

10th April 2024



MEDIA RELEASE:

RESIDENTIAL REHABILITATION CENTRE

Durri Aboriginal Corporation Medical Service are writing to inform the community that we will be taking steps towards obtaining our own residential rehabilitation centre/ wellbeing centre to address issues for youth, men, women and families' groups.

Durri ACMS Chief Executive Officer, Stephen Blunden, is the driving force behind this new initiative and stated that "as the lead organisation in Aboriginal Health and Wellbeing in the Kempsey and Nambucca areas we need to act sooner rather than later, this is an important step for our organisation given the closure of Bennelong's Haven a few years ago, and overwhelming need in the community today, which is outlined in the Kempsey Cultural Safety Summit Report and other key documents and reports".

"We need to build a local drug and alcohol residential rehabilitation centre that addresses a number of addictive behaviours across the areas we service."

"This is a major community issue, and we need community focused solutions, which addresses the needs of individuals, families and ultimately the community".

"We need to address this in a constructive and inclusive manner and ensure our community is safe and individuals and families are given the best opportunity to recover from addictive and negative behaviours and become productive members of society".

Durri ACMS has already started to take steps to consult and engage the community, key stakeholders and funding bodies to develop a subcommittee, which will be made up of key stakeholders, to guide the direction of this new initiative.

The consultation and engagement process will be led by CEO Stephen Blunden and Executive Officer of Corporate Services, Paul Morris.

Any enquiries can be emailed through to Paul Morris at paul.morris@durri.org.au

Authorised by Stephen Blunden: