

ACHIA

Aboriginal Community Housing
Industry Association NSW



Friday, 5 April 2024 | ACHIA Alert #25

2024 ACHIA NSW Deadly Housing Summit

NRSCH Registered Members Exclusive Event

Join us for a 2-day, exclusive event on beautiful Awabakal & Worimi Country, filled with insightful discussions, opportunities to network and share resources, and hear the latest from Subject Matter Experts in the fields of Legal, Finance, Risk Management and Work Health and Safety.

Date: 1 - 2 May 2024

Venue: Rydges, Newcastle

REGISTER below and PROPEL YOUR BUSINESS FURTHER

If you would like to yarn more about this event, contact Shane Todd, ACHIA NSW Service Development Manager at shane.t@achiansw.org.au or [0498 441 218](tel:0498441218).

REGISTER HERE

SHAF Submissions Now Open



Aboriginal
Housing
Office



Aboriginal Housing Office

SHAF is a \$2 billion Australian Government program aimed at increasing social housing properties across Australia. It has been designed to rapidly fund new social housing supply, providing \$2 billion in funding to states and territories.

The AHO secured \$130.1m for shovel-ready pipeline projects across both the AHO and the ACHP sector and the refurbishment of long-term vacant properties to increase social housing supply.

AHO are now accepting submissions from the ACHP sector under the following streams:

- **Stream 1 - Preliminary works and Development Application (DA) approval**
<https://aho.smartygrants.com.au/SHAFACHP2024S1>
- **Stream 2 - Upgrades to long-term vacant properties**
<https://aho.smartygrants.com.au/SHAFACHP2024S2>
- **Stream 3 - Shovel-ready new construction and prefabricated homes**
<https://aho.smartygrants.com.au/SHAFACHP2024S3>
- **Stream 4 - Acquisitions (from the open market)**
<https://aho.smartygrants.com.au/SHAFACHP2024S4>

Applications Close at 11.59pm on 12 April 2024

ACHIA NSW has SHAF Readiness Tools to support your application.

To discuss how ACHIA can support you, please contact Shane Todd, Service Development Manager at shane.t@achiansw.org.au or [0498 441 218](tel:0498441218) OR Simon Wade, Director Sector Development at simon.w@achiansw.org.au or [0491 208 899](tel:0491208899).

KEEP THE FIRE BURNING!
BLAK, LOUD and PROUD



The 2024 theme for NAIDOC, as chosen by the National NAIDOC Committee, is Keep the Fire Burning! Blak, Loud & Proud.

The theme honours the enduring strength and vitality of First Nations culture – with fire a symbol of connection to Country, to each other, and to the rich tapestry of traditions that define Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

First Nations communities, registered businesses, schools and local governments are all encouraged to apply for funding to run an activity or event that directly relates to the 2024 NAIDOC theme including:

- arts based activities, including painting, dancing, crafts and storytelling;
- family fun days and community activities;
- cultural and Elders activities;
- NAIDOC themed sporting activities or competitions; or
- activities that actively promote Reconciliation.

These grants and the application process are managed by the National Indigenous Australians Agency with two tiers available in 2024: small scale grants for up to \$10,000 and large-scale grants for between \$10,001 and \$50,000.

For more information about the funding available and application process, check out the link below to the 2024 NAIDOC Grants Program Guidelines.

Applications Close at 11:59pm on 12 April 2024

2024 NAIDOC Grants Program Guidelines

ACHP Funding and Grant Opportunities

Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS) - PBC Capacity Building Funding

This program aims to assist native title holding corporations, known as Prescribed Bodies Corporate (PBC's), to generate economic benefits through the effective and sustainable management of their land. Must be registered or register an account through grant guru to access details and application.

More Information

NSWALC Small Community Grants

NSWALC will make small grants available to community members and community organisations in each NSWALC region for the following purposes:

- To assist Aboriginal people to participate in arts, crafts, and sporting activities;
- To encourage participation in and the maintenance of contemporary and traditional cultural life of the Aboriginal community;
- For promoting understanding of and respect for Aboriginal culture;
- For supporting personal development opportunities for Aboriginal people; and
- For supporting the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal peoples in NSW.

