



Department of Health

Incorporating: Health, Mental Health and Senior Victorians

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OUR REF:
ADF/10/14883
YOUR REF:

1 February 2011

Dear Chief Executive Officer

I am writing to seek your association's support for the new Bushfire Recovery Wellness Voucher Program and request your assistance to circulate this information to your members.

The Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund Advisory Panel has allocated \$1 million to establish the Bushfire Recovery Wellness Voucher Program. The program will provide individuals affected by the 2009 Victorian bushfires with four vouchers of \$50 each, to contribute towards the provision of allied health services or complementary therapies.

The program will commence from 14 February 2011 and will conclude on 10 August 2011.

Allied health practitioners and complementary therapists with a private health insurer provider number will be eligible to accept wellness vouchers for treatment in their area of qualification. Treatment providers will be able to charge clients a co-payment to cover the difference between the cost of the session and the \$50 voucher but are expected to continue to apply the standard schedule of fees for sessions where vouchers are presented for use. The vouchers do not cover the cost of any products or goods recommended by the treatment provider.

I would be grateful if you could distribute the attached cover letter and *Information for treatment providers* to your members prior to the commencement of the program on 14 February 2011. Details of the program are available online at www.dhs.vic.gov.au/bushfireappeal/wellnessvouchers.

Please contact Catherine James A/Manager Strategy and Performance on telephone (03) 9096-8762 or catherine.james@health.vic.gov.au if you have any queries or would like to discuss your association's involvement in the program.

Thank you for supporting this program which will assist the recovery of people affected by the 2009 Victorian bushfires.

Yours sincerely

Maree Guyatt
Director
Integrated Care