

## MEETING 27 APRIL 2023

The Kimberley Aboriginal Health Planning Forum (KAHPF) met on 27 April 2023 in Derby at the Derby Aboriginal Health Service. The KAHPF is the peak regional health forum for improving health outcomes for Aboriginal people in the Kimberley region of Western Australia (WA).

KAHPF members received an update from the Department of Fire and Emergency Services and the Department of Communities on the implementation of the **Kimberley Flood Recovery Framework**. Members highlighted where State agencies can work better together to achieve the social outcomes of Framework. Members agreed that urgent action is required to accelerate progress responding to the devastating flood by:

- delivering services and programs to support social and emotional wellbeing
- supporting people that are currently living in temporary accommodation
- assisting people to return home into safe accommodation

The KAHPF was updated on progress of contingency planning for provision of the **BreastScreen WA Mobile Service** to Kimberley communities in 2023, which have been disrupted because of the Kimberley Flood Incident. Members highlighted where BreastScreen WA could work in collaboration with the KAHPF to plan services, and they noted the importance of the mobile service in reducing illness and death from breast cancer through early detection of abnormalities.

Professor Alex Brown, Professor of Indigenous Genomics at the Australian National University and Telethon Kids Institute, and Director, National Centre for Indigenous Genomics updated the KAHPF on the **Indigenous cultural understandings of Kinship and Inheritance as a basis for communicating Genomic Science** project which is being undertaken as part of the Consortium for National Indigenous Genomics Capacity (CONNECT) research platform.

The KAHPF were provided an update on the work of the **Kimberley Supports Consortium** to provide targeted support to ensure equity and access to the National Disability Insurance Scheme by Kimberley Aboriginal people through Evidence, Access, and Coordination of Planning; Remote Community Connectors; Remote Early Childhood Supports.

Professor Angus Turner provided an update on Lions Outback Vision's plans to increase **retinal screening** throughout the region.

In September 2021, with consideration of service delivery needs during the COVID-19 pandemic, the KAHPF placed a moratorium on new research projects. KAHPF has now lifted this moratorium, and proposed projects may now be assessed by the **Research Sub-committee** before being reviewed by the WA Aboriginal Health Ethics Committee. The Kimberley Aboriginal Health Research Alliance assists the Sub-committee and provides advice and recommendations to KAHPF on matters of health research in the region.

The KAHPF welcomed new core members, **Bidyadanga Aboriginal Corporation La Grange** and **Lions Outback Vision**, and new associate members the Australian Government **Department of Social Services** and the **Department of Communities**.

# Communique

At the meeting, members considered and endorsed:

- Terms of Reference
  - KAHPF
  - Maternal, Child and Youth Health Sub-committee
  - Research Sub-committee
- Action Plans
  - Maternal, Child and Youth Health Sub-committee
  - Kimberley Ear Health Coordinating Panel
- Kimberley Clinical Protocols
  - Child Abuse and Neglect
  - Child Sexual Abuse
  - Family and Domestic Violence
  - Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Screening

These documents can be located on the [KAHPF website](#).

The KAHPF acknowledged the friendly, welcoming hospitality of the team at the Derby Aboriginal Health Service and thanked them for hosting the meeting. Members agreed to hold their next meeting at the end of June in Broome, with a focus on a review of the KAHPF Strategic Plan 2018-2028.

## Organisations in attendance at the 27 April 2023 meeting

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### Core Members

- Bidyadanga Aboriginal Corporation La Grange
- Boab Health
- Broome Regional Aboriginal Medical Service
- Derby Aboriginal Health Service
- Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services
- Lions Outback Vision
- Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services
- Nirrumbuk Environmental Health and Services
- Royal Flying Doctor Service

- WA Country Health Service

### Associate Members:

- Aboriginal Health Council of WA
- Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care
- Rural Health West
- St John WA
- Department of Social Services
- Department of Communities

