

Media Release

SA Health

6 May 2015

NEW AGREEMENTS FINALISED FOR HIV SERVICES

Contracts for services supporting South Australians living with or at risk of HIV have been finalised with three new HIV programs to commence on 1 July 2015.

Professor Paddy Phillips Acting Chief Public Health Officer SA Health, said the new programs will ensure people living with HIV are at the forefront of the HIV response in South Australia.

“A community advisory group will be established to advise the consortium partners on program development and delivery and the transition process from the current to the new program.

“The HIV and STI prevention program will provide critical prevention education on HIV and access to on-site clinical sexual health services, including, in time, rapid HIV testing.

“The program will be delivered by a consortium partnership between Victorian AIDS Council (VAC) and SHine SA.

“HIV services provided also include a targeted STI and BBV (blood borne virus) prevention program for sex workers as well as individualised support programs for people with HIV,” Professor Phillips said.

“Our program targeting sex workers will be delivered by Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association and SA Sex Industry Network (SA SIN), while Centacare Catholic Family Services will provide individualised care and support for people with HIV.

“A community advisory group will be established to advise the consortium partners on program development and delivery and the transition process from the current to the new program.

“In late 2014 we initiated a public tender process for three new service contracts for a three year period with a one year extension option.

“Following a competitive tender process, preferred suppliers were identified and we look forward to working with each successful provider in delivering high quality and integrated HIV prevention and support services to our community.

“We will work with both the new suppliers and current service providers while transition occurs to ensure essential services are maintained through this process.”

For more information

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SHine SA Chief Executive, Jill Davidson said that SHine SA is looking forward to the opportunity to deliver vital health and education services through the HIV and STI prevention program.

“We are excited to be working in partnership with SA Health, the VAC and the community advisory group to improve health outcomes and awareness of HIV for South Australians,” Jill Davidson said.

Media Contact:

SHine SA: Jill Davidson 0437 207 233

Centacare Catholic Family Services: Megan Walsh 0417 860 635

Victorian Aids Council: Caleb Hawke 03 9865 6700

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