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New radio series to help Aboriginal financial education in superannuation

AustralianSuper has teamed up with Australia's largest Aboriginal media organisation, CAAMA Radio to produce a new radio series to help Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people take control of their super.

The series is designed to demystify super and explain how the system works while also giving people the confidence to deal with their super fund and make important financial decisions.

AustralianSuper's Group Executive, Strategy, Reputation and Corporate Affairs, Sarah Adams said that fewer First Nations people have super compared to the broader population and they also have lower super balances when they retire than the general population.

'We want all Australians to live well in retirement, but the current system has some way to go to achieve this because barriers exist for many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people when it comes to super,' Ms Adams said.

'As part of AustralianSuper's contribution to reconciliation and closing the gap the Fund is producing this radio series with CAAMA Radio to increase financial education among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.'

Ms Adams said AustralianSuper's Reconciliation Action Plan focuses on strengthening relationships and improving our understanding of First Nations communities and the issues they face.

'AustralianSuper has built up over many years a range of activities to support First Nations people to engage with their super,' Ms Adams said. 'For example, AustralianSuper was the first superannuation fund to provide dedicated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander phone support staffed by culturally trained specialists.'

The Fund has supported the Big Super Day Out event that partners with several super funds and organisations which has reconnected 1,600 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander attendees with \$24 million in lost and unclaimed superannuation. The Fund also works with the Career Trackers program that provides paid internships to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

Ms Adams said the latest initiative was part of AustralianSuper's broader advocacy effort to make the super system more equitable.

'Super should be super for everyone but unfortunately not all Australians enjoy a dignified retirement,' Ms Adams said. 'We want to see genuine universality and fairness in the superannuation system, and this includes closing the gender gap in super, fair treatment for First Nations Australians and superannuation for those in vulnerable or non-traditional forms of work.'

The radio series will be broadcast by the Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association (CAAMA). CAAMA plays a major role in the maintenance of Indigenous Language and Culture in Central Australia. Starting 10 August, the series will comprise six episodes of up to 15 minutes, to be aired weekly.

The radio series can be found on the [AustralianSuper](#) website and on [YouTube](#)

The series will provide basic information about what superannuation is, how it works, how members can access it, the types of issues that arise for Aboriginal members when they try to claim their super and/or insurance, and how they can take steps to overcome these issues. A translator will translate the programs into two languages (Pitjantjatjara and Arrernte).

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About AustralianSuper

AustralianSuper manages more than AUD\$261 billion in members' retirement savings on behalf of more than 2.7 million members from more than 398,000 businesses (as at 31 March 2022). One in 10 working Australians is a member of AustralianSuper, the nation's largest superannuation fund.

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