



BLACK RAINBOW
living well.

Monday August 15 2016 - For immediate release

MEDIA RELEASE

Black Rainbow welcomes the recent announcement of the Kimberley Region as one of the suicide prevention trial sites.

CEO of Australia's newly formed peak Indigenous LGBTQTI suicide prevention body, Broome-based Dameyon Bonson, is "encouraged by the recent announcement from the Prime Minister and the Honourable Susan Ley and their commitment to preventing suicide. The Kimberley has weathered for far too long the high rates of Indigenous suicide", and he is hopeful "that the needs of Indigenous LGBTQTI people will be included in this trial site process and the other 11 trial sites".

"What we know nationally, is that Indigenous Australians are 2.5 times more likely to die by suicide. LGBTQTI Australians are up to 14 times more likely to do so. These figures place Indigenous LGBTQTI people at an astronomical heightened risk of suicide and self-harm. We are talking up to 35 times more likely", he said. "It is hoped, that all of the 12 selected sites are responsive to the needs of Indigenous LGBTQTI people and in safe ways."

In the coming days, Black Rainbow will release the first ever report into Indigenous LGBTQTI suicide prevention. A report that was in part crowdfunded because of the lack of resources dedicated to this unmet need.

It is hoped that this document will start the long overdue discussion with Government, peak bodies in the health sector, and the Primary Healthcare Networks (PHN), on future directions of inclusivity and Indigenous LGBTQTI peoples' healthcare needs.

To arrange to speak with a staff from Black Rainbow please contact us via email, love@blackrainbow.org.au

END