



napwha national association of
people with HIV australia

strategic plan

2013 – 2016



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Statement of recognition

NAPWHA recognises and values the unique status of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the original owners and custodians of the land and waters of Australia.

NAPWHA believes it is important that the historical and cultural position of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples is recognised and incorporated in the organisation's official protocols.

president's forward

This is both an exciting and a challenging time to be involved in the HIV response. While we have proof that biomedical interventions can end the impact of this disease, it is on a global, national, local and personal level that we must now all commit to help end HIV.

It is fitting that at this time Australia's peak people living with HIV (PLHIV) organisation has produced a strategic plan for the period 2013–2016. While building on the successful previous strategic plans (2004–2008 and 2009–2012) this document has evolved through consultation and review to place greater emphasis on the collaborative work of our membership organisations and networks.

We believe, as do they, that in a setting like Australia, the biggest impact of this global revolution will happen on the ground and through grassroots organisations such as those we represent. It's for this reason that these Strategic Directions place emphasis on empowering our positive networks and membership groups to move forward—armed with modern knowledge and resources—with a renewed vigour.

The progress that the organisation has made to date in representing and advocating for the needs of PLHIV in Australia has also been considered in setting these strategic directions.

NAPWHA must continue to respond strategically to the changing needs of our positive populations. We need to engage purposefully with the national HIV response in order to help achieve the best-possible outcomes for those living with HIV across our country

To achieve this end, we work in an inclusive and collaborative way to address the many issues faced by PLHIV in all aspects of their lives – this strategic directions document reflects and embodies that approach for the organisation into the future.

It also guides the activity of the organisation, Board and Secretariat in the forthcoming years, and articulates the collective vision that NAPWHA Members have for the direction of the organisation.

I would like to acknowledge the valuable contributions that NAPWHA Members, individuals and other sector stakeholders have made throughout the extensive review and development process. I would especially like to thank my fellow Board members and the Staff of NAPWHA for the time and effort they have contributed to the development of this document, and also for their commitment to this ongoing process of strategic development for the organisation.

Robert Mitchell

President

December 2012

introduction to NAPWHA

Our Vision

NAPWHA's vision is for a world where people living with HIV live their lives to their full potential, in good health and free from discrimination.

Our Mission

NAPWHA is the Australian national HIV peer-based organisation. NAPWHA's mission is to provide national advocacy, leadership and representation across the diverse needs of all people living with HIV in Australia

Our Principles

'NAPWHA embraces the values of compassion, integrity and respect in all activities and aims to build consensus, partnerships and coalitions.

NAPWHA promotes the meaningful involvement, visibility and centrality of people living with HIV; utilising the diverse experiences of all people living with HIV to advocate for them in order to reduce the impact of the disease.

NAPWHA strengthens the national response to the HIV epidemic by ensuring the meaningful involvement of all people living with HIV and plays an active role in realising a partnership approach in all aspects of our response.

NAPWHA is committed to the principles of the [Ottawa Charter](#), the [Meaningful Involvement of PLHIV \(MIPA\)](#) and its own [Declaration of Rights for People Living with HIV/AIDS](#).

our goals

NAPWHA provides national representation and advocacy for the needs of people living with HIV in Australia.

We do this by:

1. **Maintaining** the meaningful participation of PLHIV across the HIV partnership
2. **Delivering** HIV community-based leadership within the national response
3. **Undertaking** best practice, peer-based health promotion and improving health literacy
4. **Delivering** national leadership across health policy, treatments and research developments
5. **Monitoring and responding** to the impacts of HIV on the social inclusion and human rights of people living with HIV
6. **Supporting effective engagement** with member organisations and national networks



1

Maintaining the meaningful participation of PLHIV across the HIV partnership

Objectives

- 1.1 Advocate for the meaningful participation of PLHIV in all aspects of the HIV response at national and state and territory levels
- 1.2 Advocate for the effective participation of PLHIV in all areas of the HIV response through adequate resourcing of the peer-based response to HIV.
- 1.3 Support the NAPWHA national membership and networks of PLHIV and coordinate their active and effective participation within the national HIV response.
- 1.4 Support the engagement and representation of all individuals and populations living with HIV.

