

The Aboriginal Health Council of Western Australia's Young Leaders Program identifies future leaders in the Aboriginal health sector, and supports them to deliver health promotion in their communities.

Funded by the WA Department of Health, AHCWA's Young Leaders Program supports Aboriginal young people to become peer educators in youth health and encourage their communities to engage in healthy behaviours. The program equips young people with the skills and knowledge to talk to their peers about mental health, drugs and alcohol, healthy relationships and sexual health. Training is aimed at Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people aged between 12 and 25 years old, and is centred around a peer education model, which is particularly relevant for Aboriginal youth.

The Young Leaders Program training occurs over one to two days, and provides young leaders with information about how to encourage their peers to engage in healthy behaviours and access relevant services. All Young Leaders Program participants receive a certificate of completion, a training and work experience summary, and are linked in with further training and development opportunities. The Young Leaders Program is available in the Perth metropolitan area, as well as regional and remote areas as required.

Peer educators in the following age ranges are supported by the Young Leaders Program to engage in health promotion with young people in their age group:

12 - 14 year olds

15 - 17 years olds

18 - 25 year olds

Participants in the Young Leaders Program who have an interest in becoming peer educators are supported by AHCWA's project officer to build their skills in health promotion and communications. Long term outcomes of the program involve peer educators engaging in health promotion within their communities, normalising conversations around health issues, and developing social media content relevant to learning, with the potential for becoming presenters in the Young Leaders Program.

To find out more about the Young Leaders Program please contact AHCWA's Sexual Health and Blood Borne Virus Youth Project Officer on 9227 1631 or email Katiska.Davis@ahcwa.org







