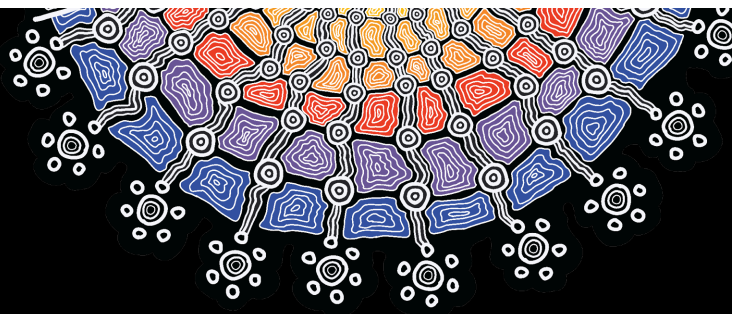




**Aboriginal
Health Council
of Western Australia**



AHCWA Newsletter

WA Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Sector Conference 2025



Tackling Lateral Violence, Priority Reform Implementation and Treaty Principles: The 2025 WA Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Sector Conference Recapped

This year's West Australian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Sector Conference keynotes featured speakers across disciplines, from Uncle Mick Gooda, Australia's former Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner; to Wise Group's Director of Health Equity Hine Martin. Addresses also included WA Minister for Health and Mental Health, the Hon. Meredith Hammat MLA, WA Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, the Hon. Don Punch, and Australian rules football midfielder Tim Kelly.

In their respective keynote addresses, NACCHO Chief Executive Pat Turner AM and AHCWA Chair Vicki O'Donnell OAM raised concerns about the lack of investment in Priority Reform implementation, noting a disappointing disparity between the commitments to Closing the Gap by the WA Government in their recent State Budget with what was handed down in New South Wales and Victoria. Read all about it [here](#) or head to our socials for all the photographs from the four day event:



Youth Committee Statement on Lateral Violence

AHCWA's Youth Committee teamed up with former Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Minister Uncle Mick Gooda at last week's 2025 WA ACCHS Youth Conference to write and present a powerful statement on lateral violence—a call to recognise, address, and heal internalised harm within communities and empower the next generation. Delegates at the WA ACCHS Health Sector Conference, including West Coast Eagles star Tim Kelly and Aboriginal health leaders from across the Sector, signed the statement in a show of support and commitment. Hear the full statement [here](#) or read it [here](#).

WA ACCHS COVID-19 Response Review

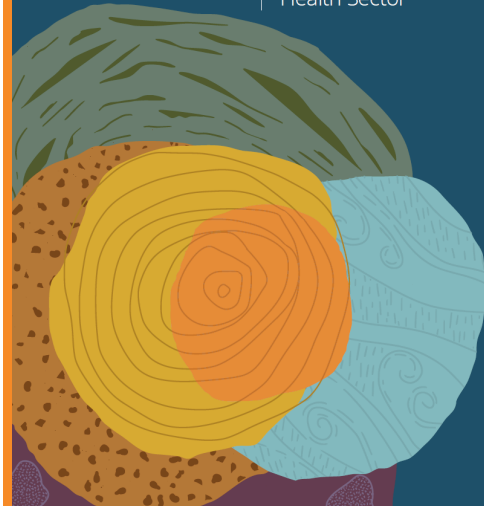
The 2025 Conference also launched AHCWA's COVID-19 Response Review, which catalogues the experience of our ACCHS throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, offering compelling analysis of our State's pandemic plans as they relate to the specific needs of Aboriginal people.

Read more about the remarkable performance of the WA ACCHS Sector during COVID-19 [here](#).

