

State	Event/interview description	Detail	Time	Event Address	Spokesperson (s)	Contact
ACT	EVENT: A major event with prominent Indigenous health professionals will showcase how Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations Close the Gap in Canberra	Winnunga Nimmitjyah, an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service, is hosting the event. It's the only health service providing holistic primary health and social and emotional wellbeing care to the Canberra and region community. Event info: http://nacchocommunique.com/2016/03/10/naccho-closesthegap-event-alert-canberra-how-aboriginal-community-controlled-organisations-closesthegap/	10.30 am - 11.30 AM Morning tea	Winnunga Nimmitjyah, 63 Boolimba Crescent Narrabundah	Julie Tongs OAM, Chief Executive Officer of Winnunga Nimmitjyah Aboriginal Health Service; Prof Ngaire Brown, Indigenous doctor, educator and Indigenous health expert; Dr Nadeem Siddiqui, Executive director of Clinical services	Colin Cowell, Communications and Marketing Consultant, NACCHO, 0401 331 251
ACT	EVENT: Engaging students in Indigenous themed games to highlight National Close the Gap Day at Telopea Park School	Various activities will be held around the school to raise awareness of CTG Day, including a sports leadership class made up of Year 9/10 students who will be teaching Indigenous games to primary students as well as an assembly presentation with Ngunawal elder (Tyrone Bell from Thunderstone Aboriginal Cultural and Land Management Services) talking to the school about culture and connection to land.	All day	New South Wales Cres, Barton, ACT	Mary De Poorter, Teacher, Executive Teacher Student Engagement	Mary De Poorter, 0401 526 011
All states	INTERVIEW: The Close the Gap campaign is in its 10th year and is expected to host a record number of events from rap and didgeridoo performances to morning teas and marches	The National Close The Gap Day campaign is on target to reach more than 1600 events and break last year's participation record. Oxfam runs the CTG campaign on behalf of the Close the Gap Coalition and can talk about how it started , who is participating and how far we've come to Close the Gap in Indigenous health equality.	Call to organise an interview time	n/a	Justin McCaul, national Program Manager, Aboriginal Torres Strait islander People's Program, Oxfam	Alice Plate Oxfam, 0418 873 782, alicep@oxfam.org.au

All states	INTERVIEW: Speak to your local Aboriginal Health Service to see what they're doing to Close the Gap, "Aboriginal health in Aboriginal Hands"	National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) is the national peak Aboriginal health body representing Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services throughout Australia and it can put you in touch with one of its 140 Aboriginal Health Services in Australia.	Call to organise an interview time	Across Australia	Various	Colin Cowell, Communications and Marketing Consultant, NACCHO, 0401 331 251
All states	EVENT: Medibank is raising awareness of Close the Gap Day through activities in all of its 97 retail stores across Australia, and through its senior leadership team.	Staff at all 97 Medibank retail stores will wear campaign badges to raise awareness of Close the Gap Day and to promote discussion. Many will host morning teas for staff. Close the Gap will also be a focus of the quarterly Senior Leader Forum which will take place on the day, with a Traditional Elder attending the Forum and delivering a welcome to country address.	All day	97 retail stores and Head Office; 720 Bourke Street, Docklands	Karen Oldaker, General Manager of Wellbeing & Community, Medibank	Evelyn Ek, External Affairs Manager 0412 887 853 Evelyn.Ek@medibank.com
All states, NSW	INTERVIEW: An Indigenous doctor speaks about how much progress has been made to close the 10-17 year health gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians	Prof Ngaire Brown is an Indigenous doctor, educator and Indigenous health expert who sits on the Prime Minister's Indigenous Advisory Council. Profile at: http://iac.dpmc.gov.au/council-members/professor-ngiare-brown	Call to organise an interview time	n/a	Prof Ngaire Brown	Colin Cowell, Communications and Marketing Consultant, NACCHO, 0401 331 251
All states, QLD	INTERVIEW: This Indigenous doctor and mother of an autistic son is passionate about early identification of autism, delivering better therapy and support for autistic children and their families and improving the health of her mob	Brisbane-based doctor Samarra Toby is a Gangulu woman from the Callide and Dawson valleys (Rockhampton). She is a Fellow of RACGP and passionate about improving Indigenous health in urban Brisbane. She is a strong advocate on autism disorders, diagnosis and management. Her son, Arty, is Autistic. Dr Toby has developed a phone app/website about Autism for new mums and families.	Call to organise an interview time	Hawthorn Medical Clinic, 171 Riding Road, Balmoral, Brisbane	Dr Samarra Toby, General Practitioner, Hawthorne Clinic	Dr Samarra Toby, 0429 119 146, info@drsamsautismtoolkit.com

