

Leading by example as a strong, transparent, inclusive and equitable organisation.

QAHC's Financial Resources...

QAHC currently receives funding from Queensland Health for our HIV & sexual health programs with gay and bisexual men and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. This money is provided under contract and can only be used for the purposes set out in the agreement with Queensland Health.

The "Healthy LGBT Communities Fund" will be established with an initial budget of \$100,000 from QAHC's fundraised monies. This budget will need to be replenished through donations and fundraising to keep the Fund going. A community Resource Centre will be purchased in Cairns from QAHC's fundraised monies.

Additional sources of funding will need to be found to enable QAHC to respond to the needs of the community. At the time of writing (January 2007) little new money has been secured and so our ability to work on issues beyond HIV is currently limited. Seeking funding will be a priority over the next two years.

In 2007 QAHC will:

1. Provide an opportunity for the Board to learn about the theory and process of developing and sharing power.
2. Develop a Community Engagement & Participation Strategy by working with staff, members, volunteers and partners.
3. Support our regional offices to provide local programs which promote health and wellbeing in their LGBT communities.
4. Find out about and get new sources of funding from the government and non-government sectors.
5. Develop an assets management plan and fundraising strategy.
6. Update and expand our web-site as a source of information about QAHC.
7. Revise QAHC's Volunteers Policy & Procedures.

Further Information...

More detailed information about our organisation and our activities and services are available from the 'About QAHC' section of our **website** www.qahc.org.au or by ringing **3017 1777** or **1800 177 434**.

www.qahc.org.au

RC 2007. Photos by Atmospher Photography, Pride Fair Day 2004....

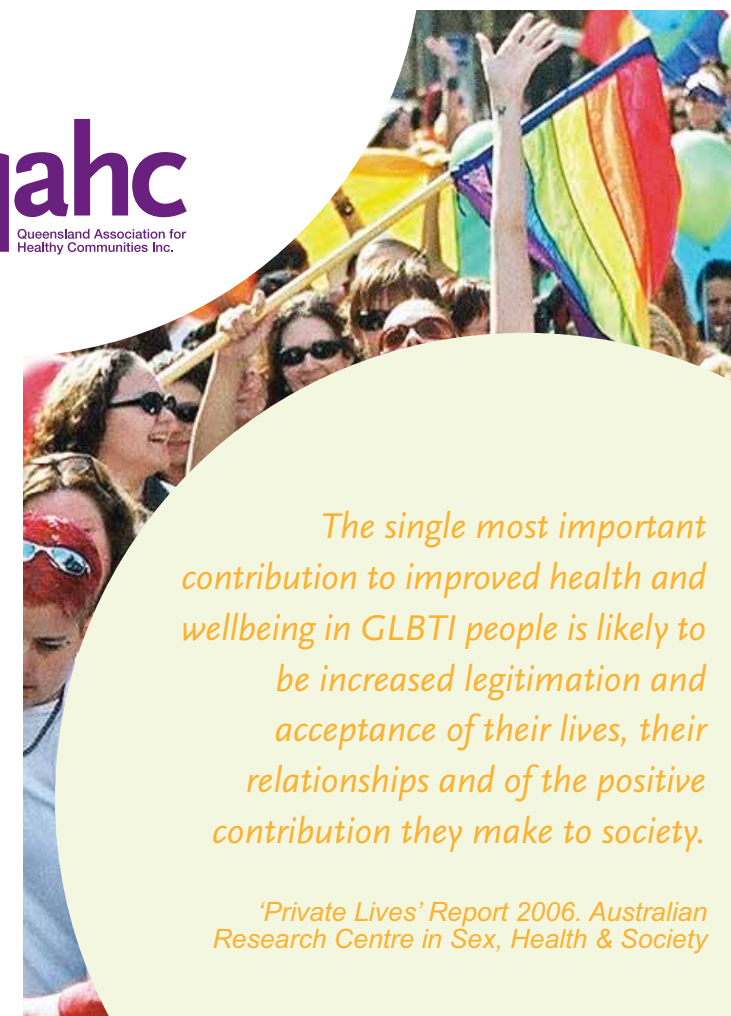
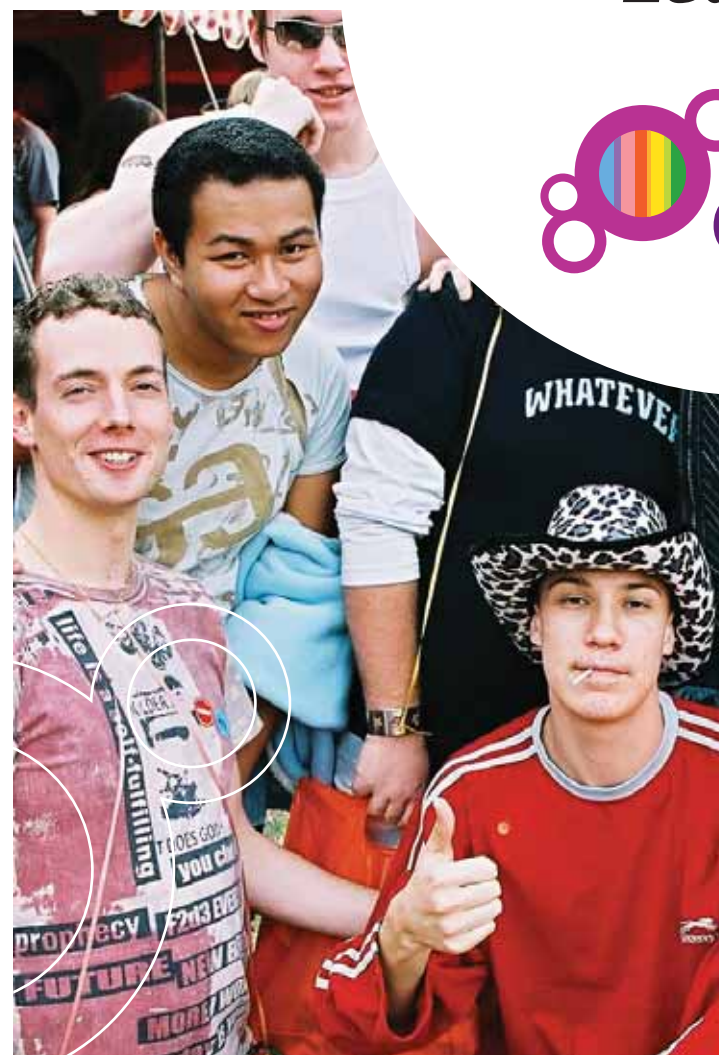


