:** REORIENTING LOCAL HEALTH SYSTEMS

- Increase the supply of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers (all occupational streams) so HHSs and ATSICCHOs don't have to compete for staff due to current staff shortages.
- Strengthen and streamline the patient journey— and if Aunty can't come to a service, the service comes to her.
- Employ more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander advocates to help mob navigate the health system and create employment pathways.
- Consider best use of limited resources and ensure healthcare providers are **not duplicating resources or services**.
- Ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have choice in accessing healthcare services they need and want.
- Ensure mainstream funding is allocated to improving
   Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health—can't only rely
   on 'Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander specific funds'
   because the health needs are too great.
- Design cultural models of care to meet community needs, including more in-reach and outreach services.
- All healthcare providers to clearly understand their role in the health system and the patient journey.

#### PRINCIPLE 4: CULTURAL CAPABILITY

participants,

including

nine in Hervey Bay

- Increase education because most non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people don't understand cultural capability or racism.
- Encourage
  'courageous
  conversations' within
  the HHS about racism
  and cultural capability.
- Improve communication with mob by using language and terminology that people understand.
- Implement an antiracism campaign in tandem with the new Health Equity Strategies.

### PRINCIPLE 5: SOCIAL DETERMINANTS

OF HEALTH

• Increased recognition and understanding that the causal factors of health are due to social determinants—better integration is needed between the health system and other social support services.