

Media Release

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JOHN JAMES FOUNDATION \$30,000 GRANT TO HELP TAKE HEALTH CARE TO THE STREETS

The John James Foundation has today provided a \$30,000 grant to Directions Health Services, kicking-off a campaign to raise \$200,000 for a mobile primary health care service.

“Canberrans struggling with alcohol and drug dependence often have associated mental health and chronic health conditions. Their outcomes can be significantly worse than for the rest of the population due to challenges in accessing primary care and then subsequently specialist services, especially if they are homeless,” Directions Health Services CEO, Bronwyn Hendry explained.

“Directions Health currently provides primary health care outreach services at Ainslie Village and Oaks Estate and the impact of having access to a doctor, or a nurse or a drug counsellor when people need it is hugely positive.

“We now want to purchase a van that will enable us to broaden these outreach services around Canberra, including making them available to members of our community living rough.

“The van will have two consultation rooms and be fully equipped for primary health care services. Directions Health Services is seeking to raise \$200,000 so it can provide free, quality health care to vulnerable Canberrans who could not otherwise access services.

“We are exceptionally pleased to announce that the John James Foundation has kicked off our fundraising campaign with a \$30,000 donation. We cannot thank them enough for recognising this need in our community and wanting to work with Directions Health to make a real difference in people’s lives.”

“The John James Foundation actively supports organisations that are in the Canberra community helping people. This initiative is leading the way, and will make a significant positive social impact for the beneficiaries. We are confident the Canberra community will throw their support behind this Directions project, as we are”, said Mr Joe Roff, CEO of the John James Foundation.

“Directions Health needs the community to join with us to make primary health care available to those most in need,” Ms Hendry said. “Anyone who can help can make a donation through our website <https://www.directionshealth.com/get-involved/> or by contacting me on 02 6132 4800 or bronwyn.hendry@directionshealth.com.”

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