Queensland Association for Healthy Communities

Promoting the health of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Queenslanders

Strategic Transition Plan 2007-2009

Learning into the Future



The single most important contribution to improved health and wellbeing in GLBTI people is likely to be increased legitimation and acceptance of their lives, their relationships and of the positive contribution they make to society.

'Private Lives' Report 2006. Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health & Society

There are estimated to be between 66,000 and 340,000¹ lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people aged over 15 years living throughout Queensland in urban, rural and isolated areas and in a variety of communities, networks and families.

LGBT people suffer poorer health due to the stigma and discrimination attached to their sexuality and gender identity. This results in, among other things, higher levels of alcohol, tobacco and other drug use, higher levels of sexually transmitted infections, higher levels of mental health problems, including anxiety, depression and suicide and delayed access to health services, including screening.

Queensland has been found to be the second most homophobic state in Australia, and regional areas of Queensland the most homophobic in the country. 67% of LGBT people, at least sometimes, modify their daily activities for fear of prejudice or discrimination.

¹Based on the Australian Study of Health and Relationships and Census 2001 data – minimum number identify as gay, lesbian or bisexual and maximum number have ever felt same sex attraction or had same sex sexual experience.

QAHC looks forward to living in...

A Queensland where all lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people achieve the best possible health and wellbeing and participate fully in the life of communities, free from stigma and discrimination.

QAHC will work..

To enable lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people to increase control over and improve their health, as a resource for social, economic and personal development and an important dimension of quality of life.

QAHC believes in...

- > Respecting everyone's uniqueness, views and experience
- > Upholding and protecting human rights
- > Being accountable to the community, clients, members and funding organisations
- > Working in partnerships to create knowledge and take action
- > Respecting the knowledge, practice and culture of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their relationship to the land
- > Stopping violence in all its forms

QAHC works in ways which...

- > Develop personal skills and knowledge
- > Strengthen community action
- > Create supportive environments
- > Re-orient health services
- > Build healthy public policy
- > Respect and work with diversity
- > Encourage participation in decision making and action

What QAHC will do in 2007- 2009...

2007-2009 is a period of transition for QAHC as we move into a more inclusive future, learning from and mindful of our responsibilities to the past. This Strategic Transition Plan focuses on the transformation of QAHC into a state-wide LGBT health promotion organisation.

Our goals for the period 2007 - 2009 and some of the specific actions we will take in 2007 are:

Building trusting and productive relationships through working with:

- > LGBT groups, friends, supporters, families and individuals
- > People living with HIV and their friends, supporters and families
- > The wider community, government and non-government organisations groups and individuals
- > Regional and Brisbane based QAHC staff, volunteers and members

Increasing our ability to be a partner in the development of LGBT community capacity.

Community capacity is about

- > individual skill and knowledge
- > organisational development
- > resources
- > networks and leadership

Enabling and supporting LGBT Queenslanders to increase control over and improve their health.

Priority health issues include:

- > Sexual Health
- > Drugs & Alcohol
- > Mental Health
- > Ageing
- > Community Safety
- > Screening (e.g. breast & cervical)
- > Disability
- > Support for Carers
- > Diet & Exercise
- > Raising Children
- > Domestic Violence
- > Homophobia, stigma & discrimination

In 2007 QAHC will:

1. Run projects jointly with other LGBT groups and individuals.
2. Find out about opportunities to work more with government, secure other sources of funding and make sure we are ready to respond to opportunities as they arise.
3. Get better connected to the LGBT communities: connecting with people in their daily lives.
4. Increase our profile in the media and general community.
5. Participate in the Queensland World AIDS Day Alliance and Hope Fund.

In 2007 QAHC will:

1. Develop Resource Centres in Brisbane, Sunshine Coast and Cairns, as a resource and meeting place for LGBT communities.
2. Use the "Healthy LGBT Communities Fund" to support LGBT groups and projects and the "Hope Fund" for people living with HIV who are in need.
3. Provide a well informed LGBT position on relevant issues: to government, policy makers and the wider community (e.g. same sex partnership rights).
4. Support LGBT self help and advocacy groups (e.g. LGBT Ageing Action Group).
5. Provide opportunities for QAHC staff, board, members, volunteers and partners to develop and/or improve their knowledge of and skills in community capacity building.

In 2007 QAHC will:

1. Provide LGBT awareness training and resources to health and related service providers.
2. Provide a directory of LGBT friendly health and related services, groups and businesses through our website www.qahc.org.au
3. Work to address priority health issues for lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and/or transgender people (as funding allows).
4. Continue to deliver HIV & Hepatitis C prevention and sexual health promotion activities for gay and other men who have sex with men and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.
5. Work with communities, service providers and Queensland Health to continue the decrease in HIV infections among gay and bisexual men.