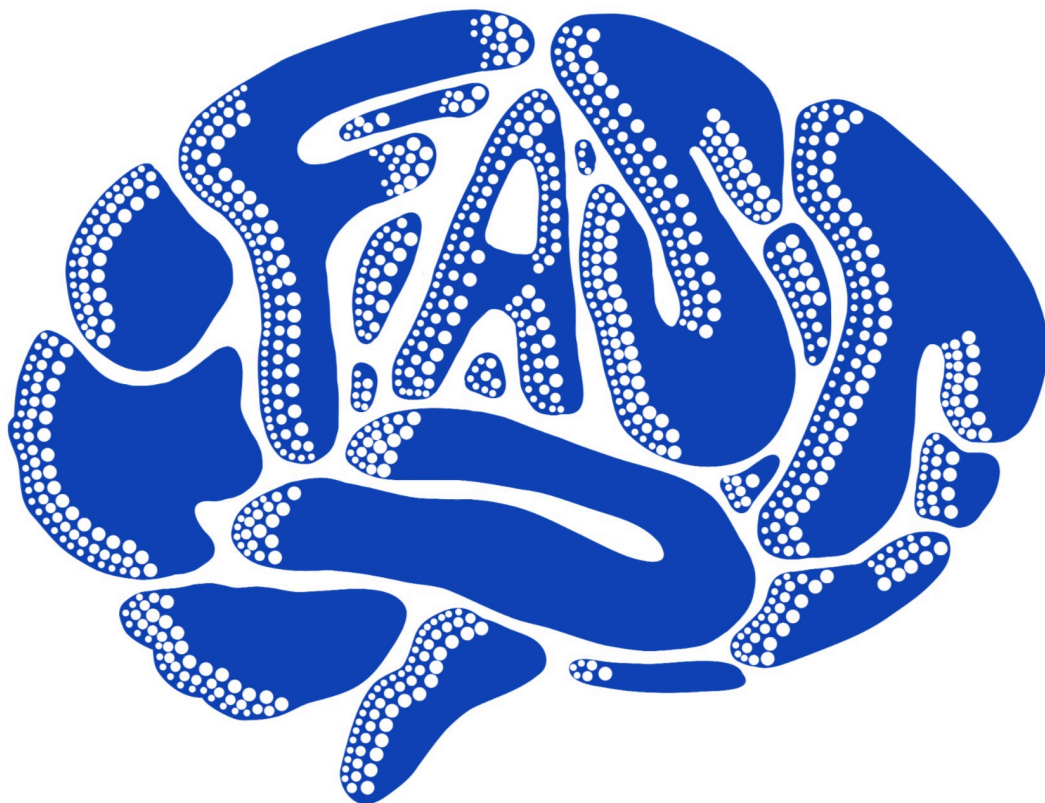


COVID-19 Response Review

by the WA Aboriginal
Community Controlled
Health Sector



F.A.S.T | Community-led Work on Stroke Prevention



AHCWA's Health and Wellbeing team launched our new community-led stroke prevention campaign at the Member Services Forum, highlighting the importance of FAST awareness:

Face drooping

Arm weakness

Speech difficulty

Time to call emergency services

This presentation offered insight into how localised education and culturally informed strategies can improve recognition and response times across Aboriginal communities in WA. Prevention is most effective when it is community-led, culturally relevant, and backed by strong policy and advocacy. To find out more or access the campaign resources, please contact liam.guy@ahcwa.org.

Congratulations to All Sector Award Winners

The 2025 Sector Awards Dinner recognised the successes and outstanding achievements of those working in the Aboriginal health community across the sector. From Elders to young achievers and frontline health workers, the night was filled with warmth, pride, and standing ovations—capped off with karaoke and celebration.

To read about all the winners,
click [here](#).



We are so grateful for all the incredible people dedicated to improving Aboriginal health, and for the great work undertaken in the Sector. Thank you to everyone who made this last week possible, and a special mention to all our presenters, sponsors, and exhibitors.

Sponsors | 2025 WA Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Sector Conference

Thank you to our Gold, Silver, and Coffee Cart sponsors for the 2025 WA Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Sector Conference and 2025 WA Aboriginal Youth Conference. We appreciate your support. Your generosity allowed us to create a platform for delegates to connect, learn, and grow. Together, we are creating a lasting impact.

Gold Sponsors

2025 WA ACCHS State Sector Conference

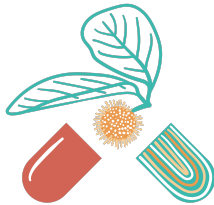
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