



Sid Sidebottom MP ... for a fair go in Braddon

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Federal Government funds Big hART project to tackle binge drinking

LOCAL community group Big hART will produce multiple short films to expose the risks associated with binge drinking, thanks to \$148,235 funding from the Federal Government.

Federal Member for Braddon Sid Sidebottom said the one-year project, called *Smashed*, was aimed at promoting responsible alcohol consumption and highlighting risks associated with binge drinking.

“Getting the word out there about the dangers of binge drinking is very important for our region,” Mr Sidebottom said.

“It’s not just the physical risks of binge drinking that are of concern either, it’s also the emotional and social harm that can be caused to an individual, their family and the wider community.

“I am excited about this project, because it will be valuable on so many levels; it will involve young people educating other young people about responsible use of alcohol.

“As a theatre director myself, I believe the arts can be a very effective and flexible means to highlight a message to all ages, but particularly the young.

“It’s great too that this project will be designed and delivered in our local region, so it can be targetted specifically to our needs here.”

The Big hART project is among 19 grants totalling more than \$3.5 million to be funded under the Rudd Government’s \$53 million National Binge Drinking Strategy.

Nationally, the statistics are horrifying. Four Australians under 25 die due to alcohol related injuries in an average week. On average, one in four hospitalisations of people aged 15-24 happens because of alcohol.

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