All states, QLD	INTERVIEW: Former X-Factor finalist & nurse targeting kidney disease in Cape York	Rochelle Pitt is a Butchulla/Kalkadoon/Wirri woman from North QLD. A singer/songwriter and renal nurse, she made the Top 8 on X-Factor in 2014. A Kidney Health Australia ambassador, Rochelle is passionate about kidney health and travels throughout Cape York in her work with Apunipima Cape York Health Council.	Call to organise an interview time	Cairns	Rochelle Pitt, Generalist Nurse (renal), Apunipima Cape York Health Council	Rochelle Pitt, 0400 181 003
All states, QLD	INTERVIEW: Educating the next generation of nurses about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health	Ali Drummond is an Dauareb (Murray Island, Torres Strait) & Wuthathi (Cape York) man. He is a Lecturer, School of Nursing, QUT. A remote area registered nurse, he was the Indigenous Nurse Advisor, Queensland Health and is now educating the next generation of nurses about appropriate Indigenous health care.	Call to organise an interview time	Brisbane	Ali Drummond, Lecturer, School of Nursing, Faculty of Health, QUT	Ali Drummond, 0448 768 329
All states, QLD	INTERVIEW: What is the nation's peak boy representing Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services across Australia doing to Close the Gap?	National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) is the national peak Aboriginal health body representing Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services throughout Australia. It's CEO Matthew Cook (who is also CEO of Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council) tell you about what's being done to Close the Gap at a grass roots level through its network of community controlled Aboriginal health services.	Call to organise an interview time	n/a	Matthew Cooke, Chair, National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) and CEO of Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council	Colin Cowell, Communications and Marketing Consultant, NACCHO, 0401 331 251, nacchonews@naccho.org.au
All states, VIC	INTERVIEW: One hour of power. A one off Indigenous health "twitterathon"	Engage in a high paced twitter chat session from 12-1pm with a prominent Indigenous health academic and journalist using Twitter handle #ctg10. Join Professor Kerry Arabena Chair of Indigenous Health in the Centre for Health and Society at Melbourne University and veteran health reporter Melissa Sweet.	Call to organise an interview time	Twitter. Handle #ctg10 and #closethegap	Kerry Arabena, Chair of Indigenous Health in the Centre for Health and Society, University of Melbourne & Health reporter Melissa Sweet.	Contact Yael Margolin 03 8344 0714 for Kerry Arabena

NSW	INTERVIEW: How a small community in outback NSW is growing its own food to help benefit the local community and improve Indigenous health	The thriving Walgett Community Market Garden, overflowing with vegetables, is providing health benefits to the local Walgett community. The garden was set up three years ago, and is a joint venture between the Walgett Aboriginal Medical Service and the Murdi Paaki Regional Enterprise Corporation. More info: http://nacchocommunique.com/2016/02/16/naccho-aboriginal-health-news-alert-we-cant-close-the-gap-on-health-unless-we-talk-about-nutrition/	n/a	n/a	Christine Corby, Walgett Aboriginal Medical , NSW	Walgett AMS: (02) 6828 1611 or Christine Corby: 0418 212 230
NSW	EVENT: Close the Gap rap song performed by NSW High school	100 Students from Oberon High School, in the Bathurst region west of Sydney, are performing a Close the Gap rap song. Written by a teacher and a student, it will be part of a 2016 School Spectacular.	Friday 18th 10:50am	Ross St, Oberon	Matthew Leven, Teacher, Aboriginal Education Officer	0432 829 877
NSW	EVENT: NSW Ambulance proudly participates in Close the Gap Day and works to support Aboriginal staff and patients, while also providing opportunities for Aboriginal people to join the service	Frontline staff are encouraged to host an event on Close the Gap Day at their station, office or Control Centre. Corporate staff will mark it with a morning tea from 10am-10.30am at NSW Ambulance Rozelle State Headquarters. This event will feature guest speaker Julie Anne Mitchell, Director Cardiovascular Health Programs, National Heart Foundation.	Various	Various	Commissioner Dominic Morgan, Chief Executive NSW Ambulance	NSW Ambulance Media, Tel (02) 9320-7796, Media@ambulance.nsw.gov.au
NSW	EVENT: Major Close the Gap Day event held in central Sydney with leading Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous organisations	The event features Close the Gap Campaign Co-Chairs, dance performances, speeches, community stalls and a hand art installation. The event is hosted by ANTaR in partnership with National Congress of Australia's First Peoples and Oxfam Australia, supported by City of Sydney More info at: https://antar.org.au/news/annual-national-close-gap-day-picnic-2016	930am Press conference/ photo opp 10-11am Speeches and performances	Redfern Community Centre, 29-53 Hugo St, Redfern NSW 2016	Mick Gooda, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Dr Jackie Huggins, who is also Co-Chair of the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples. Andrew Meehan, National Director, Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation (ANTaR)	Angela Dorizas for Mick Gooda (0430 366 529) Tamara Giles for Dr Jackie Huggins (0457 877 408) Jane Powles for Andrew Meehan (ANTaR) 0424 350 748

