

15 November 2023

Jeremy Rockliff, Premier

Helping young people navigate grief and loss

The Rockliff Liberal Government is proudly supporting Palliative Care Tasmania to launch the Learning Through Loss website and resources.

The program provides free grief and loss training for educators and professionals working with young people, equipping them with the necessary knowledge and tools to support them to safely navigate grief and loss.

Minister for Health, Guy Barnett, said the Government funded the Learning Through Loss program which has been successfully running in Tasmania since January 2023.

“This important program has already delivered 16 training sessions with representatives from 31 schools across the State and provided training and support to 246 teachers and staff,” Minister Barnett said.

Designed in collaboration with young people with living experience of grief and loss, the new website and resources will further support the face-to-face training for educators and provide young people with guidance, valuable information and a list of state-wide services.

Minister Barnett said the Rockliff Liberal Government was pleased to be working with Palliative Care Tasmania and schools to deliver this program.

“It is so important for young people to know they are not alone in times of difficulty, and that is exactly what this program teaches them,” Minister Barnett said.

“Our Government is doing what matters for young people by helping them build knowledge and resilience to navigate grief and loss throughout their lives.”

Ven y Hiller CEO of Palliative Care Tasmania said it is an unfortunate truth that most young people will experience grief and loss before they reach the age of 18.

“Palliative Care Tasmania recognises the profound impact that these experiences can have on young people and believes that early intervention and support can make a significant difference in their lives”, said Ms Hiller.

“Through offering this valuable training and newly developed resources, we are aiming to create compassionate and grief literate communities who move towards grievers, potentially preventing the development of mental illness”.

Anyone interested in supporting young people through grief and loss can visit learningthroughloss.org.au and explore the valuable resources available on the website or contact Palliative Care Tasmania for more information.