



WAPHA
WA Primary Health Alliance

phn
COUNTRY WA

An Australian Government Initiative

Media Release

New service to combat substance abuse in Great Southern

30 January 2017

A new drug and alcohol treatment service is being delivered in the Great Southern to assist young people struggling with substance abuse.

WA Primary Health Alliance, as the operator of Country WA Primary Health Network, has contracted Palmerston Association Inc to deliver Enhanced Youth Alcohol and Other Drugs Services in Albany and Katanning.

The delivery of the Enhanced Youth Alcohol and Other Drugs Services in the Great Southern is part of the Federal Government's response to National Ice Taskforce report, which included \$20 million over three years for new Alcohol and Other Drug treatment services in WA.

Country WA PHN general manager Linda Richardson said the Enhanced Youth Alcohol and Other Drugs Services is about improving access for young people in the region.

Ms Richardson said it will also increase the number of youth treatment placements available and reduce drug related harm for young people, families and community.

"This means there will be a AOD youth counsellor based in both Albany and Katanning to increase the capacity to provide timely services to clients and their families struggling with methamphetamine use," Ms Richardson said.

"This will provide the opportunity to develop and trial a comprehensive response to methamphetamine users based on the emerging evidence of the needs of the Great Southern region."

The Country WA PHN 2016 population health needs assessment identified a lack of Alcohol and Other Drugs treatment services in the Great Southern.

Palmerston Association Inc will deliver the new service until 30 June 2018.

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