

**MISSION
AUSTRALIA**



**Pre-budget
submission
Tasmania 2021-2**

FRENCH
FOREST

Mission Australia and Mission Australia Housing

Pre-Budget Submission to Treasury

March 2021

About us

Mission Australia is a national Christian charity motivated by a shared vision of an Australia where everyone has a safe home and can thrive. Since 1859, we have been standing alongside people in need across Australia, offering real hope that has lasting impact.

In the 2019-20 financial year, we supported close to 170,000 individuals through almost 500 programs and services across Australia.¹ This included nearly 18,500 individuals in Tasmania supported through 36 services including community services (children and families), early learning, employment solutions, housing and disability services (Local Area Coordination and Early Childhood Early Intervention).

In 2009 Mission Australia established Mission Australia Housing (MAH), a Tier 1 Community Housing Provider. In 2013 we took over the management of a portfolio of 500 social homes for Housing Tasmania in Clarendon Vale and Rokeby.

A summary of Mission Australia and Mission Australia Housing services is at **Attachment 1**.

We know that great communities thrive where there are connections, opportunities and engagement across the economic spectrum. We know that individual service responses are not sufficient to address the challenges of deep and persistent disadvantage. That is why we use a place-based model which manages tenancies; co-ordinates support services; targets intergenerational disadvantage through education and employment and supports people with disability to access mainstream services within their local community as well as specialist support through NDIS packages when needed. We use a research and evidence-based approach to our work and services, so we can measure our impact and demonstrate program outcomes.

Mission Australia's pre-budget submission focuses on the need for significant progress on homelessness and affordable housing and the need for adequate funding for evidence-based programs that have a positive impact on people's lives and support them on their journey to independence. This includes investment in child safety and youth programs, ensuring adequate mental health, and strengthening communities of entrenched and persistent disadvantage. To this end we have set out our recommendations below in relation to the relevant issues for the people we work with across Tasmania.

¹ Mission Australia (2020) Annual Report: 2019-20, accessible at:
<https://www.missionaustralia.com.au/publications/annual-reports/annual-report-2020>

Summary of recommendations

Housing and homelessness

- Introduce increased private rental financial assistance and independent support plans into private rental market subsidy programs, using the NSW Rent Choice program as a model.
- Housing First responses should be made available to people who have experienced or at risk of homelessness which relies on an adequate supply of social and affordable housing.

Strengthening communities

- Consider the learnings from Burnie Works and other collective impact projects funded under the Stronger Places, Stronger People program to apply them to the development of community strengthening projects in other areas.
- Support CHPs and other services with a strong local program footprint in their community development efforts, and consider how similar community development activities and processes can be rolled out to other geographical locations in Tasmania.

Child and youth programs

- Direct adequate financial and other resources to design, develop and implement the Child and Youth Wellbeing Framework in consultation and collaboration with young people.
- Ensure that evidence-based universal mental health services, supports and resources, including those focused on early intervention and prevention, are available for children and young people and their families and carers.
- Support and fund evidence-based and community-led initiatives and programs to support the psychosocial recovery of children and young people, and actively engage children and young people in the design, delivery and evaluation of these initiatives and programs.
- Expand the capacity of Learning Services (through the Department of Education) to work with children identified as at risk of or experiencing unaccompanied homelessness.
- Consider implementing medium-term (6 months +) residential care options for unaccompanied homeless children under 16 and address the service gap for children and young people with complex needs who are not eligible for either Reconnect or the Targeted Youth Support Service (through the Department of Communities).
- Introduce a Universal Risk Screening tool in Tasmanian schools to support the early identification of children and young people at risk of homelessness.
- Provide ongoing and adequate funding to programs providing effective supports to vulnerable young people including the Targeted Youth Support Service and YouthBeat to support young people with complex needs to transition to independence.
- Fund outreach-based services (such as YouthBeat) to expand to regions outside of Hobart, primarily in the North West and North of the state where there is a lack of support for this cohort.

Child safety

- Consider harmonisation or alignment of the proposed Tasmanian state-based child safe principles and standards with the National Standards and Principles for Child Safe Organisations to ensure children and young people are equally protected no matter where they live in Australia and to reduce confusion and duplication of the compliance burden on organisations, particularly those which operate across jurisdictions.
- Engage with organisations that have already developed and implemented strategies to comply with the National Standards and Principles in co-design to support implementation of the Tasmanian Child Safe Standards.
- Document and evaluate practice changes brought about by COVID-19 for children in out-of-home care to 1) ensure they have access to appropriate information in a future similar scenario, 2) have access to the ICT resources they need to remain connected to education, and 3) inform future practice improvement across all areas of out-of-home care service provision.

