

Information Brochure

The Australian Nurse–Family Partnership Program (ANFPP) is a nurse led, sustained home visiting program that supports women pregnant with an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander child to improve their own health and the health of their baby. The ANFPP is a voluntary program designed to support the mother from pregnancy up until the child is two years of age, with regular home visits from a Nurse Home Visitor and an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Family Partnership Worker. The ANFPP is a part of the Australian government’s commitment to improve the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with the ANFPP providing valuable support and sharing information with mothers to promote their baby’s development in their early years. The program is currently being implemented by thirteen implementing services across Australia, in four states and two territories.

ANFPP is an evidence-based program that is underpinned by three theories: human ecology theory, attachment theory and the self-efficacy theory. The program design promotes opportunities for women to create positive and long-lasting changes in their own lives and the lives of their children and families.

This relationship-based program incorporates five client-centred principles:

- You are an expert in your own life
- Focus on solutions
- Focus on strengths
- Only a small change is necessary
- Follow your hearts desire

By following these principles ANFPP aims to:

- Improve pregnancy outcomes
- Support parents to improve child health and development
- Support parents develop a vision for their own future.

The ANFPP recognises the positive impact of culturally safe service delivery within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities which is why a Family Partnership Worker contributes to the home visits. FPWs promote trust and respect between the client and their family, the Indigenous community and health providers. This position is responsible for providing advice and guidance to the ANFPP team on a broad range of cultural issues regarding local practice and cultural safety, which will inform the adaptation of program materials and the facilitation of culturally-safe home visits to participating mothers.

The ANFPP promotes culturally safe service delivery to establish effective and meaningful pathways to self-determination for Indigenous women, families and communities. The ANFPP acknowledges that culture is distinctive to regions and the delivery of the program requires consideration of the needs and issues that may be specific to individuals, their families and their communities.

