

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11-290

OUTCOME 11: Mental Health

Topic: TELEPHONE COUNSELLING

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

What existing contracts does the government have with NGOs to provide services under this programme? Please provide details of the organisations with whom the government has existing contractual arrangements and when each of these contracts is due to end.

Answer:

Specifically in terms of telephone counselling services there are two major organisations, Kids Helpline and Lifeline, which have funding agreements in place with the Australian Government to provide telephone counselling services.

The following table provides more information on these contracts:

Organisation	Project	Total Funding (GST exclusive)	Funding Agreement Ends
Lifeline Australia	Telephone counselling services	\$26,475,000	30 June 2012
Kids Help Line	Telephone and web counselling services	\$7,827,400	30 June 2012

These organisations are funded under the COAG *Telephone Counselling Self Help and Web Based Support Programmes* measure. A range of other programs which provide online services are also funded under this measure, including:

- The Centre for Mental Health Research at the Australian National University;
- Swinburne University – Anxiety online program;
- St Vincent’s Hospital – Clinical Research Unit for Anxiety and Depression (CRUFAD);
- Inspire Foundation – ReachOut! Program; and
- Black Dog Institute – MyCompass Program.