



Australian Government
Aboriginal Hostels Limited



Statement of Commitment to Reconciliation

Statement

Aboriginal Hostels Limited (AHL) understands, values and respects the true history of this country and the cultures and contributions of First Nations peoples.

AHL's vision for reconciliation is that we will:

- create and nurture a working environment at AHL that embraces both First Nations and non-Indigenous Australians, and embodies equity and acceptance
- in every way, respect First Nations, cultures, knowledge and ways of working
- benefit from the knowledge and skills of our First Nations staff through inclusive employment practices and culturally secure service delivery
- offer culturally appropriate and safe hostel services to First Nations residents, benefitting from engagement with our First Nations staff in the design and delivery of our services.

In honouring our reconciliation commitment, AHL will take a strengths-based approach:

- acknowledging First Nations peoples as custodians of the land on which our hostels are located, and respecting and valuing the diversity of First Nations cultures in Australia
- fostering meaningful relationships instigated and led by local First Nations peoples
- supporting the continued economic, political and social growth of First Nations peoples and communities.

Our reconciliation commitment builds on AHL's foundations and almost 50 years' history providing essential services to First Nations people to access services such as health, education, employment and housing. AHL offers unique contributions in support of closing the gap as an essential provider of accommodation for First Nations people. We provide meaningful impact toward supporting Australia's reconciliation journey.

AHL has an ongoing commitment to promoting equality between all staff members to build an inclusive and respectful working environment; and to creating a service that is accessible and responsive to First Nations members of the community as well as being sensitive to individual needs.

AHL will create meaningful opportunities for First Nations people including through increased employment of First Nations people, offering fulfilling careers and career pathways and ongoing access to training opportunities and qualifications. As one of the largest employers of First Nations people in the Australian Public Service, AHL aims to become an employer of choice for First Nations people and aims to increase our representation of First Nations people.

Beginning on 6 June 1973, our journey has allowed us to lay the foundations for greater cultural safety, diversity and inclusion at AHL, and ensure that the services we provide are appropriate, respectful and support our residents to access essential services.

Our commitment to reconciliation also includes working closely with First Nations and non-Aboriginal organisations, mainstream health services and other stakeholders and which further aims to support our residents who stay in our hostels.