



## Frequently Asked Questions

Updated 16 April 2024

<p><b>Why is a merger being explored by AccessHC and Inspiro?</b></p>	<p>This decision is driven by our shared commitment to improving access to high quality, impactful services for our communities.</p> <p>We believe that together we can maintain and grow our service offering for communities, providing access to integrated, innovative care into the future.</p> <p>As a larger organisation, we are also excited about the prospect of offering greater development and career progression opportunities for our people and ensuring our sustainability long into the future.</p>
<p><b>Why is the merger being explored now?</b></p>	<p>There is a lot going on in our operating environment right now – we are facing significant reforms in a number of sectors including mental health, aged care, disability services and health services. These reforms create significant opportunities for organisations, as well as some risks.</p> <p>Coming together now will allow us to more effectively respond to changes and ensure we are positioned to maintain and grow our services through these reforms.</p>
<p><b>Why have AccessHC and Inspiro decided to explore a merger with each other?</b></p>	<p>Inspiro and AccessHC have worked together for many years. We are both members of the Eastern Melbourne Health Alliance and partner to deliver a wide range of mental health, AOD, and health services across the East and to co-deliver development and wellbeing initiatives for our people. Through that long-term partnership we know that our organisations have a shared purpose and values, which are the foundation for a successful merger.</p> <p>The services we offer and the way we deliver are very similar and underpinned by a shared commitment to community engagement. Inspiro and AccessHC have an incredible track record of building strong connections with communities across the East and responding to the needs of their community, which we are excited to learn from and build on together.</p>
<p><b>What does this mean for the community and clients?</b></p>	<p>There will be no changes for our community or clients during the due diligence phase (expected to last from April – June 2024). Our focus remains on maintaining services and continuing our great work without disruption.</p> <p>Moving forward, if we are to merge, our collective expertise and reach have the potential of delivering greater impact and innovation for our clients and communities. It will see us maintain and expand our quality services. We do not envision that any services will cease as a result of this merger.</p>

	We will keep our clients, communities and people updated on any changes that may impact them.
<b>What services or programs are offered by AccessHC and Inspiro?</b>	<p>A key benefit is the great alignment in our services, as well as the opportunity to grow and expand services that are unique to each organisation.</p> <p>The services unique to Access Health and Community include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Practice</li> <li>• Early Childhood Allied Health</li> <li>• Integrated Family Services</li> <li>• Neighborhood Houses</li> <li>• Carer Respite/Social Supports</li> </ul> <p>The services unique to Inspiro include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smile Squad</li> <li>• Dental Prosthetics</li> <li>• Yarra Ranges Mental Health Local</li> </ul> <p>We both offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental Health (Stepped Care, Head to Health, Mental Health &amp; Wellbeing Connect)</li> <li>• AOD (MSRS, ECADs, Needle Exchange)</li> <li>• Health Promotion</li> <li>• Allied Health</li> <li>• Dental</li> </ul>
<b>What does this mean for partners?</b>	Our stakeholders and partners have been informed of the proposed merger and both organisations are committed to maintaining our strong partnerships – this is essential to the future of both organisations.
<b>Have funders been notified?</b>	The Department of Health and other funders has been informed of the intention to merge. The Department, funders and other key stakeholders will be kept fully informed.
<b>What is the timeline?</b>	<p>The timeline is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• April to June: Due diligence</li> <li>• June/July: Decision on whether we proceed with a merger</li> <li>• July to March 2025: Transition planning and transition if merger proceeds.</li> </ul>
<b>What is due diligence?</b>	Due diligence is essentially doing thorough homework before two organisations decide to merge. It involves careful examination of all aspects of both organisations to understand their finances, operations, legal matters, and more. Essentially, it's about making sure both sides know exactly what they're getting into before they merge.
<b>If the merger proceeds, who will be CEO?</b>	We don't know yet. The CEO role and executive structure will be a key consideration post due diligence if the merger goes ahead. Both CEOs and Executive teams are supportive of the potential merger.

	For now, the Executives' focus is on exploring the opportunities that joining our two organisations could bring for our people, services and community.
<b>What happens if the merger doesn't go ahead?</b>	If at the end of due diligence one or both of the AccessHC or Inspiro Boards decide not to proceed with the merger, then it will be business as usual at both organisations, as it is now.
<b>How can I stay informed?</b>	We will keep our people, clients, community and stakeholders informed on any developments that may impact them.  You can visit this website for updates or contact us if you have any questions.