



2025 South East Queensland First Nations Health Equity Conference

Supporting our Vulnerable Children & Families, together

Workshop summary

The Expanding Shared Workforce Opportunities workshop was held on 23 October 2025: day 1 of the SEQ First Nations Health Equity In Action Conference, 2025.

The workshop was facilitated by co-chairs Kieran Chilcot, CEO, Kalwun Development Corporation (Kalwun), and Adjunct Professor Frank Tracey, Chief Executive, Children's Health Queensland.



Workshop purpose

To holistically understand and unpack the intersection of child protection-related issues that impact the health and wellbeing of our highly vulnerable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander infants, children and families in healthcare settings in SEQ, and to identify what best practice, culturally safe shared care approaches look like, as well as best practice approaches to the management of Child Safety related incidents in Hospital and Health Service (HHS) settings.

Workshop attendees

Approximately 55 people attended the workshop with representatives from SEQ First Nations Health Equity Partners and the Queensland Child and Family Commission (QFCC).

What we heard

Kalwun, the Institute for Urban Indigenous Health (IUIH) and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Service Brisbane (ATSICHS Brisbane) presented on their Indigenous-led, multi-pronged approaches to strengthening family agency to prevent interface with the child protection system. They also presented on the IUIH Network's integrated and wrap around services to quickly address Child Safety notifications that occur in HHS in the SEQ region.

Five de-identified case scenarios were yarned through by workshop participants, and participants identified best practice, shared care, culturally safe approaches to support our families, including:

- HHS staff reaching out to their local IUIH Network organisation to investigate whether the individual or family in question is already being supported by an IUIH Network service.
- HHS staff in SEQ connecting into IUIH's Mob Link service when they need support and guidance. Mob Link is a 1800 telephone service that HHS staff can access 7 days a week: <https://www.iuih.org.au/our-services/mob-link/>
- Improving culturally safe supports to our families to access HHS appointments.
- Reducing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander unborn and newborn notifications in HHS settings throughout SEQ through stronger connections between services.
- Improving timely access to housing for our families in SEQ

What we'll do next

We will strengthen referral pathways to the IUIH Network, supporting partners to connect with the IUIH Network when real or perceived Child Safety issues arise in their setting.

HHS staff will connect to the IUIH Network when a child or young person is to attend or has failed to attend an HHS appointment, and check-in that the child and their family have access to transport (transport is available through the IUIH Network).

Importantly, we will use the [*SEQ FNHE Healing, learning and improving – a framework for collaborative responses to healthcare incidents in shared care services*](#) when reviewing care, including child safety incidents.

Thank you

We thank Kieran Chilcott and Frank Tracey for facilitating the workshop, and the following people for presenting: Lani Riley and Tanya Blackhall, Kalwun, Alf Davis, IUIH, and Raymond Brunker, ATSICHS Brisbane. We also thank Natalie Lewis from the QFCC for attending and listening to our collective experiences, challenges and opportunities.

On behalf of the SEQ First Nations Health Equity Governance Committee, we thank all participants in this workshop. Your contribution has invaluable as we **move forward together, with energy, optimism, and intent** to achieve health equity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in South East Queensland.