NSW	EVENT: Crowd to gather for Coffs Harbour Close the Gap Day march and health screenings	The local Coffs community are demonstrating their commitment by partnering to deliver 1 Deadly Step to CTG Day. It will provide comprehensive health screenings, local health stalls and the chance to meet NRL players. Community members will receive a 1 Deadly Step T-Shirt after completing the health screening activity.	10.00am - 3.00pm	Coffs Harbour Showground - Norm Jordan Pavillion	Kristy Pursch, Aboriginal Health Worker Tobacco Action, Galambila Aboriginal Health Service; Marilyn Body, Acting Manager Aboriginal Health Clinical Performance Review, Mid North Coast Local Health District ; Helen Lambert, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Health Close the Gap Initiative Project Officer, North Coast Primary Health Partnership	Troy Robinson 0411 253 050
NSW, VIC	INTERVIEW: An experienced social media commentator and GP working in Redfern for an Indigenous health service can speak in layman's terms about how we can improve Indigenous health outcomes	Dr Tim Senior has worked as a GP in Indigenous health for years, he is based at Tharawal Aboriginal Corporation in Redfern. He can talk about how important it is to have Aboriginal community controlled health services delivering health care and support to improve Indigenous health outcomes. He can speak across a range of issues relevant to Indigenous health. He will be in Melbourne on CTG Day.	n/a	n/a	Dr Tim Senior, General Practitioner (doctor), Tharawal Aboriginal Corporation	0439 688 754
NT	EVENT: Two in Darwin advocating for the elimination of rheumatic heart disease in Australia, a condition epitomising the gap in health outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians	The following events are hosted by RHD Australia (www.rhdaustralia.org.au) in conjunction with partners. 1. The NT launch of the documentary Take Heart: The quest to rid Australasia of RHD, introduced by stars of the film at BCC Cinema at 8pm on CTG Day. This follows the parliamentary launch at 530pm by the NT Chief Minister and Minister of Health. Documentary info: http://www.takeheart.tv/ . Partners include Heart Kids, Moonshine Films, RHD Australia. 2. Afternoon tea and screening of excerpts of 'Take Heart' at Menzies School of Health Research http://www.menzies.edu.au/page/News_and_Events/Events__Seminars/Current/Menzies_Close_The_Gap_Afternoon_Tea/	Event 1: 8pm, Event 2: 2pm	Event 1: BCC Cinema, Mitchell Street, Darwin; Event 2: Menzies School of Health Research, Royal Darwin Hospital	Claire Boardman, Deputy Director RHD Australia, Menzies School of Health Research Susan Shanley, Heart Kids (Event 1 only).	Claire: 0418 956 110 Susan: 0424 505 833

