



S·A·R·R·A·H

Services for Australian
Rural and Remote Allied Health

Strengthening the supports for Allied Health Professionals

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Remote Allied Health (SARRAH)*



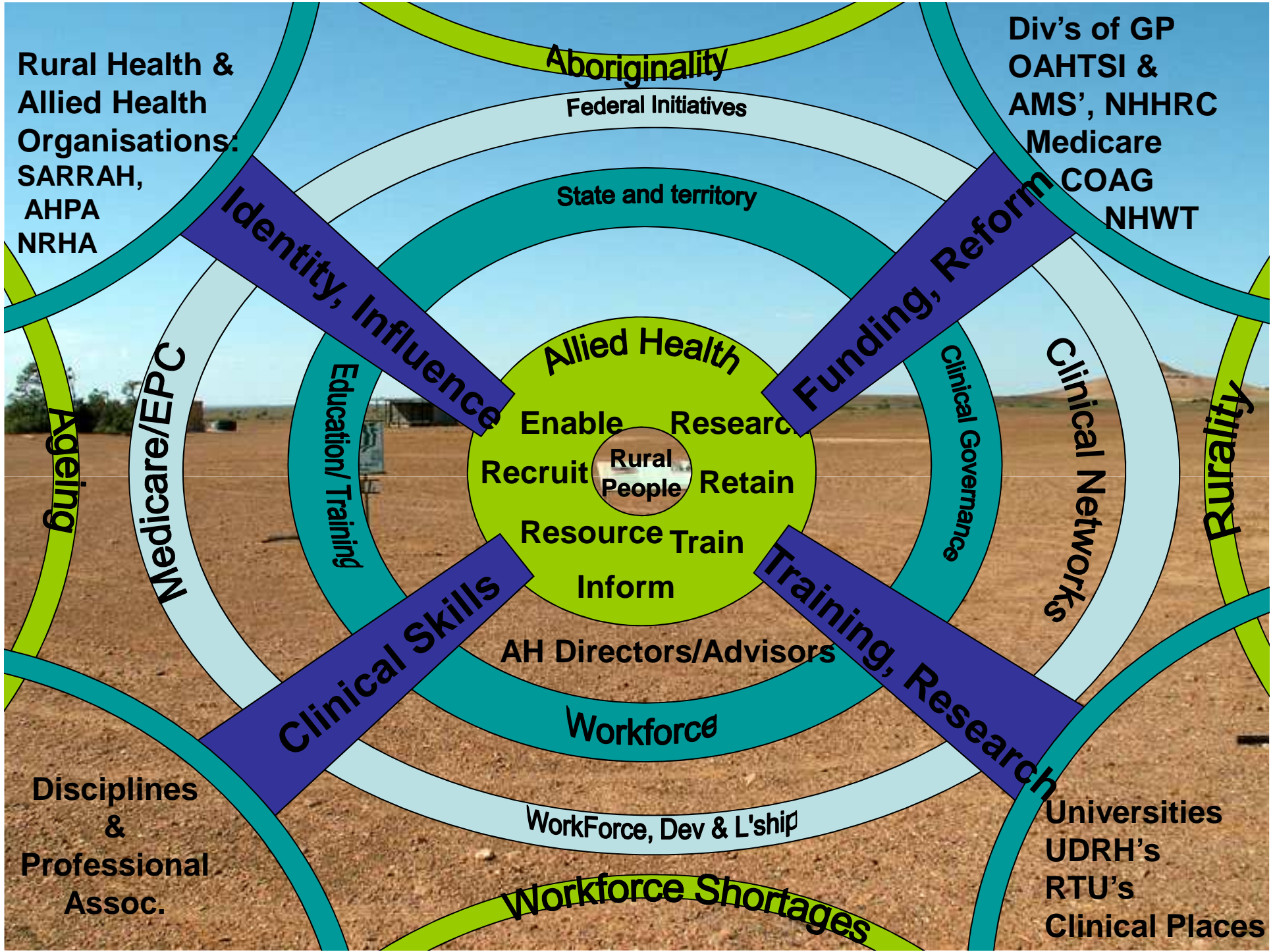
Allied Health Professionals are:

Tertiary qualified health professionals who apply their skills and knowledge to restore and maintain optimal physical, sensory, psychological, cognitive and social function;

Health Professionals who are “allied” or aligned:

- to each other,
- to other members of the health professional workforce as part of a multidisciplinary team,
- and to consumers, their carers and communities

Professions may include, but are not limited to: Audiology, Nutrition & Dietetics, Exercise Physiology, Medical Radiation Science (Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy, Nuclear Medicine), Occupational Therapy, Optometry, Orthoptics, Orthotics, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Podiatry, Psychology, Social Work, and Speech Pathology.