Supporting people with mental health issues

- Ensure the provision of adequate levels of community based mental health services throughout Tasmania, with a particular focus on early intervention and meeting the needs of people with psychosocial disability who are unable to access the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).
- Support and fund a strategy to train and resource the growth and retention of locally-based Psychosocial Recovery Coaches.
- Adequately fund and resource a qualified, experienced mental health workforce in Tasmania.
- Work with the Commonwealth Government to rebuild the community health sector to at least its pre-NDIS level, to ensure that the long-term position is that there are no fewer mental health services or places available than there were before the introduction of the NDIS.

Housing and homelessness

There is a shortage of housing for people on low and moderate incomes in Tasmania, with 3,600 people waiting for social housing on the Housing Register.²

Greater Hobart continues to be the least affordable capital city in Australia for local average income households. There is a persistent trend of declining affordability, with the three-year trend for Greater Hobart showing a decrease in affordability of 9.4%.³ Although household incomes in Tasmania are significantly lower than the national average, rents are only marginally lower than mainland averages. The gap between income and rent has been widening over the past three years.⁴

In Tasmania, the expiry of COVID-19 rental protections at the end of January 2021 has seen an increased trend in evictions from the private rental market as well as substantial rent increases.⁵ People in casual or insecure work are likely to be particularly affected by these trends, given that unemployment resulting from COVID-19 has much more deeply affected those in low-paid, insecure work,⁶ affecting their ability to cover housing costs. This will be further exacerbated with reduced affordable housing in the market as National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) incentives wind up resulting in landlords increasing rents to market levels or selling their rental property.

Homelessness was already a major social issue prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, and several known drivers of homelessness have increased during the pandemic, including mental health issues⁷ and domestic and family violence.⁸

During 2019-20, specialist homelessness services (SHS) assisted 6,400 clients in Tasmania. This equated to one in 83 people in Tasmania receiving homelessness assistance, higher than the national rate (1 in 87). Of the 6,400 people assisted 57% were homeless on presentation, higher than the national rate (43%). On average, 36 requests for assistance went unmet each day in Tasmania.⁹

An adequate supply of affordable housing stock is a critical response to homelessness, to ensure that everyone has a safe and secure home. We recommend that a Housing First approach be applied, which ensures that people can access housing when they need it and that wraparound support be provided to all those who need it.

² Tasmanian Government, 2020, Human Services Statistics (figures as at September 2020), accessible at [Human services dashboard | Human Services Statistics \(health.tas.gov.au\)](#)

³ SGS Economics and Planning, 2020, Rental affordability index December 2020 key findings, accessible at [RAI-2020-FINAL_compressed.pdf \(shelter.org.au\)](#)

⁴ SGS Economics and Planning, 2020, Rental affordability index December 2020 key findings, accessible at [RAI-2020-FINAL_compressed.pdf \(shelter.org.au\)](#)

⁵ Humphries, A, 2021, Tasmanians face sudden rent hikes as COVID-19 protections expire, ABC Online news article, 19 Feb 2021, accessible at [Tasmanians face sudden rent hikes as COVID-19 protections expire - ABC News](#)

⁶ Nahum, D and Standford, J (2020) Briefing paper: 2020 Year-End Labour Market Review: Insecure Work and the Covid-19 Pandemic, The Australia Institute, accessible at https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/theausinstitute/pages/3411/attachments/original/1609197941/Year-End_Labour_Market_2020.pdf?1609197941

⁷ Kaleveld, L, Bock, C, Maycock-Sayce, R (2020) COVID-19 and mental health: CSI response, accessible at https://www.csi.edu.au/media/uploads/csi_fact_sheet_covid_and_mental_health.pdf

⁸ Pfitzner, N, Fitz-Gibbon, K and True, J (2020). Responding to the ‘shadow pandemic’: practitioner views on the nature of and responses to violence against women in Victoria, Australia during the COVID-19 restrictions. Monash Gender and Family Violence Prevention Centre, Monash University, Victoria, Australia.

