



## 2005-2006 Snapshot

The AHCSA Secretariat and Board experienced another very busy and challenging year.

At the Annual General Meeting (AGM), staff were acknowledged for their continued hard work and dedication working with the Board and members to fulfill AHCSA's role as the peak body representing Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services (ACCHSs), substance misuse services and Aboriginal Health Advisory Committees (AHACs) at a state and national level.

AHCSA also thanked the Aboriginal Health Division (Department of Health), Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and the Commonwealth Department of Education Science and Training for continuing to fund programs and service delivery.

To follow is a snapshot of what took place during the year.

### THE CHANGES

Board of Management	<p>Amendments to Constitution in November 2005:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AHACs became full voting members.</li> <li>• Full board meetings reduced to three times a year.</li> <li>• Board Executive increased from 4 to 6 members.</li> <li>• The Executive meets more frequently to ensure the Board is able to meet its obligations.</li> </ul>
AHCSA Chairperson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr John Singer, Nganampa Health Council elected in November 2005, following the last official duty of outgoing Chairperson, Mr Robert Dann.</li> </ul>
AHCSA Chief Executive Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mary Buckskin appointed in February 2006.</li> </ul>

### STATE & NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

SA Aboriginal Community Controlled Sector Statewide Strategic Plan 2003-2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Evaluation Report released in December 2005.</li> <li>• Workshop held in June 2006.</li> </ul>
Future Directions for AHCSA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreed that AHCSA and the Department of Health would work together to develop Future Directions for AHCSA and that the Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health would be involved.</li> <li>• Draft AHCSA Aboriginal Health Policy developed.</li> </ul>
South Australian Aboriginal Health Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Framework Agreement 2005-20010 signed in November.</li> </ul>
National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Korda Mentha Review of NACCHO remains a major focus. AHCSA recognises and supports NACCHO as the national peak body.</li> </ul>



## THE ACHIEVEMENTS

Governance Training for Boards of Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training workshops conducted with Pangula Mannamurna, Pika Wiya Health Service, Anangu Remote Health Alliance, Port Lincoln Aboriginal Health Service and Nganampa Health Service.</li> </ul>
Work Based Senior Management Development Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed in December 2005.</li> <li>• Participants included senior managers and board members from Ceduna/Koonibba Aboriginal Health Service, Nganampa Health Council, Port Lincoln Aboriginal Health Service Inc. and Pika Wiya Health Service.</li> </ul>
Healthy Advocacy and Workforce Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conducted three workshops in June 2006 covering workforce issues, the statewide sector strategic plan and enhanced primary care.</li> </ul>
Enhanced Primary Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project completed on 30 June 2006. Aim was to increase the uptake of EPC and Chronic Disease Management Medicare items within SA.</li> <li>• A number of health promotion resources with the theme 'Aboriginal Health Check - stay strong, live long' were developed and distributed to health services.</li> </ul>
General Practice Education and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 27 meetings held with key stakeholders.</li> <li>• Four visits made to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Training Posts.</li> <li>• Reference Group established.</li> <li>• Increased interest in and placement of GPRs in ACCHSs.</li> </ul>
Centre of Clinical Research Excellence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In third year of operation.</li> <li>• Integrated Research Projects working well with Port Lincoln Aboriginal Health Service, Ceduna/Koonibba Aboriginal Health Service and Pika Wiya Health Service.</li> <li>• Partner's Symposium held in September.</li> </ul>
Aboriginal Health and Research Ethics Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AHCSA recognises the contribution of Dr Suzi Hutchings as outgoing Chairperson and welcomes Dr Tamara McKean as incoming Chairperson.</li> </ul>
Centre for Aboriginal Health Education and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over 300 Aboriginal Health Workers enrolled since Certificates 3, 4 and the Diploma in Aboriginal Primary Health Care began.</li> </ul>



### THE ACHIEVEMENTS cont'd

<p>Eye Health &amp; Chronic Disease Specialist Support Program</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Optometrist to conduct six-monthly visits to the remote communities of Maree, Copley and surrounding areas.</li> <li>• An Optometrist now visiting the Ceduna/ Koonibba Aboriginal Health Service twice a year.</li> <li>• Umoona Tjutagku Health Service requesting an Optometrist three times annually.</li> <li>• AHCSA negotiating with the Yalata and Oak Valley communities to conduct Optometry visits twice a year.</li> </ul>
<p>National Competency Standards for Aboriginal Health Workers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commenced planning for the new standards and anticipate endorsement by end 2006.</li> </ul>
<p>Aboriginal Primary Health Care Workers Forum and Hospital Liaison Officers Network</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue important role in assisting workers with issues related to the workplace and local communities.</li> <li>• The APHCW undertook a review to improve its effectiveness in representing Aboriginal Health Workers.</li> </ul>