Introduction

The Cultural Healing Program respects the uniqueness and diversity of all our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, practices and beliefs. We believe that a culturally appropriate and safe service provision is the best means of helping our people holistically.

The team offer support for mental health which takes into account people’s physical, social, emotional, cultural and spiritual wellbeing. This helps us to all achieve our full potential as individuals, which will then bring about healthier wellbeing for our community. It is a whole-of-life view and includes the cyclical concept of life-death-life.

The Cultural Healing Program’s staffing is a combination of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mental health workers and mental health clinicians, who work together to triage, assess and support our mob. This ensures a safe and supportive clinical and cultural practice.

Let our story telling be heard

This service supports our people in times of distress. Tell us your story one time.

People need support from their family and friends to take the steps towards acceptance and healing. They need you to listen, hear and understand them but most of all they need you to support them.

Who can use this service?

- a person who identifies as an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
- a non-indigenous family member
- living within the Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service region
- adult and/or child or young person
- suffering from or at risk of a mental health issue
- someone in need of social, emotional or cultural and or spiritual support.
Your rights

1. To be treated with respect, dignity with consideration for your privacy, religion and cultural background.

2. Before you agree to any treatment to:
   - know about your health condition in an easy-to-understand way
   - know and understand the choices of treatment available
   - know what is recommended
   - know how this will affect you
   - be able to seek another opinion if required.

3. To participate in decisions about your health and wellbeing.

4. To know that personal information remains confidential.

Your responsibilities

- identify as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person or a family member of an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person.

The Cultural Healing Program aims to:

- liaise, advocate and support when and where needed for you and your family
- provide assessment, mental health intervention and ongoing support to you and your family
- refer to other services when needed for ongoing health and recovery
- encourage you and your family to use the full range of mental health and other services available to you
- respect your personal and cultural beliefs
- address issues as they arise to better enable continuity of care.