⁹ Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2020, Specialist homelessness services 2019-20: Tasmania, accessible at <https://www.aihw.gov.au/getmedia/0351fdb4-07f1-4ed8-9685-3ff0c668ff6f/aihw-hou-322-tas-factsheet.pdf.aspx>

We recognise the action the Tasmanian Government has taken to increase supply of social housing, and increase the capacity of the Specialist Homelessness Services sector. In particular, we strongly support the additional \$100 million announced this year to build more affordable homes, the Community Housing Growth Program, the Tasmanian Affordable Housing Strategy and associated Action Plans.

In addition to this, we recommend that the Government strengthen its approach to subsidising private rental market places for people on low incomes, and adopt a model similar to NSW's [Rent Choice](#). Rent Choice provides medium term financial assistance for up to three years for low to moderate income households, to enable them to secure and sustain a tenancy in the private rental market. The program assists clients to access support services, including training and employment opportunities, to build capacity to continue living independently after the Rent Choice assistance ends. It ensures that clients are supported in their transition to sustainable independence. The client must express a commitment to sustaining a tenancy while receiving the subsidy and to transitioning to independent living. The client must be willing to receive and continue with support services where relevant. Clients who receive a Rent Choice Subsidy that are approved to receive a deeper subsidy are required to have an Independence Support Plan (ISP). The ISP is a person-centred approach to coordinating 'wrap-around' services to support the client to build their capability to transition to housing independence at the end of the subsidy period.

Recommendations

- Introduce increased private rental financial assistance and independent support plans into private rental market subsidy programs, using the NSW Rent Choice program as a model.
- Housing First responses should be made available to people who have experienced homelessness which relies on an adequate supply of social and affordable housing.

Strengthening communities

Entrenched disadvantage is present in a small but persistent number of locations in each state and territory across Australia.¹⁰ In Tasmania just six local government areas accounted for approximately 80% of the highest ranked positions across the 21 indicators of disadvantage. These locations show high rates of criminal convictions; long-term unemployment; juvenile offending; young adults not participating in full time work, education or training disability; and low family income.¹¹ This limits opportunities for individuals living in these communities, and imposes high avoidable costs for taxpayers.

Addressing locational disadvantage through community strengthening practices is needed in a number of communities across Tasmania. The [Stronger Places, Stronger People](#) program is a place-based collective impact initiative being implemented by the Australian Government in partnership with state and territory governments and 10 communities across Australia, including Burnie. Mission

¹⁰ Productivity Commission (2013) Deep and persistent disadvantage in Australia, accessible at <https://www.pc.gov.au/research/supporting/deep-persistent-disadvantage> and Jesuit Social Services and Catholic Social Services Australia (2015) Dropping Off the Edge 2015, accessible at www.dote.org.au

¹¹ Jesuit Social Services and Catholic Social Services Australia (2015) Dropping Off the Edge 2015, accessible at www.dote.org.au

Australia is an active participant in the Burnie Works collective impact network group. Burnie Works is a great example of the Commonwealth and state governments working alongside community partners on targeted initiatives to improve community voice and enhance the personal wellbeing, housing, education, employment and other outcomes of the local community.

We note that the current expansion of properties to be managed by Community Housing Providers (CHPs) includes the requirement for increased support and coordination for tenants as well as locally based community development. While we agree that these are important elements of a place-based approach, we argue that the Government, as well as CHPs, have ongoing obligations to address locational disadvantage. This means that the Government must support CHPs in their community development efforts and consider how similar community development activities and processes can be rolled out to other geographical locations in Tasmania.

MA and MAH at Clarendon Vale and Rokeby

In 2013 Mission Australia Housing (MAH), under an agreement with Housing Tasmania, took over management of a portfolio of about 500 aged social homes in the neighbourhood of Clarendon Vale and Rokeby in Tasmania.

These suburbs, on the outskirts of Hobart, contain a high percentage of social homes, had a history of low service provision and a lack of opportunity for residents.

Alongside the provision of tenancy and property management, MAH embarked on an integrated program of community development by listening to local residents and supporting them to create their preferred future for their community.

What has emerged is a vibrant and renewed community, taking action and making tangible improvements with demonstrated impacts and improved outcomes for our tenants.

'Very happy with MAH. Since moving here and being able to guarantee that I am in a stable long-term residency, my life has also stabilized and my health has improved.'

