



Cultural diversity and respect in achieving health equity **CATSINaM**

A National Conference of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives from across the country will demonstrate how culturally respectful and relevant health care is critical in achieving health equity in Australia.

Health professionals are invited to the Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives (CATSINaM) Annual Conference, *"All the same but totally different"*, to share their experiences and hear from leading thinkers in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health sector.

CATSINaM CEO, Janine Milera, said,

"Our members provide leadership in delivering high quality health care that incorporates diversity, respects Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' culture, is relevant to their needs and is valued within their communities."

"We are pleased to have attracted several leading Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander thinkers to speak at the conference.

"Dr Pat Anderson will highlight how racism is making our people sick, Dr Tom Calma will discuss tobacco control in Aboriginal communities, Professor Kerry Arabena will emphasize the need and impact of Aboriginal Health Leadership and Ms Donna Ah Chee will present on the positive impact of the Nurse Family Partnership Program for Aboriginal families in Alice Springs."

This year, CATSINaM has introduced a new 'Partnership Award' that will recognize culturally respectful, committed and successful partnerships between our Members and other organisations who are addressing health equity.

"We hope this will inspire and invigorate ongoing partnership work, as we continue working with our members and other health professionals to achieve ongoing improvement in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health outcomes.

"Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nurses and midwives play a pivotal and respected role in achieving health equity across the Australian health system. This conference is a chance to share, celebrate and acknowledge their work.

"Places are limited so we encourage people to register now."

What: "All the same but totally different", CATSINaM Annual Conference

When & Where: 7-8 October 2013, Hotel Realm in Canberra

Who: Dr Pat Anderson, Dr Tom Calma, Prof. Kerry Arabena, Hon Dr Chris Burke, Donna Ah Chee and Ms Mary Buckskin,

Media Contact: Laura McLean 0423 377 567