

# Integrating Health Care Planning for Health and Prosperity in North Queensland

## Project Update

### June 2022

#### Project Summary

The Integrating Health Care Planning for Health and Prosperity in North Queensland Project commenced on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021, and will conclude on the 14<sup>th</sup> April 2024. JCU has received funding for the project from the Cooperative Research Centre for Developing Northern Australia Ltd (CRCNA), with a financial contribution from the Tropical Australian Academic Health Centre (TAAHC), and in-kind contributions from project partners. It aims to improve the responsiveness of health services to the health needs of communities in the Northern Queensland region.

#### Current Activities

The two key outputs from phase one in the project have now been finalised. We thank project partners and stakeholders for their feedback.

The *Northern Queensland Health Atlas* (Pilot) will be officially launched through a webinar being held on Friday 22 July, at 10am. Invitations will be distributed very soon and we hope you will join us! Project partners and stakeholders already have access to the Atlas at: <https://arcg.is/5a4Xq>

The *Gap analysis of health needs and services in the northern Queensland region* report has been finalised. The gap analysis facilitates a broad understanding of unmet health need in the project region. The report has been submitted to our funding body for approval and will then be available upon request. Please email us for a copy.

The Atlas and gap analysis report guided consultation with stakeholders and assist with the prioritisation of communities across the region to engage in place-based planning processes in the second phase of the project. Consultation was undertaken with:

- TAAHC Board
- TAAHC Clinical Leadership Group
- Better Health NQ HNA/LANA working group
- Project Technical Reference Group
- Other individual stakeholders

Communities co-selected for further consultation were:

- Clermont
- Doomadgee
- Hughenden
- Kowanyama or Bamaga.

Further consultation with key stakeholders within these communities has commenced. Interest has been confirmed with stakeholders in the Hughenden and Clermont communities to participate in the place-based planning process in phase 2. Consultation is continuing with local stakeholders in the other sites.

Within the project, we have funds to employ a part time Project Support Officer within each community. The Hughenden position is currently being advertised and closes on 1 July 2022. See the JCU website for details.

Ethics approval is being sought from the Townsville Hospital and Health Service Human Research Ethics Committee, and governance / public health act requirements (as required) for each participating site and their respective HHS.

#### Future Activities

The project is on track and commenced in the first two communities in June 2022. Project Support Workers will be recruited, and a plan for co-design workshops will be negotiated with communities.

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