

Media Release

Tender opens to operate headspace centre in Mandurah

20 October 2017

A new headspace centre for Mandurah is one step closer, with the tender process to run an early intervention mental health service for 12 to 25 year olds now open.

WA Primary Health Alliance (WAPHA), the peak planning and commissioning body for primary health care services in WA, is seeking applications from potential service providers to run the service from July 2018.

The new centre will first operate from a temporary location, and is expected to relocate to the new Peel Youth Medical Services Hub in 2019.

The headspace model is designed to make it as easy as possible for a young person and their family to access the help they need for problems affecting their wellbeing. This covers four core areas: mental health, physical health, work and study support, and alcohol and other drug services.

Federal MP for Canning, Andrew Hastie, said the headspace centre will be key to tackling youth mental health concerns, which continue to be a significant issue in the Peel region.

“The location of a headspace centre in Mandurah is thanks in no small part to a strong grassroots campaign supported by the local community,” Mr Hastie said.

“A petition of over 3400 signatures greatly strengthened the case for Mandurah to the Minister for Health.

“This latest development brings us another step closer to launching a youth friendly mental health service that will help our young people to live happier and healthier lives.”

WAPHA general manager Bernadette Kenny said the organisation acknowledges the mental health issues young people and their families living in Mandurah and the wider Peel Region are facing.

“We are committed to improving access to mental health care, in particular youth mental health services to complement community-based approaches,” Ms Kenny said.

“We are already working closely with some local community groups to support grassroots initiatives that, combined with professional mental health services, will make their communities stronger, healthier and more connected.

“We now know it takes a collective approach, involving all of community, to keep our young people well.”

In addition to the headspace centre, Mandurah, Rockingham and Kwinana have been selected as one of the Commonwealth Government’s 12 National Suicide Prevention Trials, with a focus upon at-risk young people.

Service providers are invited to attend an information session on Thursday 2 November from 10:00 -11:30am at Mandurah Offshore Fishing and Sailing Club. Registrations are essential www.wapha.org.au/headspace-mandurah-briefing/

The tender period will close at 4:00pm Wednesday 29 November 2017 with the successful service provider to be announced in early 2018.

For more information, potential service providers should visit <https://etender.wapha.org.au/>

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About WAHPA: WAPHA oversees the strategic commissioning functions of the Perth North, Perth South and Country WA Primary Health Networks (PHNs). The WA PHNs are three of 31 PHNs established by the Australian Government nationally to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of medical services for the community. We work across the WA healthcare system with doctors, allied health professionals, Area Health Services and service providers to improve the coordination of care for people who are at risk of poor health outcomes. For more information, visit www.wapha.org.au