NT	EVENT: Indigenous health checks, dancers, food and fun at CTG event in Raintree Park, Darwin.	The event is run by a group of Darwin based organisations including the Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance Northern Territory (AMSANT), NT Primary Health Network, Danila Dilba Health Service and the Heart foundation. The event features health checks, keynote speakers, a smoothie bike, music and Torres Strait Islander dancers.	11:00 - 2:00	Raintree Park, Smith Street Mall, Darwin City NT	Various	Frank Cambell (AMSANT) 0448 771 974
NT	INTERVIEW: Up and coming Darwin Indigenous nurse Katarina Keeler speaks about her journey to become the first person in her family to attend university and get a degree.	Born and raised in Ceduna, the proud Kokatha woman from the Far West Coast of South Australia, moved to Adelaide to peruse her goal of studying Bachelor of Nursing to be a role model and help Indigenous people live a long and healthy life.	Call to organise an interview time	n/a	Katarina Keeler, registered nurse, Royal Darwin Hospital	0455 281 998
QLD	INTERVIEW: Successful young Indigenous doctor returns home to Mt Isa in outback QLD to work in his community	Indigenous doctor Marjad Page is an example of what can be achieved through determination, education, support and a bit of luck. After getting injured he gave up his dream of being a professional basketball player to become a doctor and now works at Mt Isa Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service in his home town. His practice is offering free health checks for CTG Day. More info at:	n/a	n/a	Dr Marjad Page, Doctor, Gidgee Healing/Mt Isa Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service	Practice Management Loata Webber: 07 4749 2798
QLD	EVENT: Students chalk up with support for National Close the Gap Day at All Hallows' School event	At lunch the whole school is invited to chalk on the Close the Gap Wall and add a message of support or trace their hand in chalk to show solidarity. Students will wear black, red and yellow ribbons. The schools runs a Human Rights group with about 20-30 girls attending weekly meetings.	12:30-1:30pm	547 Ann Street, Brisbane	Stephanie Valmas	Stephanie Valmas, 07 3831 3100

QLD	EVENT: An interactive forum of health professionals and community representatives gather together to lead discussion on culturally responsible leadership and ongoing health issues faced by Indigenous Australians	<p>The forum will celebrate the 10th anniversary of National Close the Gap campaign and feature prominent leaders in allied and Indigenous health will also lead discussion on culturally responsible leadership and ongoing health issues faced by Indigenous Australians. More info at: http://appconference.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/APP2016_Program030816.pdf</p>	1:30-3:30pm	Gold Coast Convention & Exhibition Centre (GCCEC). 2684-2690 Gold Coast Hwy, Broadbeach QLD 4218	Donna Murray, CEO, Indigenous Allied Health Australia; Jason Harvey, Managing Partner, CP Peoples Chemist (Broken Hill); Kellie Langham, Rural and Indigenous Committee Chair, NAPSA; Simon Blacker, Partner, Parkes	Danica Davies, Pharmacy Guild of Australia, (02) 6270 1888
VIC	EVENT: Oxfam joins prominent Indigenous health academics and advocates to celebrate a public CTG event BBQ in the park	Oxfam and the University of Melbourne's School of Population and Global Health will hold a welcome to country smoking ceremony with Aunty Di Kerr, print hands on a CTG banner and feature speeches by Indigenous health professionals and advocates.	1130am - 1pm	University Square, Cnr Leicester & Pelham Sts, Carlton	Professor Kerry Arabena, Chair of Indigenous Health, Centre for Health Equity, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, The University of Melbourne	Alice Plate Oxfam, 0418 873 782, alicep@oxfam.org.au
VIC	EVENT: RACGP - GP forum highlights 10 year anniversary of the CTG campaign	The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners is a Member of the Close the Gap Coalition and is holding a forum for GPs with high profile speakers including the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation and President of RACGP. The RACGP is a member of the Close the Gap Steering Committee.	11-1pm	RACGP, John Murtagh Centre, 100 Wellington Pde, East Melbourne	Various	RACGP Media: Michelle Carnovale 03 8699 0484, media@racgp.org.au
VIC	EVENT: The Royal Dental Hospital of Melbourne is supporting a musical performance for CTG Day	RDHM is raising awareness about Indigenous health amongst its staff and visitors (approx 500) to the hospital by organizing a musical performance on National Close the Gap Day. This year Indigenous musician Bart Willoughby, known for fusing reggae with Indigenous Australian influences, will	10-4pm	720 Swanston Street, Carlton	Carleen Miller, Aboriginal Liaison Officer, has been in the role for 6 years.	Carleen Miller, Aboriginal Liaison Officer, T: 03 9341 1163, www.dhsv.org.au
WA	EVENT: Evening of Noongar Culinary Learning on National Close the Gap Day	Learn about different bush foods and how to use them in your everyday cooking with a live cooking demonstration and talk by Marissa Verma from Bindi Bendi Dreaming at the Oxfam Shop in Fremantle.	6-7.30pm	Oxfam Shop Fremantle 22 Queen Street Fremantle	Marissa Verma - Cooking demonstration	Oxfam WA Shops manager, Antonia Taylor 0414 424 195, or Marissa: 0417031707

