

Culturally safe alcohol and other drugs support for the community of Meekatharra and surrounds

19 January 2021

- A drug and alcohol clinician has joined the team at Mission Australia in Meekatharra to provide a culturally safe alcohol and other drug outreach service for people living in Meekatharra, Cue and Mount Magnet.
- The service supports individuals and their families who are experiencing issues associated with alcohol and other drug use through case management and support to access the right treatment options.
- Counselling, group work, and community education and awareness support is also available.

The Alcohol and Other Drug Outreach Service will work closely with a number of other Mission Australia services relating to family violence, school attendance, family support, public tenancy, emergency relief and another WA Primary Health Alliance funded service, the Meekatharra Mental Health Support Service.

Mission Australia's Alcohol and other Drug Outreach Service – Meekatharra

Open Monday to Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm

Contact 08 9956 5100 for more information.

Comments attributed to WA Primary Health Alliance Regional Manager, Amy Perry:

“Alcohol and other drugs are a health and social issue that impacts the whole community in a multitude of ways.

“This funding has given us the opportunity to increase the capacity of existing alcohol and other drug programs and services in regional and remote areas, including Meekatharra, allowing them to work with individuals, families and the community to reduce the impact of alcohol and drug use.”

Comments attributed to Federal Member for Durack, Melissa Price:

“We know the impact alcohol and other drugs can have across the community and ensuring people living in regional and remote communities have access to culturally safe support remains a priority for our Government.

“Through providing additional staff and services in regional WA, we will help to maximise access to, and the effectiveness of, drug and alcohol support services.”

Comments attributed to Mission Australia Area Manager Midwest Gascoyne, Dr Paul Royce:

“We have an active presence in the area and strong referral pathways and because of that we have been able to hit the ground running.

“These services are culturally safe and will help to reduce harm and support behaviour change before the use of alcohol and other drugs becomes entrenched or problematic.”

As part of the funding, WA Primary Health Alliance has also contracted:

- Mission Australia to provide an AOD service in Onslow, which will complement an existing service it currently runs in other areas of the Pilbara; and
- Hope Community Services to extend services it currently provides in Laverton out to Mount Margaret, as well as other remote towns.

This activity has been made possible through funding provided by the Australian Government under the PHN Program.

ENDS

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About Us: WA Primary Health Alliance shapes, strengthens and sustains a health system that works for people. As the operator of WA’s three Primary Health Networks – part of the Australian Government national PHN program – we plan, guide and direct investment towards important primary healthcare services. Our state-wide structure and strong partnerships give us an opportunity to shape a health system fit for the future. By partnering with GPs, allied health professionals, service providers, government and community, we deliver better health, together. For more information, visit www.wapha.org.au