More Information

Review of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap

The final report of the Productivity Commission's first three-yearly review of government action on the National Agreement on Closing the Gap finds governments have failed to fully grasp the nature and scale of change required to meet the obligations they signed up to under the National Agreement.

“To date, most government actions and plans to implement the agreement relabel business-as-usual, or simply tweak existing ways of working,” said Commissioner Natalie Siegel-Brown.

“The agreement can and should be a blueprint for real reform, but governments will need to move beyond business as usual and address the entrenched attitudes, assumptions and ways of working that are preventing progress.”

The report makes four recommendations to government: share power; recognise and support Indigenous Data Sovereignty; fundamentally rethink mainstream government systems and culture; and implement stronger accountability.

Key themes from the Productivity Commission's Report include:

- Governments have shown they can share decision-making when there is trust and a balance of power. But this tends to happen only during emergencies and when Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have pushed governments to ‘come to the table’.
- Some government organisations are starting to provide flexibility by introducing longer term contracts, reduce reporting requirements, prioritise funding to ACCOs in procurement, grant or program guidelines, and change how services are designed, contracted, funded, delivered, and evaluated. These approaches show promise, but progress overall has been slow, and many processes still follow a ‘business-as-usual’ approach.
- Four sector strengthening plans (SSPs) have been developed to build capability in the health, disability, housing and early childhood care and development sectors. However, they lack detail and accountability, and there is little information available to assess whether they will drive progress.
- The transformation of government organisations has barely begun. Many government organisations are rolling out cultural capability training, developing strategies to increase employment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the public sector and engage in self-assessment to understand their current state. However, there is a lack of whole-of-government or organisational strategies for driving and delivering transformation.
- Overall, there has not yet been significant change relating to Indigenous Data Sovereignty. Most government actions have been about sharing data they already hold, and governments often don’t value what Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people say about how data should be used and haven’t changed how data is used in policy making to reflect this.
- Currently, the approach to performance monitoring under the Agreement includes hundreds of indicators, but it is not clear how well they track change. Further, most do not actually have data yet; and rely on the quality of governments’ implementation plans and annual reports. While they formally recognise the importance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander self-determination and cultural recognition, work is still needed to center Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives.
- Governments’ implementation plans and annual reports include long lists of actions but often do not explain how they will improve outcomes; do not track the same set of actions; do not stick to the reporting requirements set out in the Agreement; do not always include clear information about when actions will be delivered or the amount of funding; and are hard for community to use to understand the efforts governments are making to achieve the Priority Reforms and how they are delivering improved outcomes.
- Data development has been too slow - it is not clear who is ultimately responsible for data development; and there is a lack of resourcing and processes within government to work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to develop solutions for missing data.
- The accountability mechanisms in the Agreement are not enough to drive change. What we are seeing from governments to date will not deliver the commitments made in the Agreement.
- Governments continue to act in ways that don’t align with the Agreement.

Click on the link below to access the full report, a fact sheet and a Webinar delivered by the Productivity Commission on their findings.

Productivity Commission's Final Report

Consultation Paper - Review of NRSCH Metrics

In March 2024, the Regulator for Community Housing released a consultation paper to review 5 recommended changes to the NRSCH Metrics, affecting both NRSCH and Local Scheme Registered Providers.

The concept of the review is to align practices across the country and create a national regulatory system. At this stage Victoria and Western Australia do not participate.

The recommended changes are summarised as:

1. New measure – Collection of complaints data from ACHP's
2. Amend current measure – Eviction performance calculation around evictions
3. Amend current measure – Eviction threshold – in support of recommendation 2
4. New measure – Collection of reason for eviction
5. New measure – collection of tenant accommodation when moving out

Please contact nrschnationaloffice@homes.nsw.gov.au if you did not receive a consultation paper inviting your feedback.