- 2019 Tenant Survey

Recommendations

- Consider the learnings from Burnie Works and other collective impact projects funded under the Stronger Places, Stronger People program to apply them to the development of community strengthening projects in other areas.
- Support CHPs and other services with a strong local program footprint in their community development efforts and consider how similar community development activities and processes can be rolled out to other geographical locations in Tasmania.

Child and youth programs

Child and Youth Wellbeing Framework

Mission Australia welcomes the consultation on Child and Youth Wellbeing Framework undertaken by the Government as this is an important component of the policy framework that will create better opportunities, accessible and youth friendly supports for all young people.¹² It is vital that the government direct adequate financial and other resources to design, develop and implement this in consultation and collaboration with children and young people.

Child and adolescent mental health

Mission Australia's annual Youth Survey, the largest survey of its kind in Australia, has continued to highlight the ongoing prominence of mental health issues as a concern for young Australians. In 2020 the top four issues of personal concern for young people from Tasmania¹³ were related to mental health: coping with stress (45.3%), mental health (35.2%), school or study problems (34.8%) and body image (34.0%). Mental health issues for children and young people in Tasmania have grown as a result of COVID-19.¹⁴

We acknowledge the recently-announced reforms to the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) in Tasmania and endorse the recommendations of the Commissioner for Children and Young People that timely access to mental health services and resources is needed, including those focused on early intervention and prevention, and that funding is required for programs to support the psychosocial recovery of children and young people following COVID-19.¹⁵

Unaccompanied homeless children

Unaccompanied homeless children aged under 16 have only recently emerged as a focus of policy activity.¹⁶ We acknowledge the work that the Tasmanian Government has undertaken in this area, through the establishment of the Department of Communities Under 16s Homelessness Taskforce and dedicated funding of \$513,000 to assist homeless children as part of its COVID Housing and Homelessness Support Package.

However, the available funding is insufficient to meet the current need in Tasmania. Mission Australia's Targeted Youth Support Service receives referrals for this cohort but, although additional funding has been given to the program, it is already at capacity and has exceeded its annual targets within the first half of the financial year.

Additionally, we urge the Government and the Under 16s Homelessness Taskforce to consider the needs of unaccompanied children in a much more holistic way. They do not need just a homelessness response, but also assistance with finding permanent housing and accessing

¹² Tasmanian Government, Tasmania's Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy Consultation, accessible at: <https://wellbeing.tas.gov.au/>

¹³ Mission Australia, 2020, Youth Survey Report 2020, accessible at [Youth survey | Mission Australia](#)

¹⁴ Commissioner for Children and Young People Tasmania, 2020, COVID-19 Monitoring Insights: Mental health and psychosocial recovery, accessible at [Mental-Health-and-Psychosocial-Recovery-December-2020.pdf \(childcomm.tas.gov.au\)](#)

¹⁵ Commissioner for Children and Young People Tasmania, 2020, COVID-19 Monitoring Insights: Mental health and psychosocial recovery, accessible at [Mental-Health-and-Psychosocial-Recovery-December-2020.pdf \(childcomm.tas.gov.au\)](#)

¹⁶ Robertson, C, 2020, #StayHome? A full report of the impact of COVID-19 on unaccompanied homeless children in Tasmania, accessible at [#StayHome? A full report of the impact of Covid-19 on unaccompanied homeless children in Tasmania. - Anglicare \(anglicare-tas.org.au\)](#)

wraparound supports to deal with the complex issues that many are experiencing. The Homeless Youth Assistance Program (HYAP) in NSW provides some coordinated assessment and case planning, case management and group work, and could be given consideration for its potential application in Tasmania.

Additionally, we endorse Anglicare's recent recommendations for the Department of Education to expand the capacity of Learning Services to work with children identified as at risk of or experiencing unaccompanied homelessness, and the Department of Communities to consider implementing medium-term (6 months +) residential care options for unaccompanied homeless children under 16 and addressing the service gap for children and young people with complex needs who are not eligible for either Reconnect or the Targeted Youth Support Service.

We view the [Universal Risk Screening tool](#) currently in operation in three areas of NSW as a model that should also be considered for Tasmania. The Universal Risk Screening tool would make an important contribution to building early identification of young people at risk of homelessness in a universal setting and has been successfully piloted in NSW secondary schools. This is not just a response for unaccompanied homeless children and young people but would also identify those at risk of homelessness who are still living with their family.

