Our commitment to First Nations health

Central Highlands Rural Health acknowledges and pays respect to the Traditional Owners of the lands on which our organisation operates including the Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Wurundjeri.

This Statement of Commitment reflects and builds on Central Highlands Rural Health's values of respect, care, accountability and learning. It guides how we work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, communities and organisations, and how we show up every day as a health service.

We are committed to improving health and wellbeing outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples through genuine partnership, cultural safety and action.

This commitment is not a one-off statement. It is an ongoing responsibility that requires listening, learning and action.

We will demonstrate this commitment by:

- Building cultural awareness and cultural safety across our workforce through ongoing learning, reflection and accountability.
- Working towards Closing the Gap by partnering with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in open, transparent and respectful ways.
- Respecting and supporting self-determination by valuing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership, decision-making and lived experience.
- Strengthening culturally appropriate care and creating a culturally safe, supportive workplace for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff.
- Actively addressing racism by identifying, challenging and eliminating it in all forms across our organisation.
- Continuing an ongoing journey of learning that recognises and respects Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of working and holistic approaches to health and wellbeing.

Central Highlands Rural Health

Artwork by Tanisha Murray, First Nations artist living on Djaara Country.