



Speech By  
**Hon. Laura Gerber**

**MEMBER FOR CURRUMBIN**

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Record of Proceedings, 16 September 2025

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Youth Justice**

 **Hon. LJ GERBER** (Currumbin—LNP) (Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services) (10.02 am): The Crisafulli government is committed to restoring safety where you live. Queenslanders should feel safe in their homes, where they work and in their communities, and that is why our government has hit the ground running in delivering our comprehensive plan to fix Labor's youth crime crisis and reduce the number of victims of crime in this state. Alongside our stronger laws, we are delivering Gold Standard Early Intervention and intensive rehabilitation and crime prevention programs, and I am really proud to update the House today that we are delivering on our commitment to boost early intervention investment with the first \$10 million of the \$50 million Kickstarter grants rolling out the door. These grants provide up to \$300,000 to Gold Standard Early Intervention programs that are delivering education, life skills and support for youths to divert them from a life of crime. The Kickstarter program is part of the Crisafulli government's \$115 million commitment to deliver Gold Standard Early Intervention programs right across the state. These programs are tailored to meet the needs of local communities right across the state and prevent crime before it starts. They are working with youth demonstrating early signs of criminal behaviour, providing holistic intervention to put them back on the right path.

I want to talk about some of those programs that we have recently announced and in particular those in Townsville. I was in Townsville last week with the incredible members for the Townsville region—the members for Mundingburra, Thuringowa and Townsville—where we have rolled out \$670,000 worth of early intervention investment. There are three new Kickstarter programs across the region—Townsville Fire, Silver Lining Foundation and NQ Ummah Care. These programs will provide the region of Townsville with the Gold Standard Early Intervention that we promised.

The second round of the Crisafulli government's Kickstarter grants closed just last week, and that is not all: our proven initiatives, which are part of the Crisafulli government's Gold Standard Early Intervention program, allow for Gold Standard Early Intervention organisations that are meeting the proven key performance indicators of reducing crime, re-engaging in education or training or, where appropriate, a job and engagement in the community, to apply to receive ongoing funding for the great work they are delivering. Expressions of interest are now open for proven initiatives as part of the Crisafulli government's early intervention initiative, and they close on 20 October 2025. This is yet another step towards delivering safety where you live and our commitment to Queenslanders for fewer victims of crime. Our Making Queensland Safer plan will put youth back on the right track and deliver fewer victims of crime in this state after a decade of decline under the Labor government.