[Effective supports to vulnerable young people](#)

Mission Australia works closely with vulnerable young people with complex needs, particularly through our Targeted Youth Support Service and YouthBeat programs. There are insufficient services for this cohort across the state and further investment is required, especially in the North and North West of Tasmania. This is particularly the case because, as outlined above, the Targeted Youth Support program is already exceeding its targets for supporting children experiencing homelessness.

Outreach supports are an important part of responses for young people with complex needs, helping to meet them 'where they are'.

We recommend continued funding of effective supports to vulnerable young people including the Targeted Youth Support Service and YouthBeat to support young people with complex needs to transition to independence. Outreach based services (such as YouthBeat) should be funded to expand to regions outside of Hobart, primarily in the North West and North of the state where there is a lack of early intervention and support for this cohort.

[Recommendations](#)

- Direct adequate financial and other resources to design, develop and implement the Child and Youth Wellbeing Framework in consultation and collaboration with young people.
- Ensure that evidence-based universal mental health services, supports and resources, including those focused on early intervention and prevention, are available for children and young people and their families and carers.
- Support and fund evidence-based and community-led initiatives and programs to support the psychosocial recovery of children and young people, and actively engage children and young people in the design, delivery and evaluation of these initiatives and programs.

- Expand the capacity of Learning Services (through the Department of Education) to work with children identified as at risk of or experiencing unaccompanied homelessness.
- Consider implementing medium-term (6 months +) residential care options for unaccompanied homeless children under 16 and address the service gap for children and young people with complex needs who are not eligible for either Reconnect or the Targeted Youth Support Service (through the Department of Communities).
- Introduce a Universal Risk Screening tool in Tasmanian schools to support the early identification of children and young people at risk of homelessness.
- Provide ongoing and adequate funding to programs providing effective supports to vulnerable young people including the Targeted Youth Support Service and YouthBeat to support young people with complex needs to transition to independence.
- Fund outreach-based services (such as YouthBeat) to expand to regions outside of Hobart, primarily in the North West and North of the state where there is a lack of support for this cohort.

Child safety

We commend the Tasmanian government's commitment to developing a child safe legislative framework in the Child Safe Organisations Bill 2020 and support the reforms contained therein. However, we have some concerns about the introduction of state-based child safe standards that do not explain how they align with the *National Principles for Child Safe Organisations*. While the proposed standards are very similar to the *National Principles*, there are slight differences and there is no rationale for those differences. We therefore recommend harmonisation of the Tasmanian and national principles and a co-design process with organisations that have already implemented the *National Principles*.

Child protection and child safety is a pressing state responsibility and young people in out of home care continue to experience worse outcomes than their peers in terms of education, homelessness and contact with the justice system.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had disproportionate impacts on children living in out-of-home care, particularly in accessing information that was relevant for them about COVID-19 arrangements, missing out on respite care, and experiencing challenges while 'learning at home' due to being separated from sources of educational and emotional support and not having access to appropriate ICT infrastructure.¹⁷

¹⁷ Commissioner for Children and Young People Tasmania, 2020, COVID-19 Monitoring Insights: Children and young people in out-of-home care during the COVID-19 pandemic, accessible at [COVID-19-Monitoring-Insights-Children-and-Young-People-in-OOHC.pdf \(childcomm.tas.gov.au\)](https://childcomm.tas.gov.au/COVID-19-Monitoring-Insights-Children-and-Young-People-in-OOHC.pdf)

We echo the findings of the Commissioner for Children and Young People Tasmania that investment is required to address these areas and that practice changes brought about as a result of COVID-19 should be documented and evaluated to inform future practice improvement.¹⁸

Recommendations

- Consider harmonisation or alignment of the proposed Tasmanian state-based child safe principles and standards with the National Standards and Principles for Child Safe Organisations to ensure children and young people are equally protected no matter where they live in Australia and to reduce confusion and duplication of the compliance burden on organisations, particularly those which operate across jurisdictions.
- Engage with organisations that have already developed and implemented strategies to comply with the National Standards and Principles in co-design to support implementation of the Tasmanian Child Safe Standards.
- Document and evaluate practice changes brought about by COVID-19 for children in out-of-home care to 1) ensure they have access to appropriate information in a future similar scenario, 2) have access to the ICT resources they need to remain connected to education, and 3) inform future practice improvement across all areas of out-of-home care service provision.

Supporting people with mental health issues

We acknowledge that the Tasmanian Government is investing in mental health, particularly through Rethink2020 (the five-year review of the Tasmanian Mental Health 10-year plan), new initiatives under the Plan, as well as the creation of Mental Health Integration Hubs.

