

MEDIA RELEASE

4 November 2022

Closure of Sexual Health Clinics at headspace Darwin and Katherine

Due to funding arrangements, Sexual Health Clinics at both headspace Darwin and headspace Katherine will no longer operate after 8 November (Katherine) and 22 December (Darwin).

Anglicare NT, Northern Territory AIDS and Hepatitis Council (NTAHC) and the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) are extremely proud to have been able to offer Sexual Health Clinics at headspace Darwin and headspace Katherine. The free and confidential Clinics provided sexual health and wellbeing services to young people aged 12 to 25 years. They used a whole-community approach to promote respectful relationships, good sexual health and wellbeing while empowering young people.

“High rates of sexually transmitted infections, unplanned pregnancies, sexual and relationship violence in the Northern Territory demonstrate the need for youth access to quality information, holistic support and respectful advice,” said Anglicare NT CEO Dave Pugh.

“We thank the Northern Territory Government Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities *Safe, Respected and Free from Violence Prevention Program* for their initial financial support for this important work in supporting young people and their education and sexual health over the past few years.”

“We remain hopeful that the sexual health clinic will be refunded again in the future and are working towards this objective.”

Genevieve Dally, Executive Director of NTAHC, said “We are all so proud to have been part of this amazing initiative. The unique partnership between the services and the strong voices of young people has meant we have been able to deliver these important sexual health services across the Top End.”

For young people seeking alternative services:

Darwin: Please visit Danila Dilba, Clinic 34, Family Planning, school nurse or counsellor (for advice/education), SARC or your local GP for information and support with sexual health screening and education.

Katherine: Please visit Clinic 34, Wurli-Wurlinjang Health Service or your local GP for information and support with sexual health screening and education.

FOR COMMENTS OR INTERVIEWS

To arrange an interview with Anglicare NT CEO Dave Pugh or Executive Manager Mental Health Jade Gooding, please contact Anglicare NT Communications Manager on 0409 222 143 or email media@anglicare-nt.org.au

To arrange an interview with Genevieve Dally, Executive Director of NTAHC, please phone 8944 7777.