

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### KARI LEADERSHIP PROGRAM BOOSTED BY icare NSW

Twelve emerging Aboriginal leaders from NSW participated in the first two days of the 2018 [KARI Leadership Program](#), hosted by [icare NSW](#).

The [KARI Leadership Program](#), facilitated by KARI, an Indigenous social support service based in Liverpool, assists Aboriginal leaders from many industries and backgrounds to achieve personal or professional goals.

Steve Ella, former rugby league footballer and graduate from the KARI Leadership Program, spoke to the participants about what it means to him to be a leader in the indigenous community.

"Growing up Aboriginal, you don't see yourself as a leader – your aunties and uncles are leaders. It was only when I retired from rugby league that I realised I was perceived as a leader," Ella said.

"The KARI leadership course allowed me to question my leadership style and explore my strengths and weaknesses so that I could better understand and support my team."

[icare NSW](#), NSW's insurance and care provider, has been a proud partner of KARI Leadership since 2016 and is sponsoring a place on the 2018 program.

"At icare, we know that nurturing a culture of inclusion and diversity is key to achieving our vision of providing world class services to the people of NSW and changing the way people think about insurance," said Eugene McGarrell, icare's General Manager Health and Community Engagement.

"Creating more opportunities for cultural diversity and increasing connections with Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people and communities is vital to ensuring our services meet the needs of all our customers.

"Our partnership with KARI Leadership will help us better understand how to learn from and engage with Aboriginal communities.

"By sponsoring a place on the program, we'll develop valuable knowledge of Aboriginal culture and learn how to best support the wellbeing of indigenous employees, so that we can help NSW employers to create safe and healthy workplaces," McGarrell said.

The program consists of four full-day workshops, five webinars and three individual coaching sessions, designed to meet the diverse needs and challenges of Aboriginal leaders through the sharing of the latest knowledge, tools and practices in leadership development globally.

Other key partners of the KARI Leadership Program include CommBank and ISPT Super.

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