However, most of the investment is in acute mental health service provision. Early intervention community mental health supports have been phased out in anticipation that people would be successfully transitioned to the NDIS, but this is not the case. There is well-established concern about the transition rates of Commonwealth community mental health program clients into the NDIS, as they are lower than expected.¹⁹

The phasing out of previous Commonwealth community mental health programs is having a serious impact on the ability of people to access appropriate mental health service provision in Tasmania. The majority of people who were able to previously access Personal Helpers and Mentors (PHaMs), Partners in Recovery (PiR) and Support for Day to Day Living in the Community (D2DL) have not moved across to the NDIS as projected. We note that some programs funded through Primary Health Tasmania exist to meet similar need. However, the level of funding is significantly below that of previously funded Commonwealth programs.

¹⁸ Commissioner for Children and Young People Tasmania, 2020, COVID-19 Monitoring Insights: Children and young people in out-of-home care during the COVID-19 pandemic, accessible at [COVID-19-Monitoring-Insights-Children-and-Young-People-in-OOHC.pdf \(childcomm.tas.gov.au\)](https://childcomm.tas.gov.au/COVID-19-Monitoring-Insights-Children-and-Young-People-in-OOHC.pdf)

¹⁹ National Mental Health Commission, Monitoring mental health and suicide prevention reform: National Report 2019, accessible at:
<http://www.mentalhealthcommission.gov.au/media/270709/National%20Report%202019.pdf>

Additionally, although there is provision for Psychosocial Recovery Coaches under the NDIS - a model which may contribute to filling this gap - there are currently no providers registered to deliver this service. This means that even if people are successful in securing funding, it is unlikely that they will be able to purchase assistance from a Psychosocial Recovery Coach. Psychosocial Recovery Coaches also have no scope to work with people who are not eligible for NDIS packages. Previous Commonwealth-funded programs were able to work very successfully with individuals as well as groups and the community more broadly around a recovery focus and community reintegration.

There is now a significant gap in recovery-focused low-medium intensity mental health supports, particularly in regional areas. The closure of the Hope and Recovery Transitional Service (HARTS) has contributed to these challenges. Established as a service for existing (PHaMs) clients to support their transition/eligibility testing for NDIS services, or to support their transition to Continuity of Support programs, this support is no longer available despite low levels of transition to the NDIS.

With the introduction of Independent Assessments in the NDIS in the near future, further pressure will be applied to participants already in the scheme to evidence their need for psychosocial supports and potentially make it more difficult for new participants to demonstrate their eligibility. The need for community-based mental health supports will therefore become even more critical.

In addition to the impact on people requiring mental health supports, this service gap has an impact on the mental health workforce, as qualified and experienced mental health professionals have moved into other areas of community services. Investment from the Tasmanian government to support the mental health workforce to ensure the retention of skilled, qualified workers is vital.

In summary, there is less funding available for community-based mental health supports and the NDIS is not set up to respond to people who experience episodic mental health conditions. We urge the Tasmanian Government to work with the Commonwealth Government to rebuild the community mental health sector to at least its pre-NDIS level, to ensure that the long-term position is that there are no fewer mental health services or places available than there were before the introduction of the NDIS. Funding for an adequate community-based mental health system and qualified workforce is a vital step in preventing costs to acute health systems from exponentially increasing.

Recommendations

- Ensure the provision of adequate levels of community based mental health services throughout Tasmania, with a particular focus on early intervention and meeting the needs of people with psychosocial disability who are unable to access the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).
- Support and fund a strategy to train and resource the growth and retention of locally-based Psychosocial Recovery Coaches.
- Adequately fund and resource a qualified, experienced mental health workforce in Tasmania.
- Work with the Commonwealth Government to rebuild the community health sector to at least its pre-NDIS level, to ensure that the long-term position is that there are no fewer mental health services or places available than there were before the introduction of the NDIS.

Attachment 1 Mission Australia and Mission Australia Housing in Tasmania

Chigwell House: Provides events, services, information and support for the community from birth to 80 years. Parents Staying Connected, Youth Connections, Integrated Family Support Service, Child and Family Health Nurse, Playgroup, Targeted Youth Support Service and Youth Beat programs all run out of this location and deliver services to families and young people. From Chigwell House we address homelessness and mental health issues. 14 community housing units which are managed by Mission Australia Housing are also located at the site.

