



Media Release

Date: July 20, 2017

Lifeline Harbour to Hawkesbury, at Gordon, and Jewish House, in Bondi, are launching a partnership today (August 7, 2017) that will enable them to draw on each other's services and expertise to better serve their communities.

Both not-for-profit organisations offer 24/7 telephone crisis support but with different emphases: while Lifeline's crisis support line is aimed primarily at suicide prevention with referral to other services – or to Lifeline face-to-face counselling and support groups - Jewish House can offer crisis accommodation as well as food and shelter to anyone in need, not just the Jewish community.

However, the CEO of Jewish House, Rabbi Mendel Kastel, hopes the new partnership will foster cultural sensitivity to community needs in northern Sydney and facilitate cross-referrals where appropriate.

"This partnership will give our two services mutual geographical support," Rabbi Kastel said. "Lifeline Harbour to Hawkesbury offers some excellent specialist services such as Gambling Help and hoarding programs, support groups for bipolar disorder and depression and suicide bereavement."

Lifeline Harbour to Hawkesbury's CEO, Wendy Carver, echoed Rabbi Kastel's remarks. "Our two organisation share the values of compassionate crisis support, helping people when they have nowhere else to turn. I'm sure we'll be able to forge a strong, caring partnership by drawing on each other's expertise and broadening our geographical reach and pastoral scope," Mrs Carver said.

Like Lifeline H2H, Jewish House also offers help for gambling and depression, as well as services for alcohol and drug addiction, domestic violence, employment problems and family crisis.

The Jewish House/Lifeline H2H partnership will be launched at a reception at Lifeline H2H headquarters, 4 Park Avenue, Gordon, at 5.30 pm on Monday, August 7. (see invitation)

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