



## Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Co-operative

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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#### **GOOLUM GOOLUM HEALTH CLINIC RECEIVES ACCREDITATION**

The health clinic at Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Co-operative in Horsham has just passed national accreditation standards for quality in health care. The standards, set by the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) cover all aspects of clinic operations including appointment systems, documentation, equipment maintenance and client follow up. Goolum Goolum was assessed against the standards in June this year, and was successfully awarded full accreditation status following the first visit by external auditors. Goolum Goolum provides a wide range of health services to the local Koori community including a GP clinic 2 days per week, dietitian, diabetes educator nurse, optometrist, podiatrist, and maternal and child health services (addressing early childhood development). The accreditation framework ensures that all these services are provided according to best practice standards.

The accreditation process has been a long term project for Goolum Goolum. Initial preparation and planning occurred over 3 years ago with the assistance of WestVic Division of General Practice. Following the move to new premises in Hamilton Street, the organisation has been able to expand on existing programs and place increased focus on quality, while at the same time ensuring that services are culturally appropriate. Health Services Manger Jason Hahne believes that the involvement of the entire organisation was a vital part of meeting the standards. “Achieving accreditation is the result of a lot of hard work by our doctors, practice staff and Aboriginal Health Workers. The support of the board and management at Goolum Goolum has also been crucial, as well as the support of the local Koori community. The organisation hopes to build on this success and continue to deliver a comprehensive range of health services to the Indigenous community”.

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