



WAPHA
WA Primary Health Alliance

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COUNTRY WA

An Australian Government Initiative

Media Release

Support for Aboriginal people struggling with drug or alcohol abuse in Pilbara

30 January 2017

A new support service is being delivered in the Pilbara to help Aboriginal people struggling with drug or alcohol abuse.

WA Primary Health Alliance, as the operator of Country WA Primary Health Network, has funded Yaandina Family Centre Inc to provide greater access for people to its Turner River Drug and Alcohol Support Program.

Turner River Rehabilitation Centre's primary client base is Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Country WA PHN general manager Linda Richardson said the funding will provide an Aboriginal liaison and advocacy officer to help people complete the detox program and assist them in combating their addiction.

Ms Richardson said the new role was about building on the good work of the existing program and at the same time improving access for Aboriginal people.

"Their drug and alcohol support program addresses addictive behaviours, reducing harm to individuals and families and assists people to develop healthy lifestyle skills," Ms Richardson said.

"Our aim is to see an increase in the number of Aboriginal people completing the Turner River Drug and Alcohol Support Program and a reduction in the time taken for Aboriginal people to access the service."

The new service in the Pilbara 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.

Yaalinda Family Centre Inc is funded until 30 June 2018.

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