

MEDIA RELEASE



18 July 2015

Remembering Lives Lost – Families Come Together

Eighteen years ago Tony Trimingham from Family Drug Support and Rev Bill Crews held a ceremony at the Ashfield Uniting Church to remember those people who have lost their lives to drug overdoses. The ceremony has been held every year since 1997 and there are now similar ceremonies all around Australia and even overseas.

Tony Trimingham said 'These ceremonies are incredibly healing for family members and gave them the opportunity to celebrate their loved ones lives'. At a time when there is such a national focus on ice it is important to always remember that when we talk about those using the drug that we speaking about someone's son, daughter, partner or sibling. Mr Trimingham added, there are national remembrance ceremonies for people lost to various causes however drug use deaths often receive little public recognition and families often feel lost, ashamed and scared to talk or seek to help as a result.

This year's ceremony will take place on 18 July at the church at 180 Liverpool Road, Ashfield at 6:00pm.

This year's special service will include name reading and candle lighting and will not only include those who have lost their lives through accidental overdose but also suicide and deaths with drug related mental illness. People from all parts of Sydney are welcome.

If you know someone who has died and would like a candle lit in their memory contact Family Drug Support, at Head office on: (02) 47829222

For support for Families/Friends, contact our 24hr, 7 day phone line:
1300 368 186

For bereavement support, contact Tony: 0412 414444