



AIDA

The Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association
ABN: 84 131 668 936

MEDIA RELEASE

Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association

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AIDA commends new framework for Indigenous mental health

The Australian Indigenous Doctor's Association (AIDA) commends the recent launch of the [National Strategic Framework for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' Mental Health and Social and Emotional Wellbeing](#).

We wish to acknowledge the work of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet for leading the development of this Framework, and we thank Minister Scullion, Minister Hunt and Minister Wyatt for their continued commitment to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health.

AIDA recognises culture as a source of strength, resilience, happiness, identity and confidence that is inextricably linked to the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. We welcome the Framework's inclusion of models that set out culturally-appropriate care for both Indigenous-specific and mainstream health services.

As the peak body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander medical doctors and students working towards closing the health gap continues to be a focus for AIDA and our members. We acknowledge the significance of highlighting self-determination, kinship, connection to land, and the effects of inter-generational trauma and racism and we welcome the inclusion of these elements in the Framework's principles.

AIDA CEO Craig Dukes said "successful health programs in our communities are often the result of adequate community consultation, however, the most successful health programs are achieved by community-led programs. AIDA welcomes the inclusion of *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership and partnership* as part of the Framework's new approach."

END MESSAGE

Media enquiries to

P: 02 6273 5013

E: communications@aida.org.au