

# Centacare

## Reconciliation Statement

Centacare acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples past, present and future as the traditional custodians of the land and recognises the right of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to self-determination. Their spiritual relationship with the land and their cultural knowledge, languages and customs are passed down through generations and continue to be important today. Centacare acknowledges the past policies and practices of the Australian Government to remove all visible signs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander traditions and customs. Centacare further acknowledges there have been Church based policies and practices that have resulted in subsequent injustices, disempowerment of and disadvantage to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Centacare embraces the Government's official statement of apology to Australia's Stolen Generations. In line with the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Statement, the leadership of Centacare is committed to meeting the challenge of enshrining the spirit of reconciliation across the organisation by:

- Providing services which recognise the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- Working proactively with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples towards closing the gap by striving for positive health and well-being outcomes.
- Providing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural awareness training for all staff to encourage respect and challenge attitudes in order to achieve positive service outcomes for Aboriginal peoples and communities.
- Providing a culturally safe and respectful framework so that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff can fulfil their personal aspirations, and respond to their family and cultural obligations.
- Increasing the employment rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across Centacare.
- Acknowledging the leadership of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples within the organisation through valuing, respecting and acting upon the wisdom and knowledges they bring to the organisation.
- Supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff to advocate and strive for equity and justice for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



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