



LINMEN

LEADERS IN INDIGENOUS NURSING
& MIDWIFERY EDUCATION NETWORK

What is LINMEN?

The Leaders in Indigenous Nursing and Midwifery Education Network (LINMEN) is a dynamic and collaborative network that supports nursing and midwifery educators to provide high quality education and training on cultural safety and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, history and culture.

What does LINMEN do?

LINMEN supports nursing and midwifery education providers and educators by:

- Developing and sharing good practice curriculum resources on cultural safety and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, health and culture.
- Providing professional development opportunities for nursing and midwifery educators
- Identifying and sharing effective strategies for creating culturally safe teaching and learning environments for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and staff.

LINMEN does this through the LINMEN online platform at www.linmen.org.au where members can connect with one another, access resources and share projects related to teaching cultural safety and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, history and culture.

LINMEN also holds regular networking events and professional development opportunities for nursing and midwifery educators and provides regular updates to its members to share information.

LINMEN membership is free and open to organisations and individuals who work in nursing and midwifery education and are committed to cultural safety and achieving health equity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. Membership is available at www.linmen.org.au

LINMEN is a project of the Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives (CATSINaM) and is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health.

Why is LINMEN important?

Nurses and midwives constitute almost 57% of the health workforce,¹ and play a pivotal role in providing culturally safe health services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

To ensure that all nurses and midwives have the capacity to provide culturally safe services, all nurses and midwives need to receive high quality education on cultural safety and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, health and cultures as part of their core training.

LINMEN will support nursing and midwifery educators to provide the highest quality of education on cultural safety and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health as possible.

It is a requirement of nursing and midwifery education programs that students are taught about cultural safety and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health. LINMEN is designed to support staff leading Nursing and Midwifery Schools and teaching in these areas by sharing good practice resources on curriculum content and curriculum delivery strategies on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, health, culture and cultural safety and providing professional development and networking opportunities.

CATSINAM believes that increasing the quality of education on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, health, culture and cultural safety in Schools of Nursing and Midwifery in Australia, will help develop a culturally safe nursing and midwifery workforce. This, in turn, will increase the recruitment and retention of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nurses and midwives and improve health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

What can you do?

- Join LINMEN at www.linmen.org.au and encourage your workplace to do likewise. LINMEN membership is free and open to individuals and organisations
- Share and promote LINMEN to your colleagues and networks
- Promote LINMEN on your organisation's website and provide a link to www.linmen.org.au
- Attend and support LINMEN events
- Collaborate with other LINMEN members on projects to enhance the teaching of cultural safety and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, history and culture in nursing and midwifery education.
- Share your resources and projects related to cultural safety and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, history and culture in nursing and midwifery education on the LINMEN website and with other members.

¹ Mason, J, *Review of Australian Government Health Workforce Programs*, Department of Health and Ageing, Canberra, 2013, viewed 30 January 2014, <<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/content/review-australian-government-health-workforce-programs>>.