MEDIA RELEASE



Last call for tickets: Close the Gap Day charity breakfast

Monday, 17 March 2014

Less than three days remain before hundreds of Territorians descend onto the Darwin Convention Centre to lend their support to the Top End's largest Close the Gap Day event.

The Menzies School of Health Research Close the Gap Day Charity Breakfast will be held on Thursday, 20 March and will support research to improve Aboriginal lives.

Indigenous Australians can expect to live substantially shorter lives than other Australians – 12 years less on average – and experience higher rates of preventable illness such as heart disease, kidney disease and diabetes.

Celebrated radio identity, Charlie King will MC the event which has already attracted substantial interest from government, private industry, Indigenous and health organisations, and the general public.

Attendees will enjoy a formal sit down breakfast, cultural performances and have the opportunity to hear from Menzies' leading Indigenous health experts about current projects which are improving Indigenous health and wellbeing.

All donations on the day will go towards Menzies' Indigenous traineeship appeal which will support a young Indigenous Australian to pursue their career in medical and health research.

Menzies is proud to once again partner with the Rioli Fund for Aboriginal Health and the Darwin Convention Centre its annual flagship event.

The Menzies Close the Gap Day Charity Breakfast will be held on Thursday, 20 March 2014 from 7.30-9.00am at the Darwin Convention Centre.

Limited tickets are available for individual purchase or table bookings at a discounted rate. To purchase tickets, please visit <u>www.menziesclosethegap.eventbrite.com.au</u>

Media contact:

Lucy Barnard, Senior Media and Events Officer 08 8922 8438 <u>communications@menzies.edu.au</u>

Menzies Background

Menzies School of Health Research is Australia's only Medical Research Institute dedicated to improving Indigenous health and wellbeing. We have a 28-year history of scientific discovery and public health achievement. Menzies works at the frontline, partnering with over 60 Indigenous communities across Northern and Central Australia. We collaborate to create resources, grow local skills and find enduring solutions to problems that matter.