Outcomes

- 1.1.1 All national and state or territory HIV strategies and implementation plans reflect the MIPA principles by specifically naming PLHIV and affected communities affected by HIV.
- 1.2.1 PLHIV are recognised as essential partners and participate at all levels in the activities of other organisations involved in the national HIV response.
- 1.3.1 PLHIV actively participate on an equal basis with other stakeholders in the development, delivery and evaluation of policy, programs and research in the Australian HIV response..
- 1.4.1 The unique voices of diverse communities and populations of PLHIV are represented across the HIV partnership.

2

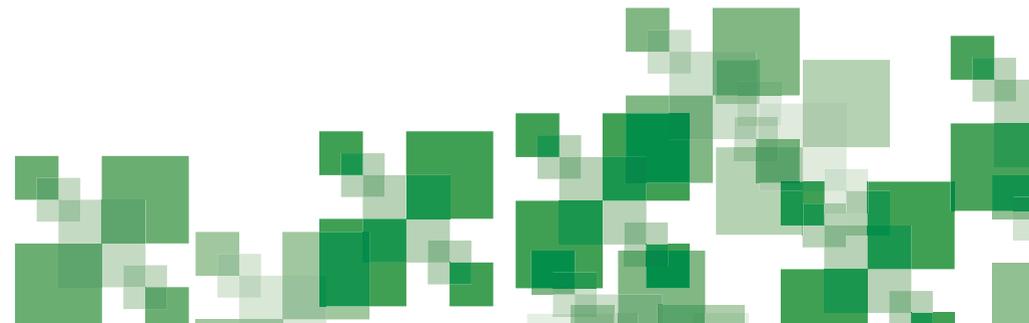
Delivering HIV community-based leadership within the national response

Objectives

- 2.1 Represent NAPWHA's membership and advocate for NAPWHA's strategic priorities in key national HIV policy-making bodies and processes.
- 2.2 Build a consensus across the Australian HIV partnership response that supports and NAPWHA's strategic priorities when developing key policy and programme responses to HIV.
- 2.3 Build collaborative relationships and partnerships with government, community-based organisations, the pharmaceutical industry and research institutions.
- 2.4 Continue to facilitate the growth and capacity of NAPWHA's elected leadership and member organisations .

Outcomes

- 2.1.1 NAPWHA's priorities are addressed in successive Australian National HIV Strategies and other key policy and strategic responses to HIV.
- 2.2.1 NAPWHA is effective in guiding the direction of the national HIV response towards meeting the needs of people living with and affected by HIV.
- 2.3.1 NAPWHA is effective in building collaborative relationship and partnerships with government, community-based organisations, the pharmaceutical industry and research institutions.
- 2.4.1 There is measurable progress towards achieving NAPWHA's goals. NAPWHA's staff, leadership and member organisations operate with a high level of skill and effectiveness in the Australian HIV partnership response.



3

Undertaking best practice, peer-based health promotion and improving health literacy

Objectives

- 3.1 Develop and implement peer-based health promotion initiatives that inform PLHIV and empower them to maximise their health and quality of life, and to sustain strategies that prevent HIV transmission.
- 3.2 Sustain and enhance peer-based interventions that increase the capacity of PLHIV to make informed decisions regarding HIV treatments.
- 3.3 Work collaboratively with NAPWHA member organisations and networks to develop health promotion programs that address the specific information and support needs of the diverse communities and populations of PLHIV.
- 3.4 Evaluate and improve health promotion and health literacy resources and initiatives to ensure that they are evidence-based and aligned with NAPWHA's strategic directions.

Outcomes

- 3.1.1 NAPWHA develops and implements peer-based health promotion initiatives that that inform PLHIV and empower them to maximise their health and quality of life, and to sustain strategies that prevent HIV transmission.
- 3.2.1 NAPWHA's *Treataware Project* continues to develop innovative peer-based initiatives that facilitate communication and support among PLHIV.
- 3.3.1 Health literacy is enhanced and supported by active participation and collaboration with the NAPWHA Networks ([Positive Women's Network](#) and [PATSIN](#)) and the broader membership base.
- 3.4.1 NAPWHA's regular publication [Positive Living](#) continues to provide high quality health information on the most current developments in HIV treatments, prevention, and care. NAPWHA's other health promotion and health literacy resources are evidence-based and aligned with NAPWHA's strategic directions.

