

# STATE BUDGET

## 2021-22

### MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING HON STEPHEN WADE MLC MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 22 June 2021

#### **Landmark \$163 million Mental Health Package**

South Australians seeking urgent and ongoing mental health care will be further supported with an unprecedented \$163.5 million package of measures in the State Budget 2021-22, that will also help ease the pressure on our state's emergency departments.

Initiatives to be funded under the landmark Mental Health Package include:

- The construction of a new \$48 million 20-bed older person's acute mental health unit at Modbury Hospital
- \$20.4 million to build, and \$8.5 million per annum by 2024-25 to operate a new 16-bed Crisis Stabilisation Centre in the northern suburbs for mental health consumers
- \$12 million to create additional Psychiatric Intensive Care bed capacity in the hospital system
- \$8.4 million per annum (indexed) to support mental health services in the community and reduce the number of people presenting to hospitals
- \$7.3 million to continue mental-health related supports specifically related to the COVID-19 pandemic
- A \$5 million investment to provide additional housing for people with mental health disability
- \$5 million over two years to support the immediate needs of the mental health workforce
- \$4.5 million per annum (indexed) to expand the delivery of urgent mental health care to the community, including through extending the Adelaide Urgent Mental Health Care Centre to a 24-hour model.

Minister for Health and Wellbeing Stephen Wade said the Marshall Liberal Government is committed to short, medium and long-term measures to support mental health reform so that we provide more mental health services and services which better meet the needs of people needing mental health care.

"The Marshall Liberal Government has a strong commitment to refocus health services on mental health. Our Mental Health Services Plan continues to drive system-wide reform and the range of measures announced in this year's Budget are delivering on that plan," said Minister Wade.

"We have delivered record funding for mental health and this landmark \$163.5 million package will significantly build on that investment.

"Our \$48 million investment will see a much needed new 20-bed older person's acute mental health unit built at Modbury Hospital. This investment will significantly enhance services in the north and north-eastern suburbs. The current older person's mental health unit from the Lyell

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McEwin Hospital will transfer to the new Modbury facility, and mental health services at Woodleigh House will transfer to fit-for-purpose facilities at the Lyell McEwin Hospital.

“A new, \$20.4 million 24-hour Crisis Stabilisation Centre will also be built in the northern suburbs, providing acute crisis care based on a recovery model, with mental health staff and peer workers in a safe, therapeutic setting. The Centre, which will also be provided operating funding of \$8.5 million per annum by 2024-25, will provide a further 16 beds of capacity in our acute mental health system, and another alternative treatment pathway to reduce admissions to our public hospitals and ease pressure on our emergency departments.

“Opened in March, the Urgent Mental Health Care Centre is already having a positive impact, providing access to a range of mental health support services in an alternative setting to hospital emergency departments. The Government is investing \$4.5 million per annum (indexed) in this budget to expand the delivery of urgent mental health care to the community, including by expanding the Centre’s operations to 24 hours a day. This will significantly expand the number and type of patients who can be assisted by the Centre, further easing pressure on our emergency departments.

“\$12 million will be invested in creating additional psychiatric intensive care bed capacity in our public hospital system. This will be invested in the fit out required to make 8 additional beds available to SA Health, to be commissioned as necessary based on future demand, significantly easing pressures on the hospital system.

“We are also determined to provide mental health services closer to home and reduce the number of people presenting to our hospitals needing mental health care, and that’s why we are committing \$8.4 million per annum (indexed) to increase community support services, including additional drug and alcohol services, child and adolescent services, forensic mental health services and support for adults with mental health conditions, including post-traumatic stress disorder.

“We will continue to support the mental health of the community through the COVID-19 pandemic. Our \$7.3 million investment in 2021-22 will include increased in-reach support to vulnerable communities, as well as increased access to phone and other counselling services over the next 12 months as the community continues to navigate the implications of the pandemic.

“We will spend \$5 million in 2021-22 supporting the creation of housing specifically designed for people with a psychosocial disability, which will help provide greater capacity for hospitals to discharge patients who no longer need acute medical attention but require support to return to the community.

“\$5 million over two years will support immediate staffing training and recruitment needs, increasing training to assist with filling immediate positions and provide greater opportunity for the existing workforce to build their skills in mental health treatment, so we can provide those who need it with the best possible care.

“We know that mental health reform is challenging, complex and takes time to do well, but we are making the immediate and long term investment required to address the challenges and build a strengthened mental health system that meets the needs of South Australians.”