



Wesley LifeForce Suicide Prevention Services

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To all interested members of the Devonport community

Suicide prevention

More than 2,000 Australians end their own lives every year, impacting families, friends, workplaces and communities. People of all demographics die by suicide and the causes often appear to be a complex interplay of adverse life events and psychosocial, cultural and geographic factors.

In 2005, Wesley LifeForce initiated a project to evaluate the effectiveness of suicide safety networks. Not surprisingly, this project revealed that a more collaborative, community-based approach to suicide prevention has proven to be successful.¹

A network or coalition is a union of people and organisations – a voluntary collaboration working to influence outcomes on a specific problem. The aim of this project is to develop within targeted communities, localised suicide prevention objectives.

Community suicide prevention networks play a key role in coordination, collaboration and resource exchange within a community and may therefore build a community's capacity as a foundation for the development of effective suicide prevention initiatives.

The Commonwealth Department of Health has funded Wesley LifeForce to establish suicide prevention networks nationally.

Devonport, like other regions, has been impacted by suicide. Recently, Wesley LifeForce has consulted mental health service providers to discuss the possibility of establishing the Wesley LifeForce network program in the Devonport community, and the development of a suicide prevention community action plan in collaboration with members of the Tasmanian Suicide Prevention Community Network.

We invite you to attend the community meeting to learn more about the Wesley LifeForce framework.

If your community elects to proceed with the proposal, Wesley LifeForce will provide support and practical help from our staff to establish the network. This could be a very important community resource for your region.

The details for the network proposal meeting are as follows:

Date: **Thursday, 25th February 2016**

Time: **2pm – 4pm**

Venue: **Devonport City Council**

Address: 44-48 Best Street, Devonport

RSVP: **By phone on 1800 100 024 or email lifeforcenetworks@wesleymission.org.au**

Please distribute this invitation to everyone you believe may be interested in attending. If you are part of a community group or a social network, please let your members know.

On behalf of the Wesley LifeForce team, we look forward to seeing you there.

Tony Cassidy
Networks Manager, Wesley LifeForce

¹ Davis, C. (2006). Suicide Safety Networks Evaluation (Phase Two) – Final Evaluation Report