



New chair for the National Health Leadership Forum

The CEO of CATSINaM, Mrs Janine Mohamed, has been elected chair of the National Health Leadership Forum (NHLF), which represents peak bodies in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health.

The appointment comes at a critical time for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health policy and for wider policy developments affecting the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Mrs Mohamed thanked her colleagues in the Forum for their support, and said she looked forward to advocating strongly for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health in the lead up to the Federal election.

“We will be advocating strongly for proper funding for the implementation of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan,” she said.

“We cannot allow the Refresh of the National Close the Gap strategy to lead to yet more under-funded policy. Governments must step up in funding and actually implementing the programs and services required to achieve better outcomes.”

Mrs Mohamed paid tribute to Richard Weston, CEO of the Healing Foundation, for the leadership he had provided over past years as Chair of the NHLF, and for his ongoing work to promote healing from the traumas of colonisation.

“I am deeply honoured to have the opportunity to work with my colleagues in the National Health Leadership Forum in advocating for the health and wellbeing of our people,” Mrs Mohamed said.

“The NHLF strongly supports the importance of increasing the numbers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health professionals and the need to increase investment in the Aboriginal community controlled health sector,” she said.

“Another key focus is the need to work with the mainstream health sector in improving the cultural safety and responsiveness of the services they provide to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients and their families.”

Mrs Mohamed said she was proud that through her work with the NHLF, the voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nurses and midwives would be strongly heard in the political and policy domains.

“Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nurses and midwives have a long and proud history of advocating and contributing to better policy, programs and services,” she said.

Mrs Mohamed will hold the position for the next term.



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