



MEDIA RELEASE
Immediate Release
16 July 2010

**Protecting Our Future Indigenous Health Youth
Day: 21st July 9:30am – 3pm, Warrina Lakes**

If young people lack knowledge about sexual and reproductive health and relationships, they are very vulnerable to unwanted sex, sexual violence, unplanned pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections.

To protect our future and engage young people and their families in sexual health and relationships information, Mamu Health Service and Family Planning Queensland, in collaboration with Queensland Health, are hosting an Indigenous Youth Health Day at Warrina Lakes, Innisfail, on Wednesday, 21st July 2010. The day will be full of activities for youth and their families, with local entertainment, student dance groups and an inspirational MC for the day.

There will be a free morning tea and BBQ, along with lots of giveaways.

“Our young people are our future, and youth sexual health is everybody’s business,” says Colleen Purcell, Health Services Manager from Mamu Health Service in Innisfail.

Rowena Prentice, Regional Education Coordinator of Family Planning Queensland states, **“We know that young people are already making choices about sex and relationships, drugs and alcohol, and it can be difficult to negotiate peer pressure.”**

Ms Prentice goes on to say, “As a community, we need to support young people to make healthy choices. We are responsible for providing accurate information and encouraging access to services that promote health and wellbeing so we can begin to address the unacceptably high rates of Sexually Transmitted Infections that exist, particularly within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.”

The day will run from 9:30am to 3pm at Warrina Lakes, and promises to be a great day out for the whole family.

For more information, please contact Mamu Health Service Ltd's Health Services Manager Colleen Purcell on (07) 4061 4477 or Family Planning Queensland Regional Education Coordinator Rowena Price (07) 4031 2232.