

headspace Kununurra opens its doors

8 September 2022

- **headspace Kununurra is open, centrally located at 144 Konkerberry Drive, Kununurra.**
- **headspace Kununurra will bring a much-needed resource to the area, offering young people support with their mental health, physical health, alcohol and other drugs issues, and work and study.**

headspace Kununurra has opened its doors, providing young people, their families and friends with a holistic, culturally safe and friendly place to access support for their mental health and wellbeing.

A strong commitment to collaboration and providing a service that is culturally safe has driven the establishment of headspace Kununurra. Wunan Health, the lead agency appointed to run headspace Kununurra, has worked closely with existing service providers and the community to ensure services are coordinated and best meet the needs of local young people and their families.

headspace Kununurra is centrally located across from White Gum Park and within walking distance from many places within the township. During the planning process, local young people were encouraged to have their say on the most suitable location for the centre and provide input into artwork and interior themes.

headspace Kununurra is a full centre and will deliver all four core streams including mental health, physical and sexual health, work and study support and alcohol and other drug services.

Young people aged 12 to 25, and their families and friends, can contact headspace Kununurra directly or be referred by their GP or mental health professional.

Comments attributed to Wunan Health Clinical Director, Dr Stephanie Trust:

“Wunan Health is excited to be the lead agency bringing headspace to Kununurra. It’s a much-needed service for youth in our community, especially our Aboriginal young people.

“I see a lot of young people struggling with their social, physical and emotional health, and to have a collaborative service model supporting them is critical to helping them to reach their goals.”

Comments attributed to WA Primary Health Alliance General Manager Commissioned Services, Mark Cockayne:

“The establishment of headspace Kununurra, to be operated by Wunan Health, means a locally run, managed and led organisation will be able to provide culturally appropriate and safe services for young people with mild to moderate mental health issues.

“Getting to this point has been quite a journey. Working with different traditional owner

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groups has been vital, along with local artists, and significant building works that has required patience and understanding due to the impact of delays due to COVID.

“This is a really exciting day for the community of the East Kimberley, and we look forward to supporting integration with other youth agencies locally.”

Comments attributed to headspace Executive Director, First Nations Wellbeing and Engagement, Dr Lilly Brown:

“headspace Kununurra is the youth-focused service that community has been asking for. A lot of effort has gone in to making it a welcoming and safe environment. It reflects the local community and will be an important part of supporting and facilitating intergenerational healing, particularly for First Nations young people in the East Kimberley.”

“headspace is committed to the delivery of safe care to all young people that access our service. headspace Kununurra is well placed to respond to the diverse cultural needs of its community.

“Like many services in regional and remote areas, a large proportion of those accessing headspace Kununurra will be First Nations young people and their families. As a First Nations-led and locally run headspace, the centre will support those young people and families through strong approaches to social and emotional wellbeing.”

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About Us

WA Primary Health Alliance shapes, strengthens and sustains primary health care through partnerships and strategies that improve people’s access and health outcomes. As the operator of WA’s three Primary Health Networks – part of the Australian Government national PHN program – we help communities and people most at risk of poor health to get better access to care closer to home. We achieve this by supporting general practice to deliver the highest quality patient care, funding local primary health care services based on community needs and connecting local services to simplify the health care system. Along with our strong partnerships, our statewide structure allows us to deliver better health, together for the benefit of the WA community. For more information, visit www.wapha.org.au

About headspace

headspace is the National Youth Mental Health Foundation providing early intervention mental health services to 12–25-year-olds. headspace has 150 centres across Australia in metropolitan, regional and remote areas, as well as online and phone support services

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through eheadspace. headspace can help young people with mental health, physical health (including sexual health) alcohol and other drug services, and work and study support. Centre details, as well as factsheets and resources for young people and their families and friends, can be located on the headspace website www.headspace.org.au