

NSW Health Apology

Today, on behalf of NSW Health, we say sorry to you as Survivors of the Stolen Generations. We extend this apology to your mothers, your fathers, your families and your descendants. We pay our respects to all Elders, past, present and emerging, and acknowledge the unrelenting resilience of Aboriginal people and culture.

I am deeply sorry for the pain and suffering caused by taking you from your families, from your communities, from your land and denying you language and cultural birthrights. I am profoundly sorry that the institutions managed by NSW Health and its predecessor agencies, played a role in your forced removal and that of other Aboriginal children and babies.

NSW Health acknowledges that many of you as Aboriginal children were admitted to our hospitals and did not return to your siblings, your families and your communities. I sincerely apologise for the impact of the role that NSW Health had in forcing your removal from our hospitals and institutions.

We are committed to working in genuine partnership with you as Survivors of the Stolen Generations, your descendants and other Aboriginal people and communities.

What occurred has a very real and lasting legacy today. The anguish and trauma caused by previous NSW Health policies has been passed through your generations.

Nothing can give back what was taken away from you or your families, but we can and will change the future.

We are deeply sorry.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Pearce".

Susan Pearce
Secretary, NSW Health
26 May 2022

*Kinchela Boys Home Aboriginal Corporation
Bomaderry Aboriginal Children's Home
Coota Girls Aboriginal Corporation
Stolen Generations Council NSW/ACT*

