

Question on Notice

No. 1024

Asked on 16 June 2011

MRS SCOTT asked the Minister for Disability Services, Mental Health and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships (MR PITT)—

QUESTION

How will those in the Woodridge Electorate suffering mental illness benefit from programs funded in the 2011–12 budget?

ANSWER

Through the 2011–12 State Budget, the Queensland Government will provide \$70 million to deliver statewide community mental health programs. This includes \$2.8 million in funding to three organisations in the Woodridge electorate with a focus on supporting people with mental health issues as follows:

- \$1,621,858 to Youth and Family Services (Logan) Inc
- \$878,000 to FSG Australia to provide a step-down, out-of-hospital Transitional Recovery Program
- \$305,103 to Karakan to provide social and personal support activities.

Included within the funds allocated to the Youth and Family Services (Logan), \$950,000 is provided to operate the Time Out House located at Slacks Creek. This is part of a three year allocation of \$6.477 million from the Queensland Government's Prevention and Early Intervention Incentives pool which is being used to support two Time Out Houses—the other located in Cairns—for a three year period.

The Time Out House is an innovative model of service delivery not seen in any other Australian jurisdiction. It seeks to promote the mental health and social and emotional wellbeing of young people aged 15 to 25 who are experiencing early symptoms of mental illness.

This model offers up to three months community-based support for these young people, as well as short-term accommodation for those aged 18 and over. The young person is supported to maintain contact with his or her natural networks at all times.

Youth and Family Services (Logan) is the lead agency in a consortium with the South East Primary Health Care Network to deliver the Time Out House initiative.

Also as part of the 2011–12 State Budget, \$3.1 million will be allocated over the next two years to continue the Beenleigh and Logan Young Person's Project and approximately \$650,000 of these funds will be provided to Youth and Family Services (Logan).

This program involves community, government and non-government organisations which to date have supported 143 young people including those with mental health issues, through coordinated and intensive case management to deal with everyday life issues.

The 2011–12 State Budget will also provide a total of \$11.2 million over three years for the Mental Health Disaster Recovery Package to deliver community-based support, counselling, and mental health promotion activities to help people recover from the State's natural disasters.

These funds will support people who may have relocated from disaster affected communities following the events in January 2011 to other communities including Woodridge.

In addition, \$37.8 million over two years has been made available for 126 community mental health clinical staff that will similarly support people who may have moved from disaster affected communities to other locations including Woodridge and surrounding areas.

Both of these funding arrangements are being delivered in partnership with the Australian Government under the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery provisions.

The Queensland Government provides recurrent funding to a number of other service providers such as Canefields Clubhouse based outside the Woodridge electorate that provide supports and services to people with a mental illness who may reside in the Woodridge electorate.

I thank the Member for her advocacy and support for mental health initiatives in her electorate and across the State.