



Neporendi Aboriginal Forum Inc, Strategic Plan 2020-23

PURPOSE:

We will collectively guide and advocate for the provision of accessible and culturally safe community health services, protection of cultural knowledge, and the continuing connection to land and culture for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in southern Adelaide and the Fleurieu region.

VALUES:

- Prioritise our community in everything we do
- Recognise and embody Indigenous rights in accordance with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous peoples (2007)
- Respect the diversity of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander cultures
- Be open minded
- Learn from our collective experiences

OUR VISION

Recognition, Rights & Reforms Now for Future Generations

GOALS:

- **Self Determination** – Our community can freely pursue their own economic, social and cultural development. *(From article 3 UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 2007)*
- **Sustainable Service Provision** – We are sustainable and do not rely on government funding to continue to serve the community.
- **Rights are protected** – We are advocates for the protection of land, cultural and intellectual property rights in our community.
- **Strong community** – Our community are proud of our heritage(s) and are free to be who we are.

PRIORITIES:

Self Determination

- Ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in the Southern region have a platform(s) for their voices to be heard and included.
- Provide leadership and support to strengthen governance on key matters of significance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Sustainable Community Health Service Provision

- Identify, develop and maintain key business opportunities and partnerships for environmental, social, cultural and economic benefits.

Rights are protected

- Recognise, support and protect the cultural identity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and customs, cultural knowledge and intellectual property rights.

Strong Connected Community

- Maintain links to culture, preserve and maintain Important Kaurna heritage sites.

ACTION PLAN

This journey aligns with the Neporendi Business Plan, the vehicle to supporting these goals and actions.

GOAL 1. Self Determination – Our community can freely pursue their own economic, social and cultural development.

OBJECTIVE	ACTIONS	WHO	WHEN
Ensure that our community's voice is heard and included.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure Elders are acknowledged and supported. • Communication Plan developed with key messaging and strong branding of NAFI. • Ensure ongoing engagement with Elected Members, Staff and community. • Develop & maintain relationships with key stakeholders & networks. • Engage with Aboriginal Nations of South Australia. • Utilise media to promote NAFI and CoO events. • Promote the Uluru Statement from the Heart & the Letters Patent (SA) 	CoO NAFI	ongoing
Provide leadership and support to strengthen governance on key matters of significance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide leadership to support and strengthen the governance through various programs including the Women of Courage leadership program. • Support and promote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth in leadership. • Develop joint and agreed policies, plans and strategies and submissions on key matters of significance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. 		

GOAL 2. Sustainable Community Health Service Provision – We are sustainable and do not rely on government funding to continue to serve the community.

OBJECTIVE	ACTIONS	WHO	WHEN
Identify, develop and maintain key business opportunities and partnerships for environmental, social, cultural and economic benefits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote sustainable outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities with respect to social, cultural, heritage, language, health, economic and environmental rights and aspirations including connection to country. 	CoO NAFI	ongoing

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To relocate to a more accessible & purposeful location, • Promote economic development through the arts and cultural tourism, • Identify, support and facilitate culturally safe, training and employment pathways of aspiring Aboriginal artists and cultural tourism operators. • Promote sustainable employment outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples with respect to cultural heritage and environmental aspirations including Working on Country. • Develop, support, influence and participate in research and partnerships which advance the objectives of the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community; 		
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GOAL 3. Rights are protected – We are advocates for the protection of land, cultural and intellectual property rights in our community.

OBJECTIVE	ACTIONS	WHO	WHEN
Recognise, support and protect the cultural identity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and customs, cultural knowledge and intellectual property rights.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognise, support and protect the cultural identity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and customs, cultural knowledge and intellectual property rights and interests. • Identify areas for the growing of culturally important plant species across the City area. • Improve and maintain relationship with Kaurua heritage and Native Title body with respect to local Kaurua issues, legal and cultural heritage matters. 	CoO NAFI	ongoing

GOAL 4. Strong community – Our community is proud of their heritage and are free to be who they are.

OBJECTIVE	ACTIONS	WHO	WHEN
Maintain links to culture, preserve and maintain Important Kaurua heritage sites and resting places.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the protection and maintenance of culture through growing and processing traditional foods and medicines. 	CoO NAFI	ongoing

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the development of various Aboriginal language classes • Raise the awareness & understanding of the culture and the profile of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the local area. Through various activities and events Including Reconciliation and NAIDOC week. • Artistic and cultural pursuits and career pathways are supported through initiatives such as an artist in residence program and arts exhibitions. • Facilitate engagement with key stakeholders to ensure the return of Old People to Kaurna country. • Supporting the repatriation of ancestral remains, and protection of resting places 		
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Definitions in the context of our work

Community: The concept of community is of critical importance to Aboriginal people, referring to the relationships that we share with each other. Our concept of community engenders a sense of belonging, including cultural, emotional, and social ties that bind us to family, kin, and Country.¹

Cultural safety:

Cultural safety represents a key philosophical shift from providing a service regardless of difference, to care that takes account of peoples’ unique needs. It requires all people to undertake an ongoing process of self-reflection and cultural self-awareness and an acknowledgement of how these impact on interactions and service delivery.

It is well recognised that people who live or work within a culture other than their own need to recognise that their own beliefs and behaviours (i.e. ‘culture’) will have an impact upon their treatment and care of, or service provision to, their clientele.

Cultural safety is central to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their relationships with the health system. Cultural safety describes a state, where people are enabled and feel they can access health care that suits their needs, are able to challenge personal or institutional racism levels (when they experience it), establish trust in services and expect effective, quality care.²

Health:

“Aboriginal health means not just the physical well-being of an individual but refers to the social, emotional and cultural well-being of the whole Community in which each individual can achieve their full potential as a human being thereby bringing about the total well-being of their Community. It is a whole of life view and includes the cyclical concept of life-death-life.” (NACCHO 2011³)

¹ <https://www.absec.org.au/images/downloads/AbSec-Policy-Brief-Community-of-Belonging.pdf>

² Nursing Council of New Zealand 2011, p7
<file:///C:/Users/ritc0046/AppData/Local/Downloads/Guidelines-for-cultural-safety-TW.pdf>

³ NACCHO (National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation). Constitution for the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation; NACCHO: Canberra, Australia, 2011.

Self-determination: is fundamental to improving Indigenous health and wellbeing. It means equal entitlement to be in control of our own destinies while living with governing institutions.⁴

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP): is an international instrument adopted by the United Nations on September 13, 2007, to enshrine (according to Article 43) the rights that “constitute the minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of the indigenous peoples of the world.”⁵

⁴ O’Mara, P. (2012). ‘The spirit of the tent embassy: 40 years on’, *Medical Journal of Australia*, 197 (1): 9-10. doi: 10.5694/mja12.10829

⁵ United Nations (2007). *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, New York, United Nations, http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/DRIPS_en.pdf