
MEDIA RELEASE
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LIFELINE WELCOMES NSW GOVERNMENT SUICIDE MONITORING SYSTEM

John Brogden, Chairman, Lifeline Australia, welcomed the launch of the NSW Government's state-wide monitoring system as a significant step toward saving lives.

"The introduction of a suicide and self-harm monitoring system will greatly improve the way suicide prevention services can respond to suicide risk. Quite simply, access to this information will help us save lives." Mr Brogden said.

"This is a hopeful step, especially for communities who are grappling with rising loss of life. It will give us greater insight into where the immediate and heightened risk is occurring, enabling us to put in place preventative measures that will reduce the risk of harm as soon as it is identified." Mr Brogden continued.

Before the launch of the suicide monitoring system, agencies had to rely on community groups and professional networks to identify immediate risks because the national cause of death data release occurred in October for the calendar year preceding it.

"A state-wide monitoring system will give us the opportunity to identify trends, emerging areas of concern and priority groups; and enable us to better co-ordinate intervention and supports across agencies. We will be able to respond in real time with evidence-based solutions to immediate concerns." Mr Brogden said.

Lifeline is Australia's leading suicide prevention service, operating the 13 11 14 telephone line within 40 centres around the nation. The service expects to respond to well over one million requests for support by phone, online chat or text this year and will create an average of 120 safety plans to keep a person experiencing suicidal ideation safe every day.

To donate to Lifeline, visit www.lifeline.org.au/donate

To arrange an interview, please contact: media@lifeline.org.au or phone: 0408 407 376

If you, or someone you know, is in need of support, please contact Lifeline on 13 11 14 (24 hours / 7 days) or chat to a Crisis Supporter at lifeline.org.au (7pm – midnight, 7 nights)