Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation

Associate Membership Application

"Associate Member" means a potential or existing Aboriginal Community Controlled Health committee or organisation that provides specialist services or similar services to those included in the definition of "Aboriginal Health Related Services" not yet deemed to have met the criteria for qualification for VACCHO membership but who are recognised by VACCHO to exercise an essential part in the enhancement of Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services by extending information services, advisory assistance and professional support in their transitory development stage[1].

PART A: Criteria

Mandatory

To be an Associate Member of VACCHO, organisations must be either an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service or an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Committee, and delivering health related services and community support services.

Please tick where applicable

An Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service is a service that is:

1. an incorporated Aboriginal organisation in Victoria
2. initiated by a local Aboriginal community
3. based in a local Aboriginal community
4. governed by an Aboriginal body which is elected by the local Aboriginal community
5. delivering a holistic and culturally appropriate health service to the Community which controls it[2].

☐ **We meet all of the above five criteria and confirm our organisation is an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service.**

OR

An Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Committee is a committee initiated in and elected by a local Aboriginal community with the objective of establishing a Local Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service.

☐ **We are an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Committee.**

AND

These are services covered by the Aboriginal holistic definition of health including, but not restricted to, such services as health promotions and disease prevention services, substance misuse, men's and women's health, specialised services to children and the aged, services for people with disabilities, mental health services, dental care, clinical and hospital services and those services addressing, as well as seeking the amelioration of, poverty within Aboriginal communities[3].

☐ **We are delivering Health Related Services and Community Support Services**

1 VACCHO Rules as adopted AGM 22 November 2022 - Clause 3.2.1
2 VACCHO Rules as adopted AGM 22 November 2022 – Clause 3.2.1
3 VACCHO Rules as adopted AGM 22 November 2022 – Clause 3.2.1

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Please tick the services your Organisation/ Committee currently provides

Subject to the type of service, may include, but not restricted to, the following services provided by medical practitioners, visiting physicians, appropriately qualified allied health professionals, trained Aboriginal Health Workers, qualified nursing staff or community personnel using culturally appropriate procedures and programs.

- ☐ Social and emotional wellbeing services
- ☐ Psychiatric services and care
- ☐ Counselling and group activities
- ☐ 'Stolen Generations' counselling and Link up services and support
- ☐ Cultural Promotion activities
- ☐ Aboriginal traditional methods of healing
- ☐ Clinic usage as venue for visiting specialists
- ☐ Aged care services
- ☐ Paediatric services
- ☐ Client follow up and support
- ☐ Home and community care
- ☐ Assistance with surgical aids
- ☐ Podiatry services
- ☐ ENT services
- ☐ Ophthalmology services
- ☐ Optometry services
- ☐ Advocacy work eg. Support letters for public housing issues
- ☐ Homelessness support and temporary shelter services
- ☐ Submission writing for community organisations
- ☐ Advocacy/interpreting services
- ☐ Community development work
- ☐ School based activities
- ☐ Transportation health services and community bus activities
- ☐ Accommodation or assistance for visiting rural and remote patients
- ☐ Meeting of patients travelling long distance by public transport
- ☐ Deceased transportation and arrangements
- ☐ Funeral Assistance
- ☐ Youth activities and counselling
- ☐ Satellite primary health services to remote outlying communities or towns without services
- ☐ Support services for people in custody
- ☐ Prison advocacy services
- ☐ Welfare services and food assistance
- ☐ Affordable and wholesome food provision

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- ☐ Finance assistance for medical supplies or prescriptions
- ☐ Environmental health services
- ☐ Substance misuse counselling, education and promotions
- ☐ Detoxification services
- ☐ Needle exchange services
- ☐ Services for people with disabilities
- ☐ Men's and women's business services
- ☐ Family counselling services
- ☐ Crisis intervention services
- ☐ Audiometry services
- ☐ Audiology services
- ☐ Local or Regional Health Ethics Committee representation
- ☐ Community and ACCHS research and data analysis
- ☐ Formal in-service staff education and training
- ☐ Community, Shire Council, Regional Area Health Service, Hospital Board committee representation
- ☐ Liaison with mainstream and private health sectors to assist in access and equity to secondary and tertiary health care services for Aboriginal people[1]
- ☐ LGBTQIA+ services

What are the reasons your organisation is seeking membership with VACCHO?

1 Core Functions of Primary Health Care in Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services (ACCHS) NACCHO Constitution – Schedule 5

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PART B: Details of the Organisation/Committee

We enclose a copy of our Certificate of Incorporation together with the latest official copy of our registered Constitution, Strategic Plan and Annual Report.

We acknowledge that this application will be processed by the VACCHO Secretariat and the Board shall determine whether to approve or reject the application.

We the undersigned, as duly elected representatives of this organisation, do hereby apply for Associate Membership to the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation.

Name of organisation			
Address			
Postal address			
Signature		Date	
Telephone		Fax	
Website			
Act of Incorporation			
Date of Incorporation			
CEO/Officer in charge name			
Signature		Date	
Email			
Chairperson name			
Signature		Date	
Email			

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Management Committee or Board of Directors

Names of current Board Members

Checklist - Please enclose the following with your application

- [ ] Copy of Certificate of Incorporation
- [ ] Copy of Organisation's Latest Registered Constitution
- [ ] Annual Report
- [ ] Strategic Plan

Completed application forms can be forwarded to the VACCHO Secretariat via email jimo@vaccho.com.au or by mail, attention to Jim O'Shea, VACCHO - PO Box 1328 Collingwood.

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PART C: Process

Associate Membership

(1) An application to become an Associate Member of the Association must -
- (a) be made in writing and be in a form approved by the Board; and
- (b) contain such information required to assess criteria for qualification as an Associate Member as determined by the Board from time to time; and
- (c) be lodged with the Secretary of the Association.

(2) As soon as practicable after the receipt of an application, the Secretary must refer the application to the Board.

(3) The Board shall determine whether to approve or reject the application. The Board's decision in this matter is final.

(4) The Board, in deciding to approve or reject the application, shall be guided by the criteria referred to in rule 4B(1)(b).

(5) If the Board approves an Associate Member application, the Secretary must, as soon as practicable, notify the applicant in writing of the approval.

(6) The Secretary must, within 28 days after the Associate Member approval enter the applicant's name in the register of Members.

(7) An approved applicant for associate membership becomes an Associate Member and is entitled to exercise certain benefits as an Associate Member as determined by the Board from time to time (noting an Associate Member has no Member rights as described in these Rules) when its full corporate name is entered in the register of Members.

(8) Any benefit accruing as or obligation of an Associate Member -
- (a) is not capable of being transferred or transmitted to another person or organisation; and
- (b) terminates upon the cessation of membership of the Associate Member whether by dissolution or resignation or otherwise.

(9) No entrance fee or annual subscription is payable by an Associate Member of the Association[1].

1 VACCHO Rules as adopted AGM 22 November 2022 - Clause 3.2.2 (3)

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PART D: Benefits of Associate Membership

- Ability to attend VACCHO Membership Meetings with observer status at own expense;
- Ability for CEO to attend CEO network meetings at own expense;
- Input to VACCHO consultations;
- Links to VACCHO health programs and advisory bodies;
- Distribution of VACCHO newsletters, e-lerts and publications;
- Access to VACCHO accreditation support and peer networking;
- Advocacy for sector wide capacity building projects
- Promotion of Membership
- Priority access to government subsidised training places and specific Aboriginal health workforce development programs;
- Guidance on cost effective training solutions and Assistance with grants processes related to training;
- Inclusion on mailing lists for training opportunities/calendar.

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