

FECCA welcomes inquiry into mental health

The Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia (FECCA) has welcomed the announcement by the Federal Government of an inquiry into mental health, to be conducted by the Productivity Commission.

The Chairperson of FECCA, Mary Patetsos said that such an inquiry should take a forensic look at just how and where funding is being directed for mental health.

"FECCA is particularly interested in how money is being directed to prevention, diagnosis and treatment of mental illness in vulnerable communities," Ms Patesos said.

"We believe that insufficient resources are being devoted to people of culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) background.

"Last year, more than 3,000 people in Australia committed suicide and available statistics indicate that one in four of these people was born in a country other than Australia.

"FECCA will assist the Productivity Commission wherever we can to ensure that this inquiry includes a rigorous and thorough examination of the needs of people at risk including Australians from CALD backgrounds," Ms Patetsos said.

FECCA is the national peak body representing Australians from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds. Our role is to advocate and promote issues on behalf of our constituency to government, business and the broader community.

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