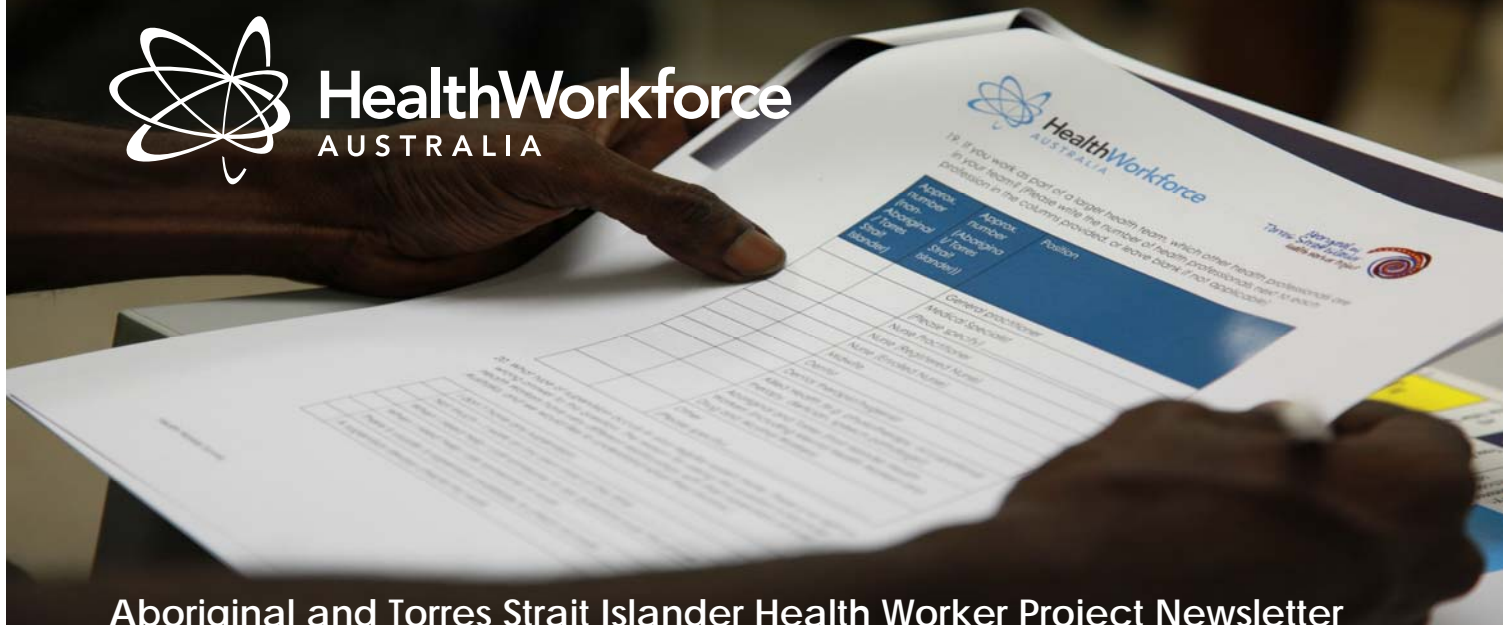


HealthWorkforce
AUSTRALIA



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Worker Project Newsletter

February 2011

Greetings from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Worker project team.

As you know the aim of the project is to identify how the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Worker workforce can be strengthened to deliver care in response to the known burden and distribution of disease in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population.

Survey Update

After extending the deadline to allow for a significant jump in interest, the survey closed on Friday 17 December. A total of 351 surveys from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers will be included in the analysis currently underway.

This is a great response and we thank everyone who chose to have their say. The information gained will provide valuable data which will help to develop a national picture of the Health Worker workforce.

iPad Draw

At the close of the survey, the draw for the winners of the iPad promotion was held at an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Sector Reference Group meeting on 21 December 2010. The 8 lucky winners have now been notified of their prize. The winners came from a good mix of urban, rural and remote locations across Australia...

Female from Alstonville, NSW
Female from Yarrabah, Qld
Female from East Gosford, NSW
Male from Derby, WA,
Female from Carnarvon WA
Male from Watsonia North, Victoria
Female from Horsham, Victoria
Male from Katherine, NT

We had some great reactions from some very surprised winners. Here is part of an email response:

[website hwa.gov.au/atsihw](http://www.hwa.gov.au/atsihw) freecall 1800 707 351

'I would like to say Thank you for the call, I am sure it will help me with my work and be a bit of fun too, I ... believe your survey will help advise the need and recognition of AHWs Australia wide... keep it up'

Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Sector Reference Group

There has been great interest in this project from the Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Sector. NACCHO, its Affiliates and member organisations have contributed greatly to its ongoing success. NACCHO and two Affiliates also have representation on the project's Expert Reference Group.

The first Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Sector Reference Group meeting was held in Sydney on 21 December 2010 and involved very productive discussions particularly around scope of practice issues.

Site visits completed

Three teams of field workers conducted site visits across Australia.

The teams visited 64 health facilities in 37 locations across remote regional and urban areas of Australia. The health facilities visited included both Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations as well as those provided by State and Territory Governments.

In total 246 Health Workers, 96 Managers and 15 Other Health Professionals were interviewed, making a total of 357 people consulted during this process.

National Consultation Workshops Due to Commence mid 2011

We will keep you posted about these workshops that are aimed at getting input from as many stakeholders as possible across Australia.

In the meantime it is always good to hear from you either directly or through our online Forum.

