

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017, 19 October 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000384

OUTCOME: 0 - Whole of Portfolio

Topic: LGBTI Program Funding

Type of Question: Hansard Page 19, 19 October 2016

Senator: Rice, Janet

Question:

Senator RICE: Have you any examples, findings or things that have come from your pride network that have influenced program design or program approach?

Mr Bowles: Not specifically off the top of my head. We did some work recently around Wear it Purple Day and try to understand the discrimination issues not only in a health sense but in a staffing sense, and what that actually means. So there is a whole range of those sorts of things. I can take on notice to have a look at quite specific other examples where it has changed.

Senator RICE: I am particularly interested in programs where there is a lot of money being spent—for example, on cancer screening or other preventative health programs—ensuring that they are meeting the needs, particularly where you have a greater prevalence of the disease in the LGBTI community as compared with the general community.

Answer:

The Department funds programs specific to the needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and/or intersex (LGBTI) people, given the needs in the aged care sector, and the impact of mental health issues and suicide in the LGBTI community. The Gender Centre Incorporated is funded to support LGBTI people by engaging and supporting older transgender people, and engaging and supporting existing aged care services around transgender issues. The National LGBTI Health Alliance receives funding for:

- Improving knowledge of LGBTI peoples' aged care needs, by producing and delivering a LGBTI sensitivity training and e-learning module to assist workers in aged care settings to meet the diversity needs of older LGBTI people;
- Support for LGBTI people by delivering innovative projects to link older LGBTI people to appropriate aged care services and providing resources and educational products to the community and sector;
- QLife, a peer supported telephone and web-based counselling and referral service for LGBTI people; and
- MindOut! a program which aims to improve mental health and suicide prevention outcomes for LGBTI people by working with mainstream mental health and suicide prevention organisations to assist them to be more responsive to the needs of LGBTI people.