



# **Kevin Humphries MP**

## **Minister for Mental Health**

## **Minister for Healthy Lifestyles**

## **Minister for Western NSW**

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **NSW GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE REFORM OF MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STATE'S ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES**

The NSW Government will continue to increase care to Aboriginal people with mental illness, with more than \$16.5 million to be spent over the next three years for vital housing and support packages, NSW Minister for Mental Health Kevin Humphries announced today.

Mr Humphries said the innovative Aboriginal Housing and Accommodation Support Initiative (HASI) Program will reach more people throughout the State and highlight the NSW Government's commitment to improve mental health outcomes for Aboriginal people.

"Since announcing the initial expansion of the Aboriginal HASI Program in October last year I have pushed to further grow and develop the program to set the standard nationally for the provision of direct support to Aboriginal people with mental illness in their home and community," Mr Humphries said.

"The NSW Government is committed to improving the health of Aboriginal people living with a mental illness through targeted and culturally sensitive services and programs and to delivering improved services.

"These 100 high, medium and low support packages will play an extremely important role in helping more Aboriginal people with mental illness increase their community participation, maintain successful tenancies, improve their quality of life and, most importantly, assist in their recovery from mental illness."

Mr Humphries said the Aboriginal HASI program assists in improving the mental health and the emotional and social wellbeing of Aboriginal communities across NSW by providing direct support to Aboriginal people with mental illness in their home and community.

"Living in stable accommodation in the community is fundamental to recovery, and is a key platform in the NSW Government's mental health reform agenda," Mr Humphries said.

Mr Humphries said the Request for Tender for the packages was now open. For more information visit: <https://tenders.nsw.gov.au/health/>