WA	INTERVIEW: Two thirds of WA politicians have placed a handprint on a Close The Gap banner to support National Close The Gap Day	More than 60 of the 95 state politicians from across Western Australia and the political spectrum have literally put their hands up to urge the community to get involved in the National Close the Gap Day campaign. Oxfam's leading the campaign to get political leaders to show support for ending the appalling gap in Indigenous health inequality.	Call to organise an interview time	n/a	Paddy Cullen, Oxfam's WA campaigner	Paddy Cullen, Oxfam's WA campaigner, 0431 925 494
WA	EVENT: 360 Health + Community's Close the Gap Strategic Forum - the mental health perspective (speaker 1)	Pat Dudgeon (Bardi & Gija) is a psychologist and research fellow at the School of Indigenous studies at the University of Western Australia and Chair of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership in Mental Health. She offers a mental health perspective on The National Empowerment Project, which aims to build communities' capacity through empowerment and strengthening cultural, social and emotional wellbeing.	1:00pm – 4:00pm	West Australian Ballet Centre - 134 Whatley Crescent, Maylands	Pat Dudgeon is a psychologist and research fellow at the School of Indigenous studies at the University of Western Australia and Chair of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership in Mental Health	Eva Buckley, 0421 254 597, EBuckley@360.org.au
WA	EVENT: 360 Health + Community's Close the Gap Strategic Forum - a perspective from a carer, community leader and elder (speaker 2)	Dean Collard (Noongar Nation) comes from a background in Aboriginal health services and is currently a member of 360's Consumer and Carer group. He will offer an insight into Closing the Gap from the perspective and expectations of a carer, community leader and Elder.	1:00pm – 4:00pm	West Australian Ballet Centre - 134 Whatley Crescent, Maylands	Dean Collard, carer, community leader and Elder.	Eva Buckley, 0421 254 597, EBuckley@360.org.au
WA	EVENT: 360 Health + Community's Close the Gap Strategic Forum - Aboriginal health in Aboriginal hands perspective	Jonathon Ford (Noongar Nation) is Manager of Moorditj Koort Aboriginal Health and Wellbeing Centre. He joins us with a perspective on Aboriginal people controlling Aboriginal health.	1:00pm – 4:00pm	West Australian Ballet Centre - 134 Whatley Crescent, Maylands	Jonathon Ford (Noongar Nation) is Manager of Moorditj Koort Aboriginal Health and Wellbeing Centre.	Eva Buckley, 0421 254 597, EBuckley@360.org.au
WA	EVENT: 360 Health + Community's Close the Gap Strategic Forum - options for meeting social and emotional and mental needs	Michael Mitchell (Yamatji) is the Program Manager at Specialist Aboriginal Mental Health Service (SAMHS) Metropolitan, and will be exploring options for meeting the social and emotional wellbeing and mental health needs of Aboriginal people across the service spectrum	1:00pm – 4:00pm	West Australian Ballet Centre - 134 Whatley Crescent, Maylands	Michael Mitchell (Yamatji) is the Program Manager at Specialist Aboriginal Mental Health Service (SAMHS) Metropolitan	Eva Buckley, 0421 254 597, EBuckley@360.org.au

WA	EVENT: The annual Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Sector Conference <i>Aboriginal Health in Western Australia: Collective Knowledge and Collective Solutions.</i>	More info at http://www.events.ahcwa.org.au/	16-17 March	Pan Pacific Hotel, 207 Adelaide Terrace	Various	Daniel Smith, Campaign Capital, 0405 463 702
WA	EVENT: Didgeridoo lessons and Indigenous dance and art a part of Wesley College's National Close the Gap Day activity	Students will participate in didgeridoo lessons and Indigenous dance students will be performing a traditional Nyoongar dance between a sea of hands. The sea of hands features handprint cutouts with messages from students who have recorded their thoughts after watching the 2016 CTG video.	2:15pm Thursday	40 Coode Stree, WA,	Benjamin Lewis, Teacher	(0)404 168 748