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Research funding to address health gaps

The University of Western Australia has received nearly \$500,000 to fund two research projects, led by the Telethon Kids Institute, that will support the mental health of the LGBTQA+ community and their families.

The three-year intervention research project, funded by Healthway, will improve health practitioners' knowledge and capacity to provide appropriate care to LGBTQA+ people.

The project aims to improve the mental health of LGBTQA+ individuals through enhanced, non-stigmatising health care provision.

The second research project will explore the mental health and wellbeing of siblings of transgender (trans) youth, to inform services and resources that support their wellbeing.

These research projects are part of Healthway's Open Research Round, where more than \$1.6 million in funding has been awarded to universities for nine research projects.

These grants will fund projects that demonstrate clear pathways to a health promotion program or policy intervention, or address gaps in health promotion research in WA.

Healthway Acting CEO Julia Knapton said Healthway was committed to supporting evidence-based research that will lead to improvements in the health of the WA community and build the capacity of our health promotion research workforce.

"We want to make sure that all people receive equitable care and support," she said.

"By supporting health professionals with evidence-based research there will be a significant potential to improve healthcare experiences and, in turn, support the LGBTQA+ community and their family's mental health."

To apply for funding through the Open Research Round visit www.healthway.wa.gov.au.

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