

# The Victorian PHN Alliance

PHNs working together to create healthier Victorian communities

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An Australian Government Initiative



## The Victorian PHN Alliance

The Victorian PHN Alliance provides a platform for the six Victorian PHNs. The Alliance enables the PHNs to collectively achieve the best possible outcomes for local communities and organisations through leadership, collaboration, coordination and synergy.

### Our Vision

To optimise the collective capabilities of Victorian PHNs as a sector, proactively align efforts with a statewide purview, and advance primary care reform.

### Our Purpose

#### Maximise our capabilities:

Foster thought leadership, best practice, innovation, evaluation, scoped research and translational capabilities across the sector and with partners.

#### Strategic engagement of stakeholders and partners:

Engage and partner with the full spectrum of funders, private investors, providers and other organisations with an interest in primary health, in order to enhance the outcomes of the PHN sector.

#### Harness collective opportunities:

Agree investment strategies and new revenue opportunities to optimise the capacity of the PHN sector and enable best investment of all available funding.

#### Collective infrastructure:

Provide a mechanism for the collective view and vision, fostering insight and taking a shared approach across the PHN sector.

### Our Priorities

Fostering collaboration, learning, and knowledge transfer across the PHN sector

Establishing key communication channels and engagement relationships

Developing shared infrastructure and methodologies

### Our Approach

Statewide coordination

Joint working across the PHN sector

Communications and engagement

**Contact: Jade Hart**

Mobile: 0429 511 567 | Phone: +61 3 9347 1188 | [jade.hart@vphna.org.au](mailto:jade.hart@vphna.org.au) | [vphna.org.au](http://vphna.org.au)

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The key objectives of PHNs are to:

- increase the efficiency and effectiveness of medical services for patients, particularly those at risk of poor health outcomes, and
- improve coordination of care to ensure patients receive the right care, in the right place, at the right time.

PHNs are expected to achieve these objectives by:

- working directly with general practitioners, other primary health care providers, secondary care providers and hospitals to ensure improved outcomes for patients
- understanding the health care needs of their communities
- responding to identified national and PHN specific priorities
- having a local purchasing or commission role, and
- being outcome focused and performing a critical function in networking health services.

The activities of PHNs are also guided by a series of national priority areas:

- mental health
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health
- population health
- health workforce
- eHealth, and
- aged care

The PHN national headline indicators that reflect Government priorities include:

- potentially preventable hospitalisations
- childhood immunisation rates
- cancer screening rates (cervical, breast, bowel), and
- mental health treatment rates (including for children and adolescents).

Source: Australian Government Department of Health, 2016, Primary Health Networks Performance Framework Version 1.0, Australian Government



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