

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2014-15 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 5

Question No: 170

Topic: Family Mental Health Support Services (FMHSS)

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Wright asked:

The age criteria for the new Family Mental Health Support Services no longer includes support for young people aged over 18 years. How is it intended young Aboriginal and CALD people will be supported by an already stretched mainstream mental health that most find culturally unresponsive or inappropriate?

Answer:

FMHSS providers are required to prioritise highly vulnerable groups in their service areas, including CALD and Indigenous families and to deliver culturally appropriate services. CALD and Indigenous young people aged over 18 years may continue to access alternative state and Federal support services such as Personal Helpers and Mentors (PHaMs).