

MEDIA RELEASE

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Largest gathering of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander family and children's leaders set to drive national reform

The largest national gathering of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander family and children's leaders, advocates and change-makers will converge in Meanjin/Brisbane from 7–9 October for SNAICC'25.

SNAICC'25 will unite voices from across the country to champion bold reform, highlight the achievements of First Nations-led programs, and shape the future for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families.

Catherine Liddle, CEO of SNAICC – National Voice for our children said the conference will be a powerful three-day event celebrating First Nations culture, identity and the strength of community-led solutions.

"This conference comes at a critical time with so many policy levers and a National Commissioner for Aboriginal and Torres strait Islander children and young people to see real movement from government on the priorities for our children and young people," Ms Liddle said.

"The conference theme – *Our Gulture. Keep It Strong. We Belong.* really speaks to that opportunity to showcase how the community-controlled sector is leading the way in best and evidence-based practice, embracing the power of connection and leveraging over 65,000 years of nurturing, knowledge and kinship.

"Closing the Gap really does start with our children, and we know our children thrive when they are connected to their culture, language and identity."

SNAICC'25 will bring together Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous organisations, policy makers, researchers, educators, front line support workers, and students to exchange ideas, share lived experience and renew commitment to improving outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families.

This year's event features a keynote from the newly appointed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Commissioner, Sue-Anne Hunter, who will be joined by youth commissioners, guardians and advocates to elevate the voices of young people and set priorities for systemic change.



"We know from previous years that the connections made at this conference will be the catalyst to lead the change our children deserve and influence the systems that shape their futures.

"We're encouraging people to register now because we only have a few tickets left," Ms Liddle said.

Registrations for SNAICC'25 close at 5pm AEST Friday 19 September. Register here - <u>SNAICC</u> National Conference | SNAICC'25 | SNAICC

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For all media queries, please contact Charlie Bowcock on 0417 042 308 or media@snaicc.org.au.