

# WHGNE organisational statement of support for the Voice Referendum

After reflecting on our organisational values, and how they sit alongside our work to foster equity and optimal health and wellbeing in the community, Women's Health Goulburn North East (WHGNE) declares support for the implementation of an Indigenous Voice to Parliament and the adoption of the Uluru Statement from the Heart. While WHGNE supports the changes to the Constitution proposed within the Referendum, the role of our organisation is not to direct people on how to vote, but to engage with community and demonstrate the value of participatory democracy and social justice in achieving equitable, healthy outcomes for all people living in Australia.

To this end, the Board and staff at WHGNE encourage people within our community to seek out credible information in order to make an informed decision on referendum day, and to engage with deep consideration of our collective path towards a more equitable Australia. We further urge the broader community to respect the diverse perspectives, autonomy and decision-making processes within First Nations communities and acknowledge the incredible generosity, innovation and leadership demonstrated by First Nations Australians in walking together towards truth-telling and Reconciliation.