



2008 LIFE AWARDS

IN RECOGNITION OF THOSE WHO HAVE MADE AN OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO SUICIDE PREVENTION WITHIN AUSTRALIA

The Council is a unique collaboration between government and non-government agencies that has worked to develop a Western Australian state suicide prevention strategy.

Its principal role is that of an advisory body to the WA Minister for Health.

Western Australia was the first Australian state to develop a comprehensive, state-wide strategy to address the problem of youth suicide that had emerged as a concern in the late 1980s.

The mandate of the committee formed to implement this strategy has been successively broadened to universally address suicide prevention, with special emphasis on the Indigenous community and young adult males.

In 2007 the council organised a series of community forums across the state to obtain feedback and further input from consumers, carers, service providers and other stakeholders to support the planning process.

This consultation process has led to the creation of a comprehensive five-year plan for suicide prevention in Western Australia, which is now in its final stages of development.

This award recognises the council's unique achievement in bringing together the public sector with NGOs, professionals in various fields and consumers in a state-based body.

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