Rural Health & Allied Health Organisations: SARRAH, AHPA, NRHA

Aboriginality

Div's of GP
OAHTSI & AMS', NHHRC
Medicare
COAG
NHWT

Federal Initiatives

State and territory

Identity, Influence

Funding, Reform

Ageing

Medicare/EPC

Education/Training

Allied Health

Enable Research

Recruit Rural People Retain

Resource Train

Inform

AH Directors/Advisors

Workforce

Clinical Governance

Clinical Networks

Rurality

Clinical Skills

Training, Research

Disciplines & Professional Assoc.

WorkForce, Dev & L'ship

Workforce Shortages

Universities
UDRH's
RTU's
Clinical Places

Sarrah Programs

- **National Biennial SARRAH Conference**
 - Provides a forum for rural and remote allied health professionals, service providers and purchases. The next SARRAH conference will be held in Broome during 20-23 October 2010 inclusive.
- **National Biennial SARRAH Summit** (for SARRAH members only)
 - Provides an opportunity for allied health professionals in rural and remote communities to meet in Canberra, with politicians, government and non-government agencies.
- **Australian Journal of Rural Health (AJRH)** (for SARRAH members only)
 - The AJRH is a multidisciplinary refereed journal published both in hardcopy and electronically. It is peer reviewed and listed in Medline, as well as being covered by other major abstracting and indexing services. It provides research information, policy articles and reflections related to health care in rural and remote areas of Australia, and is an important publication vehicle for researchers and practitioners.
- **Statewide Allied Health Workforce Education Program (SAHWEP)** (for SARRAH members only)
 - SAHWEP is an online continuing professional development program designed to support the needs of the allied health workforce to improve recruitment and retention rates, particularly in rural and remote areas.
 - Presentations can be accessed by videoconferencing as available, live via the internet as it is occurring, or retrospectively via website access or CD ROM. Users are able to post discussion points for others to respond, as part of the website, to facilitate networks of allied health professionals who have particular interests.

Sarrah Programs

- **Allied Health Clinical Placement Scholarship (AHCPS) Scheme** (Funded by the Australian Commonwealth Government)
 - Provides financial assistance for students undertaking a clinical placement in a rural and remote community.
 - Scholarships have ranged from \$1,500 to 10,500 per scholar.
 - Since AHCPS inception in 2008 to 30 June 2009, **\$0.17m** has been awarded to **138** scholars. During this period a total of **857** applicants have applied for scholarships.
- **Australian Rural and Remote Health Professional Scholarship (ARRHPS) Scheme** (Funded by the Australian Commonwealth Government)
 - Provides the rural and remote allied health workforce with scholarships to access continuing professional development opportunities.
 - Scholarships have ranged from \$1,000 to 30,000 per scholar.
 - Since ARRHPS inception in 2003 to 30 June 2009, **\$4.48m** has been awarded to **780** scholars. During this period a total of **1,864** applicants have applied for scholarships.
- **Rural Allied Health Undergraduate Scholarship (RAHUS) Scheme** (Funded by the Australian Commonwealth Government)
 - Provides \$10,000 per annum to students undertaking an eligible entry allied health or oral health level qualification at an Australian University.
 - Scholarships have ranged from \$10,000 to 50,000 per scholar.
 - Since RAHUS inception in 2006 to 30 June 2009, **\$5.09m** has been awarded to **332** scholars. During this period a total of **2,446** applicants have applied for scholarships



Allied Health R&R Landscape

- No good data
- Most R&R AH employed by jurisdictions, so likely poor direct medicare effect
- Poor uptake of “Rights to Private Practice”
- Predominantly Female workforce