



Media Release – National Close the Gap Day – 21 March 2019

Micah Projects hosts a community event for National Close the Gap Day

The National Close the Gap Day, will be recognised today with a community event in West End, organised by Micah Projects.

Close the Gap Day results from the overwhelming need to improve health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

“Most Australians have one of the highest life expectancies in the world – but sadly this is just not true for our Indigenous people,” Micah Projects CEO, Karyn Walsh, said today.

“According to figures from ANTaR, the national indigenous advocacy group, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples can expect to live at least 10 years fewer than other Australians.

“Babies born to Aboriginal mothers die at more than twice the rate of other Australian babies, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people experience higher rates of preventable illnesses such as heart disease, kidney disease and diabetes.

“The mortality rates for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples is on par with some of the world’s most impoverished nations.

“This is a stain on our national soul.”

Ms Walsh said the Close the Gap Day community event would be held at West End with local Federal MP Terri Butler, Queensland Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Jackie Trad, and State LNP Shadow Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Christian Rowan attending.

Other guests include Syl Johns, a Larakia Man from the Northern Territory, who currently works with the Institute of Urban Indigenous Health (IUIH) in Brisbane.

“I urge everyone to come along and learn more about the Health Gap for our Indigenous people and how we can work together to change this situation,” Ms Walsh said.

What: National Close the Gap Day

Where: Bunyapa Park, corner of Thomas and Vulture Streets, West End

When: 11am to 2pm, Thursday, 21 March 2019

Enquiries: Karyn Walsh, CEO Micah Projects, 0413 619 785

Margie Gamble, Community Partnerships, Micah Projects, 0429 180 712

Micah Projects

Ground Floor, 162 Boundary Street, West End Q 4101
PO Box 3449 South Brisbane Q 4101
Ph 07 3029 7000 | Fax 07 3029 7029
info@micahprojects.org.au | micahprojects.org.au

We are committed to providing services and opportunities in the community to create justice and respond to injustice.

We work collaboratively and respectfully with Indigenous communities and agencies. Micah Projects endorses the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Funded by