4

Delivering national leadership across health policy, treatments and research developments

Objectives

- 4.1 Maintain the skills and expertise base for effective representation in treatments advocacy and research collaborations.
- 4.2 Lead the community response in HIV health policy, treatments and research to ensure that NAPWHA's advocacy and representation in these areas is central to decision making.
- 4.3 Maintain and strengthen existing relationships and establish new partnerships with professional bodies, regulatory authorities and the pharmaceutical industry.
- 4.4 Undertake and collaborate in research with PLHIV to identify the current information and support needs of positive people.

Outcomes

- 4.1.1 NAPWHA contributes effectively to developments in health policy, improved access to HIV treatments and research that lead to improved quality of life among PLHIV.
- 4.1.2 NAPWHA's engagement with regulatory bodies and health policymakers achieves outcomes that progress NAPWHA's priorities.
- 4.3.1 NAPWHA's expertise and contribution to the development of health policy, treatments and research is acknowledged and valued at all levels of the HIV response.
- 4.4.1 The Australian public health response to HIV is informed and guided by the experience, participation and representation of PLHIV.

5

Monitoring and responding to the impacts of HIV on the social inclusion and human rights of PLHIV.

Objectives

- 5.1 Continue to advocate for the removal or revision of laws that criminalise HIV transmission, in line with the Oslo Declaration on HIV Criminalisation.
- 5.2 Develop initiatives within NAPWHA networks and the membership base to overcome the negative impacts of social exclusion and HIV-related stigma and discrimination through building personal skills to improve resilience.
- 5.3 Utilise media to generate positive representations of people with HIV to reduce HIV stigma and social exclusion of PLHIV.
- 5.4 Continue to support PLHIV-led analysis of the impacts of HIV across specific communities and/or sectors in Australia.

Outcomes

- 5.1.1 The use of the criminal law and other punitive responses to HIV transmissions are reduced.
- 5.2.1 Data sources indicate improvements in self reported measures of wellness, quality of life, and social inclusion.
- 5.3.1 PLHIV are able to access testing, treatment and support and feel able to disclose their HIV status without facing stigma, discrimination or breaches of their human rights.
- 5.4.1 The impact of HIV-related stigma, discrimination and social exclusion on PLHIV are understood and appropriate responses are developed.

6

Supporting effective engagement with member organisations and national networks

Objectives

- 6.1 Provide and support capacity building and/or other initiatives among and between NAPWHA member organisations and networks.
- 6.2 Continue to develop effective and varied communication and engagement between NAPWHA members, national networks and the NAPWHA Board and secretariat pathways.
- 6.3 Continue to develop regular membership review of organisational activity at biannual General Meetings of the Association.
- 6.4 Encourage a continuing process of engagement, revitalisation, renewal and retention of HIV-positive advocates.

Outcomes

- 6.1.1 NAPWHA's members and networks contribute to the development of the Association's strategic priorities and participate in training and skills development opportunities.
- 6.2.1 NAPWHA provides effective communication and engagement between NAPWHA members, national networks and the NAPWHA board and secretariat.
- 6.3.1 NAPWHA maintains regular membership review of organisational activity at biannual General Meetings of the Association.
- 6.4.1 NAPWHA identifies and supports HIV-positive advocates and provides opportunities to develop their skills and effectiveness.

appendices

Appendix 1

NAPWA Membership and National Networks

<http://www.napwa.org.au/members>

Appendix 2

NAPWA Declaration of Rights for People Living with HIV/AIDS

<http://www.napwa.org.au/2005/11/18/declaration-of-rights-for-people-living-with-hivaids>

International Declaration of Rights for Indigenous Peoples

http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/DRIPS_en.pdf

Meaningful Involvement of PLHIV (MIPA)

<http://www.hivcode.org/silo/files/final-mipa-.pdf>

Ottawa Charter

<http://www.who.int/healthpromotion/conferences/previous/ottawa/en/>

Oslo Declaration on HIV Criminalisation

<http://www.hivjustice.net/oslo/oslo-declaration/>

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