



The Hon. Greg Hunt MP
Minister for Health

MEDIA RELEASE

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\$36 million for national suicide prevention projects

The Morrison Government will invest more than \$36 million in national suicide prevention projects to raise awareness of the impact of suicide and to support Australians who may be at risk.

The funding, through the National Suicide Prevention Leadership and Support Program, will help to deliver important awareness and stigma reduction activities, research, and leadership through variety of projects. These initiatives aim to reduce deaths by suicide across Australia.

Fifteen highly respected organisations will receive funding including Suicide Prevention Australia who will receive \$1.2 million to continue its national leadership role for the suicide prevention sector.

Suicide is a national tragedy and close to 3,000 Australians take their lives each year.

One life lost to suicide is one too many.

The support I have announced today will be vitally important in helping to reduce the number of people we lose to suicide each year.

Male suicide rates are three times greater than females and the rate among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is around twice that of non-Indigenous people.

Awareness, prevention and intervention programs for occupations where larger numbers of men typically work will be delivered by the OzHelp Foundation and MATES in Construction to give men the confidence and support to open up and seek help for themselves, and their mates, when in need.

Funding will allow the University of Western Australia to continue critical research to ensure the best support and services are being provided to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people in our community.

A number of organisations, including R U OK?, Everymind, and Reach Out Australia, will receive funding for communication projects such as media and online campaigns to reduce stigma, encourage conversations and provide vital support and resources to individuals and communities at risk.

Authorised by Greg Hunt MP, Liberal Party of Australia, Somerville, Victoria.

Mental Health First Aid Australia and Roses in the Ocean will receive funding to provide training, education and support for medical professionals and individuals with a lived experience of suicide.

A leadership role will be provided by Suicide Prevention Australia to build partnerships across the mental health sector and the community to change behaviour and attitudes to suicide behaviour.

The National Suicide Prevention Leadership and Support Program was launched in 2017. This funding boost today brings the total funding for the program to \$79.9 million.

The Morrison Government is committed to investing in mental health services for all Australians. It is a key pillar of our Long Term Health Plan.

In the 2018–19 Budget, mental health funding increased by \$338.1 million to boost support for suicide prevention, research and programs for older Australians.

(ENDS)

The projects are:

Organisation	Project	Funding
Community Broadcasting Association of Australia Ltd	Community Broadcasting Association of Australia is funded to deliver mental health and suicide prevention messaging over radio stations nationally and develop other communications materials for groups that may be high risk.	\$769,049
Everymind	Everymind is funded for three key media and communications projects under the Program. These relate to the Mindframe National Media initiative and support to Primary Health Networks (PHNs) and the development of the Life in Mind initiative.	\$4,007,310
MATES in Construction Australia Ltd	Funding supports the national delivery of the MATES in Construction suicide prevention program targeted at male dominated building and construction industries.	\$3,360,977
Mental Health First Aid Australia	Mental Health First Aid Australia (MHFA) is funded to develop and deliver Mental Health First Aid Training for human services, medical and nursing students. MHFA is a national non-for-profit with a large national reach. Two high-risk groups for suicide are people with gambling problems and people engaging in non-suicidal self-injury.	\$1,965,604
National LGBTI	Funding for the MindOUT! Project supports the National LGBTI Health	\$968,583

Organisation	Project	Funding
Health Alliance	Alliance to work with LGBTI organisations and mainstream mental health organisations to improve mental health and suicide prevention outcomes for LGBTI people.	
Orygen – The National Centre of Excellence in Youth Mental Health	Orygen is funded to develop guidelines regarding safe youth peer-peer communication about suicide, to develop a suite of evidence-based messages and educational resources and to disseminate messaging and resources via a national social media campaign targeting young people.	\$800,000
OzHelp Foundation Ltd	Funding for the OzHelp project delivers a suite of evidence-based mental health and suicide awareness, prevention and intervention programs to support ‘hard to reach’ men in male dominated workplaces.	\$2,636,336
R U OK? Ltd	Funding to R U OK? supports campaign activity designed to build the confidence and capacity of Australians to connect and have conversations about mental health.	\$749,951
Reach Out Australia Pty Ltd	Reach Out Australia is funded to develop a youth suicide prevention national media campaign and promote digital support for Australians aged 14-25 years.	\$499,772
Roses in the Ocean	Roses in the Ocean is funded to provide a range of capacity building workshops and training opportunities for people with a lived experience of suicide. This support will help enable people with lived experience to better engage and contribute to program and policy development undertaken by PHNs and other similar organisations.	\$478,000.00
Suicide Prevention Australia Ltd	Suicide Prevention Australia provide a national leadership role for the suicide prevention sector in Australia with a strong focus on building partnerships, including with people with a lived experience of suicide, to change behaviours and attitudes to suicide prevention.	\$1,200,000
The University of Melbourne	The University of Melbourne with their consortium partners are funded to ensure knowledge and research on evidence based suicide prevention	\$1,200,000

Organisation	Project	Funding
	activity is shared and translated into best practice across the suicide prevention sector.	
The University of Western Australia	The University of Western Australia is funded to establish and run a Centre of Best Practice in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention.	\$1,400,000
United Synergies Ltd	Funding to United Synergies supports the StandBy Response after Suicide to deliver nationally coordinated on the ground support to individuals and communities bereaved by suicide as well as training front-line emergency response services.	\$9,190,068
Wesley Community Services Ltd	Wesley Community Services is funded for two key projects. Funding supports suicide prevention networks in communities throughout Australia and the delivery of LifeForce suicide prevention training to communities and health care providers nationally.	\$6,322,952