



the  
**Lowitja**  
INSTITUTE

Australia's National Institute  
for Aboriginal and Torres Strait  
Islander Health Research

*Incorporating the Cooperative Research Centre  
for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health*

## PROGRAM 1: Healthy Life Healthy Start

### CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

#### **Are you planning a research grant application on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander maternal and child health?**

The Lowitja Institute is interested in supporting the development of a research grant application on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander maternal and child health. The project is to be one that will lead to improvements in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander maternal and child health, and fits with the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Equality Council (NIHEC) recommendations ([http://natsihec.gov.au/internet/nihec/publishing.nsf/Content/childmortality\\_nihec-recommendations](http://natsihec.gov.au/internet/nihec/publishing.nsf/Content/childmortality_nihec-recommendations)).

Through our networks, we are able to engage people and organisations at regional and national levels to ensure research proposals in Aboriginal and Torres Strait health have input from key stakeholders and experts in the field, resulting in the highest possible quality when applying for funds.

The expected benefits for applicants are:

- Improve the quality of the research proposal and its chances of being successful
- Receive feedback from qualified researchers and end-users in designing and refining the project
- Maximise the project's likelihood of having an impact on maternal and child health care
- Connect to a network of people and organisations working in similar research contexts.

### BACKGROUND

The Lowitja Institute's Research Program 1 *Healthy Start Healthy Life* focuses on developing knowledge and capacity for the implementation of research that will help to provide the best primary health care service to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and contribute to 'Closing the Gap' in health outcomes.

We intend to support successful applicants by hosting a one-day quality assurance workshop where key relevant stakeholders (such as government and community representatives) and researchers review the proposal and discuss it with the research team with an emphasis on producing the best

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quality outcome. Workshops are facilitated by experienced Lowitja Institute facilitators who emphasise the importance of robust discussion within a safe environment and the value of taking into account the diverse perspectives in the room.

Previous research proposals developed through the Lowitja Institute's quality assurance process have had a very good record in winning research grants from national funders.

## APPLICANT'S DETAILS

If you wish to apply for this support, please submit the following information to the Program Manager (details below):

1. Name/s
2. Contact details (include organisation, postal address, email and phone number)
3. Current occupation
4. Please attach a relevant CV
5. Description of the research proposal you are planning, including rationale, potential impact on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child and maternal health, and outline of proposed methods.

## CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT

1. Potential impact of the proposed research on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander maternal and child health you intend to submit
2. Capability as evidenced by proposal description, qualifications and track record
3. Experience and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander primary health care
4. Ability to maximise opportunities for the project to influence the relevant stakeholders.

Please return your application via email to  
Liz Izquierdo, Program Manager  
Email: [liz.izquierdo@lowitja.org.au](mailto:liz.izquierdo@lowitja.org.au)

For any further enquires please phone: (07) 3309 3414 or (03) 8341 5521

Closing date: Tuesday 15 November 2011

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