

About us

The Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO) was established in 1996. VACCHO is the peak Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health body representing 32 Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) in Victoria. The role of VACCHO is to build the capacity of its Membership and to advocate for issues on their behalf.

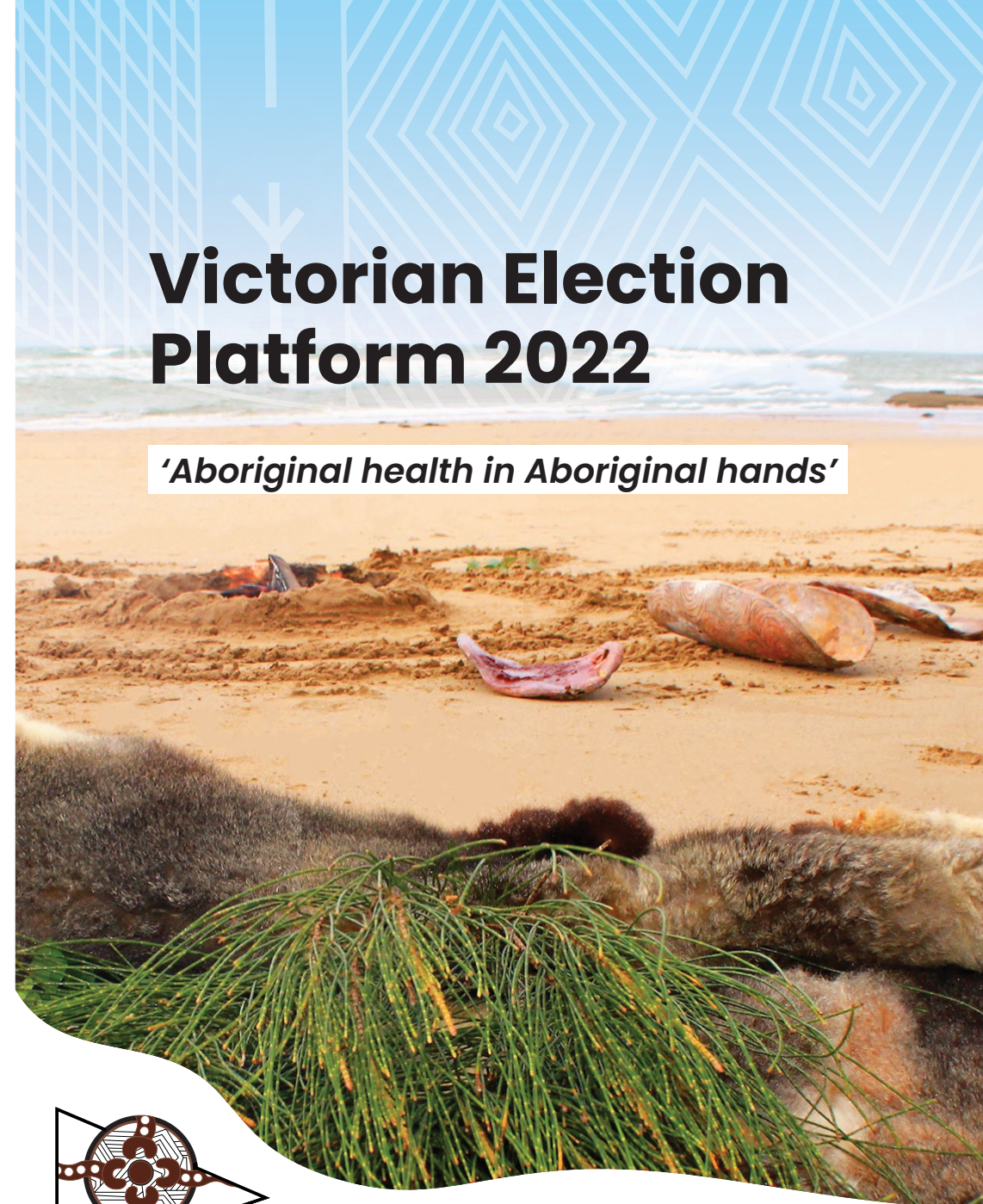
Capacity is built amongst Members through strengthening support networks, increasing workforce development opportunities and through leadership on particular health areas. Advocacy is carried out with a range of private, community and government agencies, at state and national levels, on all issues related to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health.

Nationally, VACCHO represents the Community controlled health sector through its affiliation and membership on the board of the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO). State and Federal Governments formally recognise VACCHO as the peak representative organisation on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health in Victoria.

VACCHO's vision is that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people will have a high quality of health and wellbeing, enabling individuals and communities to reach their full potential in life. This will be achieved through the philosophy of Community control.

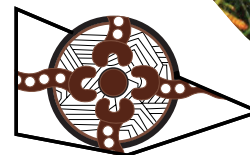


17-23 Sackville Street, PO Box 1328, Collingwood VIC 3068
T 03 9411 9411 E enquiries@vaccho.org.au vaccho.org.au



Victorian Election Platform 2022

'Aboriginal health in Aboriginal hands'



VACCHO advocates for strengths-based approaches to improving the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Our 2022 State Election Platform is based on our guiding principles of Culture and Kinship; Our Choice Our Way; and Knowledge and Innovation.

Infrastructure

1. Perpetual infrastructure fund for Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCOs)

Use 1.5% of land tax revenue for ten years to establish a perpetual infrastructure fund that can develop and maintain facilities for ACCOs.

2. Victorian Aboriginal Health Information System

Commit \$25 million over five years for the development and maintenance of the Victorian Aboriginal Health Information System (VAHIS). VAHIS will use contemporary data analytic solutions to improve population health and address service needs.

3. An expanded Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce

Provide \$3.5 million to fully fund the Aboriginal Health and Wellbeing Workforce Strategy 2021-26. This would increase human resource support for ACCOs, provide scholarships and cadetships, and build future leaders.

Securing justice and health

4. Aboriginal health in Aboriginal hands

The Victorian Government should fund Aboriginal health services directly to provide health services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in custody, supporting the health of people during imprisonment to prevent emergencies and deaths.

Self-determination and accountability

5. Establish an independent Aboriginal Affairs Commission

Establish an independent Aboriginal Affairs Commission to evaluate services that should be delivering outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

6. The Victorian Aboriginal Health, Medical and Wellbeing Research Accord

Provide \$20 million over five years to fund the implementation of the Victorian Aboriginal Health, Medical and Wellbeing Research Accord, an agreement between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, government, the tertiary education sector and health services to raise ethical standards in research.

Services safe from racism and discrimination

7. Mandate cultural safety training

Mandate cultural safety training for all publicly funded mainstream health services, to be provided by external Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations which are best placed to provide cultural safety training for health services.

Social and Emotional Wellbeing in our Community

8. Establish an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Taskforce

Establish an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Taskforce, which would be jointly led by VACCHO and the Victorian Government, as part of Victoria's Suicide Prevention and Response Strategy.