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AUSTRALIA’S FIRST RESIDENTIAL REHAB SERVICE FOR VOLATILE SUBSTANCE ABUSE

The Territory Government is calling for tenders to set up and run Australia’s first residential rehabilitation services for people with volatile substance abuse problems.

The tenders are being advertised nationally, calling for potential providers to tender for four separate services for young people and adults, two services in Darwin and two in Alice Springs.

The tenders are part of the NT Government’s record $10 million commitment to tackling volatile substance abuse in the Northern Territory. This funding will support the Territory’s landmark Volatile Substance Abuse Prevention Bill which was passed Parliament this year.

“This new law bans petrol sniffing but does not criminalise it – it gives police and courts the powers they need to combat petrol sniffing, while also providing communities with support to help their young people, Community Services Minister Marion Scrymgour said.

Ms Scrymgour said the services will provide an environment that accepts and supports the cultural background of people with volatile substance abuse problems.

“The service will also invite families to be a part of the treatment and rehabilitation process, and also provide aftercare and follow-up,” Ms Scrymgour said.

“This is a holistic approach that focuses on the person, not just their substance abuse.

“In developing the tender specifications, it was understood that treating an individual in a service in town doesn’t stop them from returning to substance abuse once they go back to their community.

“Therefore the tender specifications request the residential rehabilitation services operate on a case management model, work with the individual to develop their living skills and provide education, health care, recreational and other support services.”


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