



RWAV Statement of Commitment to Reconciliation

July, 2024

Acknowledgment of Country

Rural Workforce Agency Victoria (RWAV) acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the lands, skies, and waterways across Victoria and Australia. We pay our respects to Elders, past and present, Aboriginal, and Torres Strait Islander people, and the organisations who work closely with us to improve the healthcare of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Victoria.

RWAV

RWAV improves access to quality primary care health services and other health services for rural, regional and First Nations communities across Victoria. We improve health outcomes through effective and customised health workforce solutions that are informed through partnerships, workforce and population health data, and collaboration with communities.

RWAV Statement of Commitment to Reconciliation

This Statement is a foundational starting point outlining RWAV's future approach and commitment to do things differently as we transition from our Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) to Innovate RAP.

RWAV strives to improve our efforts to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples across the communities we serve. We are committed to making necessary adjustments to better support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander access to healthcare and health and well-being outcomes.

RWAV recognises that historical events of the past, as a result of dispossession and invasion, continue to cause grief, suffering and intergenerational trauma among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities today. RWAV will continue to embed a culture of reconciliation throughout our organisation.

RWAV recognises that self-determination, listening to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices, genuine partnership and proactive action to address systemic change will be essential to work towards reconciliation.

In the next 12 months RWAV will prioritise:

- Continuing our work in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health organisations to enhance access to culturally safe healthcare.
- Investigating what we are currently doing, and what we need to change, to address each of the priority reforms identified in the 2024 Productivity Commission's first review report on progress on the National Agreement on Closing the Gap. This will inform future development of an Innovate RAP.
- Enhancing our Outreach programs to foster and strengthen relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to support initiatives that address both the health workforce and the comprehensive health needs of their communities.
- Enhancing our Recruitment programs to develop and deliver effective, tailored recruitment and workforce support programs for ACCHOs in collaboration with VACCHO.
- Continuing to support our grants program to upskill Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health professionals.
- Increasing the availability of our RAP grants for general practices, allied health and primary care services in rural Victoria to support the development of their RAPs and promote engagement with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to improve business practices and cultural safety.



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