

12 October 2016

CAMHS program wins Mental Health Excellence and Innovation Award

The Women's and Children's Health Network is delighted to announce that one of its regional Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) programs has been awarded the 2016 Mental Health Excellence and Innovation Award by SA Health. The award was announced at Adelaide Oval earlier this week, as part of Mental Health Week.

The Nanko-walun Porlar Nomawi program in the Murraylands is a youth-focused service that aims to close the gap on racial inequality and strengthen local Indigenous families. It was duly recognised last night as an example of excellence and innovation in mental health service provision in South Australia.

The program partners with Families SA and the Department for Education and Child Development (DECD) to work holistically with families at risk of involvement with the child protection or youth justice systems. It also endeavours to improve school attendance, build self-esteem and reconnect Indigenous children in the Murraylands with their cultural heritage.

Congratulations go to the entire Nanko-walun Porlar Nomawi team, including Harley Hall, Regina Newchurch and Lesley Saunders. These individuals have dedicated their time to assisting indigenous youth across the Murraylands region in a tireless effort to improve the mental health of their community. Congratulations also go to Robyn Duckworth, Regional Manager of Hills Murraylands CAMHS.

We know that Indigenous Australian children are twice as likely to develop mental health concerns than their non-Indigenous counterparts. As such, Aboriginal mental health is a key priority for the Women's and Children's Health Network (WCHN).

This latest award is evidence of the ongoing commitment of the WCHN to closing the gap on Aboriginal health and wellbeing through role-modelling, early intervention and culturally relevant engagement strategies.

We take pride in celebrating the work of the Nanko-walun Porlar Nomawi program and the inspiring individuals who have made this visionary service such a success.

For more information on latest news

Visit  www.facebook.com/sahealth  www.twitter.com/sahealthnews

 www.youtube.com/sahealthaustralia