

# Communique

## MEETING 31 AUGUST 2023

The Kimberley Aboriginal Health Planning Forum (KAHPF) met on 31 August 2023 in Kununurra at the Kununurra-Waringarri Aboriginal Corporation.

Following their recent **strategic planning** review workshop, held 7 August 2023 in Broome, the KAHPF discussed their vision, goal, scope and key directions, and the importance of aligning efforts to the National Agreement on Closing the Gap. Members agreed to hold a second workshop with Sub-committee representatives, to solidify these directions and to determine an implementation plan.

KAHPF members received an update from **St John WA** on initiatives that they are working on to improve Aboriginal communities' access to services and to ensure that services are culturally safe. St John WA are working to alleviate barriers associated with calling an ambulance, to address gaps in access to patient transport services, to recruit Aboriginal people into their workforce, and to enhance their cultural competency. KAHPF members look forward to working in partnership with St John WA to support their initiatives.

Members heard an update from the WA Country Health Service about the **Patient Assisted Transport Scheme (PATS)**, and how WACHS are making accessing PATS easier. Country Patient Health Support ([Country PatHS](#)) is a patient journey coordination and support service for vulnerable people and their supports travelling to Perth from the Kimberley to access specialist health care.

The KAHPF endorsed a process for endorsement of use of the KAHPF logo, for non-routine publications and documents. **Approval to use the KAHPF logo** can be sought via the KAHPF Senior Policy Officer: [kahpf@kamsc.org.au](mailto:kahpf@kamsc.org.au).

At the meeting, members considered and endorsed:

- Terms of Reference
  - Chronic Disease Sub-committee
  - Environmental Health Sub-committee
  - Kimberley Regional Aboriginal Men's Health Sub-committee
  - Sexual and Reproductive Health Sub-committee
- Action Plans
  - Kimberley Regional Aboriginal Men's Health Sub-committee
- Other
  - Research Sub-committee membership and confidentiality agreement

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

The KAHPF noted updates provided by the Kimberley Ear Health Coordinating Panel, Rural Health West, and the Aboriginal Health Council of WA.

Members agreed to hold their next meeting in October in Broome, with a continued focus on the review of the KAHPF Strategic Plan 2018-2028.

# Communique

## Organisations in attendance at the 31 August 2023 meeting

---

### Core Members

- Boab Health
- Broome Regional Aboriginal Medical Service
- Derby Aboriginal Health Service
- Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services
- Milliya Rumurra Aboriginal Corporation
- Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services
- Nirrumbuk Environmental Health and Services
- Ord Valley Aboriginal Health Service
- Royal Flying Doctor Service
- WA Country Health Service, Kimberley
- Yura Yungi Medical 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
- Kimberley Stolen Generation Aboriginal Corporation
- WA Primary Health Alliance