Feedback submissions close on 24 April 2024

Upcoming Conferences

Disrupting Violence Against First Nations Women

8 - 9 May 2024, Sydney

This conference provides a platform to address the need for appropriate and effective early intervention and primary prevention for First Nation communities so that we can respond, prevent, and understand the continued violence against Women and Children.

Disrupting Violence Against First Nations Info

AHURI

9 May 2024, Sydney

This one-day conference will explore the findings from the AHURI inquiry, Informing a strategy for circular economy housing in Australia. The program will facilitate a broader discussion about what it will take to decarbonise Australian housing through the full lifecycle from construction through to demolition.

AHURI Info

6th National Housing & Homelessness Forum

14 - 17 May 2024, Darwin

This event stands as a beacon of hope, meticulously designed to equip delegates with crucial tools, strategies, and insights to combat the multifaceted issue of homelessness. With a jam-packed 4-day agenda, it features 50+ outstanding speakers and captivating case study-led sessions.

National Housing & Homelessness Info

HIA National Conference

16 - 18 May 2024, Cairns

The three-day conference features world class speaker presentations with business learning outcomes, interactive workshops, networking opportunities and culminates in the celebration of the best in the industry at the HIA-CSR Australian Housing Awards.

HIA Info

First Nations Women in Leadership Summit

22 - 23 May 2024, Brisbane

Hear from First Nations Women and be inspired by shared stories of leading transformative change through passion, connections, resilience, wisdom, knowledge, experience and new perspectives.

Nurture your leadership aspirations and learn how to navigate leadership spaces and the challenges that lie therein. This conference inspires women on their leadership journeys and helps future leaders prepare to bring about change that empowers women to achieve equality and equity.

First Nations Women in Leadership Summit Info

ACHIA NSW is Recruiting

ACHIA NSW is looking for exceptional talent in our Closing the Gap, Policy and Communications Team, with the following vacancies currently available:

Communications Officer/Coordinator (Salary Range: \$75,000 - \$90,000)

- Deliver the 'ACHIA Partnerships Strategy'
- Develop, lead and implement the 'ACHIA Media Strategy'
- Develop, lead and implement the 'ACHIA Brand and Style Guide'
- In consultation and partnership, develop all relevant ACHIA branding, marketing and program collateral
- Effectively coordinate all ACHIA media, campaigns and engagement platforms
- Innovate and grow the ACHIA online and social presence

Manager – Policy & Partnerships (Salary Range: \$110,000 - \$125,000)

- Develop, lead and implement an 'ACHIA Partnerships Strategy'
- Lead policy-based research, analysis and reporting to relevant stakeholders
- Lead industry and sector consultation on current and new policy positions and advocacy strategies
- Develop, drive and advocate on policy-based submissions to all levels of government
- Maintain ACHIA's reputation as a partner of choice and excellence

Aboriginality is a requirement for both roles under Section 14(4) of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977.

Please contact Trista Hickey at trista.h@achiansw.org.au if you're interested in a confidential discussion and/or a complete Position Description.

Applications close Sunday, 7 April 2024



HOME OWNERSHIP GOALS?

IBA supports First Nations people to get ready for home ownership and to buy their own home.

We offer free workshops around budgeting, credit clarity, and preparing for home ownership. Our home loans come with low deposit requirements, depending on your income, and no mortgage insurance.

Find out if IBA is right for you – visit iba.gov.au or call 1800 107 107.



Become an

ACHIA NSW Member

If you are a Not-for-Profit Aboriginal Community Housing Provider in NSW, apply now to become a Member of ACHIA NSW.

[Download Info Here](#)



Continue to send us your pictures of **"Welcome to Country"** signs, acknowledging the beautiful lands in which we live and journey through.

By sending in your pictures, we acknowledge Aboriginal people and lands we call home. Together, let's weave a visual tapestry that reflects the profound beauty and enduring spirit of our people.

Email: comms@achiansw.org.au

ACHIA NSW

Suite 5, 619 Elizabeth Street, Redfern
NSW, 2016, Australia.



If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please click on the Unsubscribe below.

[Unsubscribe](#)