

DoHA - National Suicide Prevention Strategy

National

The national suicide prevention projects seek to take a broad strategic approach to addressing suicide prevention across the community and to strengthen population health approaches to reducing risk of suicide. Projects have a strategic focus on a number of key activities. These projects are to be funded from the National Suicide Prevention Strategy (NSPS) for the period 2006/07 – 2008/09. They have been selected based on priorities identified by the National Advisory Council on Suicide Prevention, as well as studies and former projects completed within the past 12 months.

MindMatters (Australian Principals Professional Development Council)

Funding amount: \$4,800,000

MindMatters is a mental health promotion, prevention and early intervention initiative for Australian secondary schools. MindMatters aims to foster a positive school environment that promotes young people's mental health and provides them with the skills and resources to meet life challenges. The initiative also supports teachers, parents and school communities to provide support to young people at risk of developing mental health problems.

KidsMatter (Beyondblue, Australian Psychological Society, Australian Principals Professional Development Council)

Funding amount: \$2,250,000

KidsMatter is the Australian national primary school mental health promotion, prevention and early intervention initiative. It is a proactive response to the national concern regarding mental health and the need for coordinated and strategic action. The KidsMatter initiative has three major aims: to improve the mental health and wellbeing of primary school students; to reduce mental health problems amongst students (eg anxiety, depression and behavioural problems); and to achieve greater support for those students at risk of or experiencing mental health problems.

ResponseAbility Education

Funding amount: \$1,200,000

The ResponseAbility Education initiative is implemented through the Hunter Institute for Mental Health (HIMH) and is designed to increase the coverage of mental health and suicide prevention in pre-service tertiary education of secondary school teachers.

Family Court of Australia Mental Health Support Program

Funding amount: \$950,000

Family Court of Australia

The Family Court Mental Health Project aims to improve the Federal Magistrate Court and Family Court of Australia's systems and processes to ensure that they are supportive of the mental health and emotional well-being of clients by promoting awareness, providing skills and putting in place supporting infrastructure to enable the support of timely referral of "at risk" clients to appropriate mental health support services in the community.

Large community-based projects in NSW

Peer Support Foundation Limited (NSW)

Funding amount: \$560,000

Implementation of the Peer Support Program in Tasmania and Queensland

Aimed at Queensland and Tasmanian primary and secondary students, this project seeks to increase the area covered, and nature of the support available to vulnerable young people.

Inspire Foundation (NSW)

Funding amount: \$835,000

Project Connect

This project will enhance services and information sharing between many community support services who deliver targeted Mental Health help to young people across Australia.

South Coast Medical Service Aboriginal Corporation (NSW)

Funding amount: \$620,000

Koori Kids Wellbeing Program Shoalhaven

This project aims to implement an educational program designed for young Aboriginal children, (3–13yrs) in Southern NSW and provide support for children with existing emotional and behavioural problems.

Centre for Rural and Remote Mental Health, University of Newcastle (NSW)

Funding amount: \$915,000

Farm-Link: improving the mental health and wellbeing of people on NSW farms

This initiative is aimed at increasing the support for farmers, workers and their families in rural and remote Australia by increasing the training and support to the local practitioners offering mental health services.

Men's Health Information and Resource Centre, University of Western Sydney (NSW)

Funding amount: \$460,000

Networks of Support: building individual, family resilience and community capacity in Western Sydney

A project to facilitate men, both young and old within the Mt. DrUITT area of NSW, to gain access to appropriate mental health information and services and in particular to support those from the Aboriginal community.

Lifeline Newcastle and Hunter (NSW)

Funding amount: \$720,000

Comprehensive Suicide Prevention Service (CSPS)

A regionally targeted project that aims to develop a comprehensive Suicide Prevention Service to educate, advise and support those high risk groups within the community.

The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (NSW) for Wesley Mission Sydney (NSW)

Funding amount: \$995,000

Suicide Prevention Community Network Project

This project will provide a framework in which to develop localised suicide prevention aims and objectives which will include identifying and bringing together community participants with an interest in / service provision in suicide prevention and mental health issues.

Consumer Activity Network (Mental Health) Inc

Funding amount: \$700,000

Community Connections Project

This project will provide support and practical assistance for consumers on discharge from two Sydney psychiatric inpatient units. It will also provide information, education and training for mental health consumers.

The Salvation Army (NSW)

Funding Amount: \$755,000

Salvation Army Suicide Prevention – Bereavement Support Services

This project aims to enhance the training available to those front-line Mental Health workers across Australia who help and support those affected by suicide bereavement.

Small community-based projects in NSW

The following small projects (under \$50,000) will be funded for a period of 12 months up to June 2008.

Tresillian Family Care Centres - Royal Society for the Welfare of Mothers and Babies (NSW)

Funding amount: \$48,000

Suicide Prevention Intervention Using a Web-based Support Service for New Parents

This project will build additional capacity for the web-based support service (MSN Messenger Mums) and the telephone Parent Help-Line service which both aim to identify early, parents at risk of or with perinatal mental health issues and respond appropriately.

Sydney Anglican Home Mission Society Council (NSW)

Funding amount: \$17,000

Southern Highlands Suicide Prevention Community Education Program

This project will enable a community education program to be rolled out across Wingecarribee Shire engaging the various local organisations and communities in the central and outlying areas.

Murrumbidgee Division of General Practice Ltd (NSW)

Funding amount: \$43,000

Life Matters for Koori Youth in the Western Riverina

This project between the Murrumbidgee Division of General Practice and the Griffith Aboriginal Medical Service aims to address Indigenous youth intentional self harming and suicidal behaviour within communities of the Western Riverina NSW.

For more information visit

<http://www.health.gov.au/>