Senate Community Affairs Committee ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO

2014-15 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 5 Question No: 168

Topic: Family Mental Health Support Services (FMHSS)

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Wright asked:

With the cessation of Aboriginal and CALD specific Family Mental Health Support Services, what provisions have been made by the government for addressing the significantly higher suicide rates of Aboriginal young people? Please provide specific examples where possible.

Answer:

Family Mental Health Support Services (FMHSS) will continue to be delivered in remote Indigenous communities, for example in Anangu Pitjantjatjara in South Australia.

FMHSS providers are required to prioritise highly vulnerable groups in their service areas, including Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) and Indigenous families. In remote Indigenous communities, the FMHSS model is tailored to ensure a culturally-appropriate and effective service delivery.