NDIS Local Area Coordination (LAC) South East and North West TAS: The Local Area Coordination (LAC) is a core function in the NDIS roll out. The LAC works with people with disability, their family, carers and the community to increase access and inclusion. Participants are supported to connect with mainstream and specialist supports through the development of a collaboratively detailed 'Plan', including specific goals, and aspirations and relevant supports. Outside of individual supports, LACs also work with local communities as a whole to ensure they are welcoming and inclusive for all people, including people with a disability.

NDIS Early Childhood Early Intervention (ECEI) South East and North West TAS: Aims to provide all children aged 0-6 years with developmental delay or disability the best start in life. ECEI focuses on the individual needs of each child and working with families to link them with mainstream supports as well as providing specialised early intervention by Allied Health professionals.

Strong Families, Safe Kids Advice and Referral Line: The Family Support Gateway ceased in December 2018 when the Strong Families Safe Kids Advice and Referral Line commenced. The Strong Families, Safe Kids Advice and Referral Line is a contact point for people seeking information, advice and assistance if they have concerns about a child and their family. The service provides information and advice about service options and other approaches for responding to the needs of children and families. When a child and their family need assistance the service may provide this through referral to another service, or in some circumstances if a child is considered to be at risk, the service may refer the matter to the Child Safety Service for assessment.

Integrated Family Support Service (IFSS) Rosny Park, Berriedale, Launceston and Devonport: Provides early intervention for children and families at risk. The aim of the service is to support families to identify/resolve/address issues in order to prevent any further involvement with Child Safety or the family having a notification to Child Safety.

Mission Australia Housing – Clarendon Vale and Rokeby: Tenancy and asset management of social housing and whole of community renewal through community development.

Clarence Plains Community Chaplain: Non-denominational Community Chaplain service provided to community members across Clarence Plains. The Chaplain provides assistance to individuals from targeted communities (geographical or program-based) to take hold of a positive future by providing a unique resource who brings compassion, help and hope to communities where MA has an active presence.

Parents Staying Connected (PSC): A mentor and peer support program encouraging parents and significant others to become part of a group who engage in training, group work, health and nutrition and play activities with children to enhance parenting confidence.

Targeted Youth Support Service: A holistic intervention service offering intensive case management and therapeutic interventions for young people aged between 10 and 18 years, who are identified as having significant and/or multiple risk factors and whom without intensive support are likely to enter the child safety and/or youth justice systems.

Youth Beat: Youth Beat operates in Derwent Valley, Clarendon Vale, Blackmans Bay, Dodges Ferry, Lauderdale, South Arm and many other areas. We offer a wide range of services and support to young people, including identifying and addressing anti-social behaviour, drug and alcohol misuse, referral and intervention for young people in crisis and assistance with accessing additional services and social support networks. We foster strong relationships with police, community groups and local support services. Youth Beat offers interactive activities based on young people's needs and interests. Youth Beat also has a soft case management component and is currently case managing over 40 young people.

Family Support for Grandparents and Relatives Raising Children South East and North West: This service provides support for grandparents and relatives who have recently (within 12 months) taken on the primary care of a relative child or children. We provide assistance with Centrelink, CSS, support groups and brokerage.

Disability Employment Services (DES) Burnie, Devonport, Queenstown, Smithton, Launceston and Hobart: Assists employers to hire staff with an injury, disability or health condition. DES provides employers with ongoing assistance, training and support and access to a range of other support services including wage subsidies and financial assistance to help cover costs such as modifying the workplace or purchasing adaptive technologies or interpreting services. For the job seeker, DES provides Disability Management Services (DMS) for job seekers with disability, an injury or a health condition who need assistance to find a job and occasional support to keep a job; and Employment Support Services, providing assistance to those with permanent disability who need regular, ongoing support to keep a job. **Parenting Together:** (in partnership with Anglicare), providing evidence based parenting programs as well as resilience building programs for children across Launceston and the Tamar Valley region.

Lead Support Coordination Service: Supporting individuals, youth and families with multiple and complex needs, providing coordinated services and support in the SE and NW of Tasmania.

Family Day Care Tasmania (Mission Australia Children's Services): Childcare service including Kentish Childcare, working in a child care centre setting, and Educators homes providing childcare for families. Also MACS Place-community playgroups and therapeutic workshops.

For any further information please contact

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