

Media Release

Government investment in mental health welcomed

Mental Health Victoria (MHV) is delighted with the Andrews Government's new investment of almost \$70 million in community mental health services that will help support thousands of Victorians living with mental illness who are either ineligible for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) or are yet to transition to the scheme.

Critically, this new investment recognises that the community managed mental health sector is an important partner in the mental health system. It will help ensure that as Victoria transitions to the NDIS the expertise developed over decades by the community mental health sector is not lost, with more than 300 highly skilled and experienced mental health workers being retained by the sector.

"Mental Health Victoria welcomes this very important new investment," MHV CEO, Angus Clelland, said.

"Community-based prevention and recovery services are a critical part of the mental health system. More investment in mental health is desperately needed during a period of transition and reform, and the Andrews Government's initial investment will help ensure people can receive appropriate supports and services."

"This new funding also provides a much more enhanced safety net, which is critical in helping people stay well and reduce preventable hospital admissions. At the same time this additional funding will secure hundreds of skilled mental health jobs across Victoria."

"Mental Health Victoria now calls on the Commonwealth to follow the lead of the Andrews Government and prioritise new investment in community mental health services in all states and territories," Mr Clelland said.

14 September 2018

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