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# Media Release

## Perth South PHN to lead suicide prevention trial site

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Perth South Primary Health Network (PHN) welcomes the Commonwealth Government's decision to select it as a lead site with a particular focus on youth mental health and suicide prevention.

Federal Health Minister Susan Ley said the Perth South PHN trial site will help deliver a model of suicide prevention that can be tailored specifically to the PHN region.

Perth South PHN general manager Bernadette Kenny said the PHN is participating in joint regional planning around suicide prevention activities with a strong emphasis on addressing local needs and Mental Health reform.

Ms Kenny said the PHN would adopt a systems and place-based approach to suicide prevention.

"Perth South PHN is well positioned to provide leadership in suicide prevention within the region," she said.

"Current partnerships will enable the rapid engagement of key stakeholders and will ensure a collaborative approach which addresses concerns about duplication of effort and lack of coordination.

Ms Kenny said the PHN's strong relationship with the WA Mental Health Commission provided the opportunity to prioritise responses and tailor solutions specific to local needs.

"We will embed a consumer-centred approach in our mental health and suicide prevention planning and commissioning activities, facilitating more clearly defined pathways and alignment between general and mental health" she said.

"There will be a focus on enabling easier access to a broad range of connected and coordinated services to meet the needs of individuals."

### ENDS

#### For more information:

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