

Mary Buckskin, CEO
Aboriginal Health Council of SA Inc
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I would like to acknowledge and respect the Traditional custodians whose ancestral lands we are meeting on today.

We acknowledge the deep feelings of attachment and relationships of Aboriginal people to country. We also pay respect to Aboriginal people visiting/ attending from other areas of South Australia present today.

- The Aboriginal Health Council of SA (AHCSA) is an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation
- Peak body for Aboriginal health representing Aboriginal health services, Aboriginal substance misuse services and Aboriginal health advisory committees in South Australia.
- 10 AHS
- 2 substance misuse services
- 7 AHACs
- State Affiliate of NACCHO.

What is the Strength that sets us apart?

Important to remember why Aboriginal health services were first established.

Aboriginal health services

- First established in response to poor access to services for Aboriginal people
- Focus is on comprehensive primary health care and social determinants of health
- Services provided at the local level
- Understand the complexities faced by their clients and communities
- Take the time needed for their clients

Aboriginal health services (cont)

- Provide additional support – transport, home visiting, social & emotional issues, referral and follow up
- Advocacy work within their local communities
- Partnerships and agreements at local level
- Development of best practice for Aboriginal people
- Contribute to advocacy at the regional and state level
- Support to other Aboriginal health services

Key Characteristics

Flexibility and Resilience :

- To deal with constantly changing political and social environment.
- To deal with the ever increasing demands of our communities.
- To deal with the ever increasing and changing demands of governments and funding agencies.
- To deal with the increasing range of other stakeholders

Personal commitment of those involved .

Leadership within the Aboriginal community.

Leadership and support from the non Aboriginal community.

Thank You