

State	Event/interview description	Detail	Time	Event Address	Spokesperson (s)	Contact
ACT	<b>EVENT: A major event with prominent Indigenous health professionals will showcase how Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations Close the Gap in Canberra</b>	Winnunga Nimmityjah, 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: <a href="http://nacchocommunique.com/2016/03/10/naccho-closesthegap-event-alert-canberra-how-aboriginal-community-controlled-organisations-closesthegap/">http://nacchocommunique.com/2016/03/10/naccho-closesthegap-event-alert-canberra-how-aboriginal-community-controlled-organisations-closesthegap/</a>	10.30 am - 11.30 AM Morning tea	Winnunga Nimmityjah, 63 Boolimba Crescent Narrabundah	Julie Tongs OAM, Chief Executive Officer of Winnunga Nimmityjah 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	<b>EVENT: Engaging students in Indigenous themed games to highlight National Close the Gap Day at Telopea Park School</b>	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	<b>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</b>	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, <a href="mailto:alicep@oxfam.org.au">alicep@oxfam.org.au</a>
All states	<b>INTERVIEW: Speak to your local Aboriginal Health Service to see what they're doing to Close the Gap, "Aboriginal health in Aboriginal Hands"</b>	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	<b>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.</b>	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	<b>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</b>	Prof Ngaire Brown is an Indigenous doctor, educator and Indigenous health expert who sits on the Prime Minister's Indigenous Advisory Council. Profile at: <a href="http://iac.dpmc.gov.au/council-members/professor-ngiare-brown">http://iac.dpmc.gov.au/council-members/professor-ngiare-brown</a>	Call to organise an interview time	n/a	Prof Ngaire Brown	Colin Cowell, Communications and Marketing Consultant, NACCHO, 0401 331 251
All states, QLD	<b>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</b>	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	<b>INTERVIEW: Former X-Factor finalist &amp; nurse targeting kidney disease in Cape York</b>	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	<b>INTERVIEW: Educating the next generation of nurses about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health</b>	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	<b>INTERVIEW: What is the nation's peak boy representing Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services across Australia doing to Close the Gap?</b>	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	<b>INTERVIEW: One hour of power. A one off Indigenous health "twitterathon"</b>	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	<b>INTERVIEW: How a small community in outback NSW is growing its own food to help benefit the local communitiy and improve Indigenous health</b>	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: <a href="http://nacchocommunique.com/2016/02/16/naccho-aboriginal-health-news-alert-we-cant-close-the-gap-on-health-unless-we-talk-about-nutrition/">http://nacchocommunique.com/2016/02/16/naccho-aboriginal-health-news-alert-we-cant-close-the-gap-on-health-unless-we-talk-about-nutrition/</a>	n/a	n/a	Christine Corby, Walgett Aboriginal Medical , NSW	Walgett AMS: (02) 6828 1611 or Christine Corby: 0418 212 230
NSW	<b>EVENT: Close the Gap rap song perfomed by NSW High school</b>	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	<b>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</b>	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	<b>EVENT: Major Close the Gap Day event held in central Sydney with leading Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous organisations</b>	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: <a href="https://antar.org.au/news/annual-national-close-gap-day-picnic-2016">https://antar.org.au/news/annual-national-close-gap-day-picnic-2016</a>	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	<b>EVENT: Crowd to gather for Coffs Harbour Close the Gap Day march and health screenings</b>	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	<b>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</b>	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
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