

Child and Youth Mental Health Service



Adolescent Mental Health Extended Treatment Initiative (AMHETI) Update

Children's Health Queensland (CHQ) is leading the statewide Adolescent Mental Health Extended Treatment Initiative (AMHETI), which aims to ensure young people and their families can access mental health services in the least restrictive environment as close to their home or community as possible.

CHQ independently undertook comprehensive research to determine how extended mental health treatment and rehabilitation care for young people should be delivered. This included consideration of the full range of recommendations of the Expert Clinical Reference Group (ECRG). CHQ also engaged with mental health experts and care providers throughout Australia to explore alternative, progressive approaches to adolescent extended treatment and rehabilitation care. This included site visits to child and youth mental health services in New South Wales and Victoria to observe first-hand the delivery of innovative models of service delivering for young people. The proposed model of service delivery has also been developed in accordance with the principles and services outlined in the current draft of the National Mental Health Services Planning Framework.

The model is based on a continuum of care underpinned by five key services. These include: Assertive Mobile Youth Outreach Services (AMYOS), Adolescent Day Programs, Youth Residential Rehabilitation Units, Step Up / Step Down Units, and Adolescent Sub-acute Beds (Tier 3 service with onsite schooling as recommended by the ECRG).

CHQ has used recurrent funding from the Barrett closure and ceased Redlands Project, totalling \$5.8m, to establish elements of the proposed model, which includes seven AMYOS teams, one Day Program on the north side of Brisbane, one Youth Residential Rehabilitation Unit in Greenslopes, and temporary funding for four subacute beds at the Lady Cilento Children's Hospital (LCCH) until 30 June 2015.

Current Status of Services

Assertive Mobile Youth Outreach Services (AMYOS)

Six of the seven AMYOS teams are now operational and seeing clients across Queensland. The first three teams, in north and south Brisbane and Redcliffe/Caboolture, have been operational since July 2014 and are at between 75% to 80% utilisation.

Three additional teams in Logan, Toowoomba, and Townsville commenced operations from late 2014 / early 2015. The final AMYOS team is currently being recruited to on the Gold Coast. The primary cause for delay in service establishment has been due to recruitment processes in the individual Hospital and Health Services.

In May 2015, the Government announced the addition of two more AMYOS teams in the Cairns and Central Queensland Hospital and Health Services (HHSs) catchments as part of the Keriba Omaker Healing Response. CHQ is currently working with both HHSs and the Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drugs Branch (MHAODB) regarding establishment of these services.

Adolescent Day Program

In addition to three existing Day Programs in south Brisbane, Toowoomba and Townsville, CHQ has established a Day Program in north Brisbane. This Day Program commenced operations in January 2015 and will move to a new site at Chermside by the end of the year. Lease negotiations are currently underway with a view to commence fit out as soon as approval is granted to execute the lease agreement.

EXHIBIT 661

Youth Residential Rehabilitation Units (Youth Resi)

In March 2014, CHQ, in collaboration with a non-government organisation, opened a five-bed residential unit in Greenslopes. In early 2015, CHQ also supported the conversion of the Time Out House Initiative (TOHI) in Cairns into a Youth Resi through temporary operational funding up until 30 June 2015. Both the Greenslopes and Cairns residential services are operating at full capacity.

The MHAODB has since secured an additional \$1.2m recurrent funding to continue the ongoing operation of the Cairns Youth Resi. These recurrent funds, together with management of the residential service contract, will transfer to CHQ from the 2015/16 Financial Year.

In May 2015, the Government announced the addition of two new youth residential rehabilitation services in Townsville. CHQ is now working with MHAODB and Townsville HHS to conduct the tender process for the procurement of these new services. The tender will also include the ongoing contracts for the Greenslopes and Cairns residential services, which expire in December 2015, with the view to secure a quality, competitive service provider/s for all of the residential services.

Subacute Beds

Four subacute beds are currently available at the LCCH and are aligned with the Government's pre-election commitment to establish a Tier 3 service. Since their establishment in March 2014, there have only been two consumers utilise this service with no other referrals. These beds are currently funded through underspend from previous financial years that has accrued as a result of delays in service establishment. Ongoing recurrent funding will be needed, however, if these beds are to operate into the future.

Future Services

It is important that each service element is not viewed as a stand-alone component of the model but rather as a necessary integrated element along the continuum. To deliver a robust and comprehensive model for adolescent mental health care, it is strongly recommended that the full continuum of services be funded. Additional recurrent operational and capital funding will be required to achieve this, and to realise the benefits and outcomes that an enhanced model of care could provide.

CHQ continues to work with the MHAODB to explore recurrent funding options to expand all tiers of service across Queensland. Additional services sought, in order of priority, include:

- Recurrent funding for subacute beds at the LCCH (between \$1m and \$3m depending on service model adopted)
- Ten more AMYOS teams across Queensland, commencing with Ipswich/West Moreton, the Sunshine Coast and additional teams in north and south Brisbane as priority areas (approx. \$400k per team per annum, or \$4m for 10 teams in total)
- An Adolescent Day Program in Logan (approx. \$1.4m per annum)
- An additional Adolescent Day Program on the Gold Coast (approx. \$1.4m per annum)
- Two Step Up/Step Down Units in Brisbane (north and south) and one in north Queensland (\$3.7m operational funds per unit per annum; will require a purpose-built facility at an estimated cost of \$5m per facility + land)