## Innovative Models of Care (IMOC) Program – NEPHA Primary Care Model Activation

Northern Eyre Peninsula Health Alliance will deliver the NEPHA Primary Care Model Activation: a centralised GP Practice and Allied Health Administration model in rural SA.

Round 5: Northern Eyre Peninsula Health Alliance Inc (NEPHA) Primary Care Model Activation Location: Eyre Peninsula, South Australia (SA) - Cleve (MM6), Cowell (MM6), Kimba (MM6), Wudinna (MM7), Elliston (MM7), Streaky Bay (MM6).

Funding: \$1.4 million over 4 years from 2024

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The activity funds a centralised administrative model that supports GP Practice and Allied Health service delivery in rural SA. The model focuses on recruitment and retention of health professionals to the region. It aims to provide primary care services in a region that has experienced widespread market failure. The model is based around a sustainable practice management service to co-ordinate and integrate services across the towns. The model includes primary care hubs to attract private allied health practitioners and a virtual training hub. It will also upskill existing nurses and develop community-led GP recruitment.

The grant will support project officers to manage the trial and help deliver the project activity. That will include implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the model of care and integrated model of visiting allied health professionals. A Practice Development Officer will design sustainable practice models and deliver workforce upskill programs. An administration assistant will allow the senior workforce to be more efficient and effective.

The evaluation will use qualitative and quantitative data to evaluate the effect of the model on:

- 1. GP and allied health workforce recruitment and retention;
- 2. community measures, particularly access to primary health care services in the Region; and
- 3. health outcomes including reduction in potentially preventable hospitalisations.

This project is expected to deliver evidence of a sustainable, integrated, multidisciplinary primary care service delivery model. This is especially relevant in remote regions of Australia comprising clusters of small towns across a large area.