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WA Primary Health Alliance

**phn**  
COUNTRY WA

An Australian Government Initiative

# Media Release

## EOI open for delivery of local mental health services in regional WA

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WA Primary Health Alliance, as the operator of Country WA Primary Health Network (PHN), is seeking Expressions of Interest for the delivery of Integrated Primary Mental Health Care (IPMHC) throughout regional WA.

Country WA PHN general manager Linda Richardson said the PHN is seeking community innovation, partnership and leadership in delivering integrated local primary mental health services targeted to priority and hard to reach groups.

Ms Richardson said the Country WA PHN 2016 Population Health Needs Assessment identified a lack of access to lower intensity interventions, including primary care services, for people living in regional WA.

“Our Population Health Needs Assessment also identified a need to improve person-centred approaches, with a focus on service navigation and integration,” Ms Richardson said.

The National Mental Health Commission’s Review of Mental Health Programmes and Services, *Contributing Lives, Thriving Communities*, highlighted the existing complexity, inefficiency and fragmentation of the mental health system.

The Commonwealth Government has given clear guidelines about the direction of mental health reform which includes more accessible low intensity services, better reach to people who are disadvantaged, services more tailored to local needs and more targeted psychological therapies for hard to reach populations.

The objectives of the IPMHC activity is to improve the mental health of disadvantaged, vulnerable or hard to reach individuals in regional WA who have, or are at risk of, mental health conditions.

“Commissioning of locally based Integrated Primary Health Care models of care in Country WA PHN will seek community innovation, partnership and leadership in delivering integrated local primary mental health services,” Ms Richardson said.

The EOI for IMPHC activity is for services in the Goldfields, Great Southern, Kimberley, Midwest, Pilbara and Wheatbelt regions. The services for the South West region will be separately negotiated.

Submissions close at 5pm on Tuesday 28 February. Interested parties seeking further information on the EOI should visit [www.wapha.org.au](http://www.wapha.org.au)

### ENDS

For more information contact Brian Oliver, Communications and Marketing Manager  
Tel: 0435 229 317 Email: [brian.oliver@wapha.org.au](mailto:brian.oliver@wapha.org.au)