NEW HEALTH CENTRE FOR TIWI ISLANDS

The opening of the Julanimawu Health Centre at Nguiu on the Tiwi Islands has highlighted what can be done when the Northern Territory and Australian Governments work together on Aboriginal health.

Member for Arnhem Barbara McCarthy attended the opening on behalf of Health Dr Peter Toyne and Member for Arafura Marion Scrymgour who were in Darwin meeting with the rest of the Cabinet.

Ms McCarthy was joined by the Federal Minister for Family and Community Services, Senator Kay Patterson.

The Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing funded the construction cost of $3,770,691 for the Nguiu Health Centre.

The Northern Territory Government provided $483,000 for the project design and management.

Ms McCarthy said it’s a reflection of the collaborative relationship and determination of both Governments.

“It is also a symbol of the inclusive and consultative approach now taken by both governments in working with communities to address their health needs,” Ms McCarthy said.

“The planning for this new health centre involved significant input from both the community and members of the primary health care team.

“The result is a facility that everyone can be proud of, which has won two design awards at recent Architects Awards.

“Some of the features of this facility include the separate Men’s and Women’s areas that enable staff to deal sensitively with the needs of clients; and a secure play area for children.

“This is a great day for the people of Nguiu,” Ms McCarthy said.

Media Contact: Richard O’Leary 0401 119 586