

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 2/3 June 2014**

**Ref No:** SQ14-001002

**OUTCOME:** 5 - Primary Health Care

**Topic:** Youth Mental Health

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 113, 2 June 2014

**Senator:** Wright, Penny

**Question:**

Is the government aware of concerns that have been expressed by stakeholders in the youth sector and also the mental health sector about an increased risk of suicide as a consequence of young people under 30 having to leave their family or their community to relocate to find employment under the proposed changes to Newstart for those who are under 30?

**Answer:**

Young people are a specific target group for services under a range of existing Commonwealth funded mental health and suicide prevention programmes. headspace centres and eheadspace services, for example, provide holistic support for young people in four key areas – mental health, related physical health, alcohol and other drug use, as well as social and vocational support.

For information on supports provided through Centrelink refer to the Department of Social Services.