



Event Yeah the BOYS Inc #2052313
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Event Yeah the BOYS is an annual event in Grafton NSW to celebrate mateship and counteract the high local suicide rates of males in our Valley. Event Yeah the BOYS brings together services and raises awareness of the issues surrounding the mental health of men. It also raises funds for organisations providing mental health services for men and provides a venue for afterhours access to counselling, support and legal services in the Clarence Valley.

In 2018 Grafton businesses stood behind us and in our first year Event Yeah the BOYS had approximately 1000 people through the gates and had 20 meaningful contacts take place between individuals, services and counselling and legal advisors.

We raised \$1500 through fundraising activities that was donated to Our Healthy Clarence, Dads in Distress and Save-A-Mate.

Why do we do it?

- Since 2015 the Clarence Valley has been experiencing suicide at a rate higher than the state average.
- News.com.au calls it “The men’s mental health crisis Australia can no longer ignore – six male suicides a day”
- Lifeline advise there are eight deaths in Australia every day from suicide. Deaths by suicide in Australia occur amongst males at a rate three times greater than that for females.
- Male suicide numbers Australia wide are higher than both the road toll & construction accident deaths combined.
- Suicide is the leading cause of death in men aged 15 – 44.
- In 2016, there were the equivalent of 41 male deaths by suicide per week in Australia (<http://theconversation.com/factcheck-are-up-to-21-fathers-dying-by-suicide-every-week-87308>) and this number goes up every year.
- It is claimed that one farmer commits suicide every four days in Australia.
- For every 3 women who contact a support service, only ONE man does.
- When you put a male in construction they are 2.3 times more likely to take their life. Even worse you put a young male (15-24 years of age) in the civil construction industry they are up to ten times more likely to suicide than die from a work-related accident on site.

On a recent visit to Grafton, Professor Eric Caine, Director of the USA Injury Control Research Centre for Suicide Prevention spoke at a Reducing Suicide Knowledge Exchange about how he believes that creating resilient communities is the key to reducing the numbers of “deaths of despair” in communities such as Grafton.

Professor Caine recommended that the identification and treatment of groups at risk of becoming suicidal must include programs and activities to increase awareness and knowledge of mental health issues and services available locally, and that everything possible must be done to promote individuals and families to seek and receive help early.

He also advised of the need to wrap services around the community to decrease the stresses which layer upon each other and create a situation of despair.

In summary, we need to decrease distress, improve resilience and provide access to services.

Event Yeah the BOYS Inc has an important role to play in improving the resilience of the community by providing information and education regarding issues that impact on the distress levels of men (and their families) and by providing afterhours access to services.

In 2019 we are looking to the Grafton business community to stand with us again to show our blokes that their lives matter. We need your help to raise funds so that Dads in Distress can start a face to face men’s group in Grafton and be able to offer after hours phone services. We need your help in fundraising for Our Healthy Clarence to continue to deliver its programs to build a resilient community.

We are looking for local sponsorship in the form of items for raffle prizes, monetary donations and sponsorship of the 4WD Show & Shine.

In return for your generosity you will receive an Event Yeah the Boys Inc sponsorship pack which includes Mental Health Training – Community Support Skills from Our Healthy Clarence as well as exclusive sponsors Event Yeah the Boys Merchandise...all while helping your community to become stronger.

For further information, please contact Event Yeah the BOYS Inc Secretary, Theresa Kelly on 0403 890 360 or by email eventyeahtheboys@gmail.com or go to our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/YTBGrafton/> . Our website is currently under construction but will be available at eytbinc.com.au soon!

Many Thanks,

Theresa Kelly
Secretary/Public Officer
Event Yeah the Boys Inc.

Community Support Skills

Duration: 1.5 hours

Community Support Skills training develops the skills, knowledge and confidence of participants to identify and approach people they are concerned about, and provide appropriate advice to connect those people with mental health services and support. Participants are also encouraged to practice self-care and to seek help if they have any concerns about their own mental wellbeing.



The silent killer: LET'S MAKE SOME NOISE

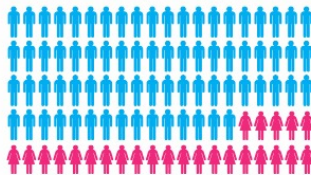
Suicide statistics for men



The number of suicides in Australia increased by

9 per cent

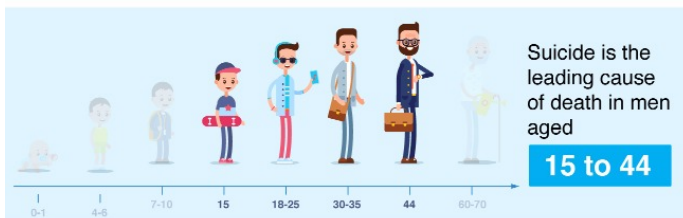
from 2016 to 2017.



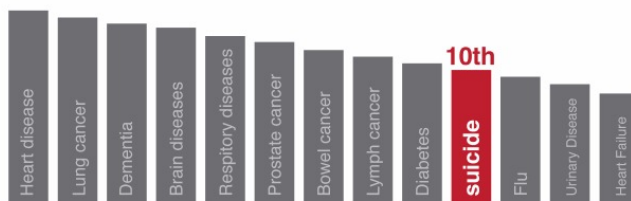
Last year 3,128 people killed themselves,

75 per cent

of them were men.



More men die of **suicide** every year than are killed in **road accidents**.



Suicide is the **10th-highest** cause of death among men