

The Coalition for Healthy Remote Stores

About us

The Coalition for Healthy Remote Stores is comprised of 14 Aboriginal-led, Aboriginal-community controlled and non-government, retail, health organisations, research institutes and universities. We recognise the critical role that food retail stores have in preventing and managing preventable chronic disease. We call for evidence-informed action to support storeowner and retailer efforts to improve the healthiness of food retail stores in remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Australia. Immediate action is needed to reduce the health inequity experienced and improve health outcomes to support the strong future of communities.

Vision

We aim to create improved access to healthy and affordable food through support for healthy retail environments in remote Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory. Our work links to food security through the critical role of stores in improving food security.

Principles

The Coalition for Healthy Remote Stores has formed from a collective desire to create change that positively impacts on the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. Our thinking and decision making is informed by a human rights approach where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are central to all that we do.

All members of the Coalition are committed to the following principles, which are central to all decision making.

- **Informed:** our work is informed by the priorities of, and considered acceptable and feasible by, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander remote community retail, governance, and health organisations
- **Rights:** our work is respectful and upholds the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
- **Transparent:** our work is transparent and communicates back to the organisations communities that members represent
- **Focussed:** our work is cause-focused and linked to determinants of health and wellbeing
- **Evidence-informed:** all decision-making is evidence informed
- **Proactive:** our work is proactive where advocacy opportunities exist, and responsive to causes as they arise
- **Participatory:** our work is guided by robust and respectful participation in the collective vision
- **Ethical:** the Coalition is comprised of a membership that will not misuse their role to advance their own or their organisations agendas

The Coalition for Healthy Remote Stores - Terms of Reference

Membership	<p>All decisions about Coalition membership are based around the need to ensure maximum opportunity for community voice and retain a manageable size.</p> <p>All members will represent a non-government organisation or a statutory body with an independent board.</p> <p>Preference will be given to members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations or community.• with a direct role demonstrating sustained effort with remote stores – retail, governance, health, and academia in the Northern Territory• with an indirect role with remote stores, though where there are benefits to the Coalition such as by providing technical advice. <p><u>Flexibility in membership</u></p> <p>There is one level of membership. Members may participate in Coalition activities related to a particular cause relevant to their interest/expertise. Existing members can therefore opt out of approving their logo to demonstrate support for efforts they choose not to be involved in.</p> <p><u>New members</u></p> <p>Organisations may apply to become members of the Coalition in writing, addressing the membership criteria. This application should be forwarded to the secretariat of the Coalition (s.connally@uq.edu.au)</p> <p>New member applications will be considered by a sub-group of Coalition members. The recommendation will be tabled with the membership for approval.</p>
Decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All significant decisions are considered by two Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander members of the Coalition, either at a meeting, or by out of round discussion or email• Approval will be sought from each member for the use of their logo on each proposed use.• All members can use the name of the Coalition for issues it has approved its participation in, in line with the agreed action, and/or as agreed at Coalition meetings.

Meetings and administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Coalition will meet monthly, there will be times when more frequent meetings may be required, this will be requested by the chair. • Members are asked to attend meetings as much as possible within their capacity. If regularly attending meetings is not possible, members can contribute in a way that is feasible for them. The mode of input can be negotiated with the Chair. • A Secretariat function is currently provided to support administrative and background work of the Coalition by University of Queensland staff (funded by Benchmarking study, see below). • There will be times when smaller working groups will form to progress particular pieces of work. The expertise of particular members or organisations may be called upon to contribute to these.
Confidentiality	<p>All members are required to treat information and internal documents shared within the group as confidential. If there is a reason to share information external to the group, approval can be sought by any member by emailing the chair or at meetings.</p>
Responsibility and authority	<p>Each member is responsible to share the information from the Coalition within their organisation as needed, e.g., with policy officers and executive staff, noting the confidential nature of the information.</p> <p>Each member or organisation spokesperson can publicly identify as a member of the Coalition and speak to the agreed public statements of the Coalition. If speaking on behalf of the Coalition, only identified issues are to be discussed, consistent with Coalition views and approved documents.</p> <p>Where opportunities to speak publicly about the Coalition have occurred, members agree to report back to other members at the next meeting, or before by email to the Secretariat if needed, to ensure all members are across communication and consistency in our collective approach is maintained.</p>
Conflict of interest	<p>A potential conflict of interest is anything that prevents a member organisation from upholding the Coalition principles or impeding the collective work of the Coalition. All members will be asked to report any conflicts of interest upon joining the Coalition. Any arising conflicts may be declared in Coalition meetings, or by filling in the conflict of interest register and emailing to the Secretariat.</p> <p>A conflict of interest, either actual or perceived, occurs where professional judgment (here, related to the execution of the work of the Coalition), is unduly influenced by a secondary interest. Secondary interests include, but are not limited to, financial gain, desire for recognition, academic advancement and publication and funding success and can arise from personal relationship and business associations¹</p> <p>¹Cullerton, et al. (2019). What principles should guide interactions between population health researchers and the food industry?: systematic scoping review of peer-reviewed and grey literature. Obesity Reviews 20 (8) 1073-1084.</p>
Funding	<p>The secretariat time is currently funded by the Benchmarking for healthy stores in remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities project (MRF2007282). All other time is provided as in-kind support from member organisations</p>

Current Coalition Membership:

Name	Organisation	Position
Amanda Hill	Monash University	Research Fellow
Anne Kemp	Healthy Living NT	CEO, Healthy Living NT
Beau Cubillo	Menzies School of Health Research	Research Fellow
Bek Clancy	Miwatj Health Aboriginal Corporation	Nutrition Team Lead
Coreena Molony	Laynhapuy Homelands Aboriginal Corporation	Dietitian, Laynhapuy Homelands Aboriginal Corporation
Deanne Minniecon	Diabetes Australia	National Manager, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Engagement
Emma Delahunty	Central Australian Aboriginal Congress	Transition Manager
Emma McMahon	Menzies School of Health Research	Research Fellow
Jane Dancey	Monash University	Research Fellow
Jane Martin	Food For Health Alliance	Executive Manage
Julie Brimblecombe	Monash University	Associate Professor Public Health Nutrition
Laura Baddeley	The Arnhem Land Progress Aboriginal Corporation	Manager, Nutrition Program
Le Smith	Heart Foundation	National Manager Equity & General Manager, NT
Lily Pratt	Public Health Association of Australia	PHAA Policy Advisor
Liz Moore	Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance Northern Territory	Public Health Manager
Louise Maple-Brown	Menzies School of Health Research	Deputy Director Research
Meaghan Christian	Monash University	Research Fellow
Megan Ferguson	University of Queensland	Chair and Senior Lecturer, Public Health Nutrition
Nicole Turner	Indigenous Allied Health Australia	Chairperson, IAHA
Nikita Muller	Heart Foundation	Senior evidence and policy advisor
Sarah Connally	University of Queensland	Secretariat and Research Assistant
Supported by		
Katherine Cullerton	University of Queensland	Senior Lecturer
Liam Flanagan	Gumatj Corporation	Chief Operating Officer
Will Crawford	Independent advisor	Legal Advisor