MEDIA RELEASE





Head to Health adult mental health services open in Gosnells and Mirrabooka

2 August 2023

Head to Health adult mental health centres have opened in Gosnells and Mirrabooka, offering free advice, support and, if needed, assessment and treatment for people with stress, anxiety and other mental health issues.

Funded by the Australian Government, the Gosnells and Mirrabooka services were commissioned by WA Primary Health Alliance (WAPHA) and are operated by St John of God Social Outreach, part of St John of God Health Care.

This takes the number of Head to Health Centres in WA to three, including Head to Health Midland which opened in March 2022.

Mirrabooka Head to Health is located in the MedOne Medical Centre (in the MYVISTA building) at Unit 5/3 Doncaster Rd, Mirrabooka.

Gosnells Head to Health is located at Corfield Medical Centre at 288 Corfield St. Gosnells.

Both sites have ample free parking and are easily accessible by public transport. They are available for anyone aged 18 and over who needs to access the services.

More information, including how to access the services and opening hours, is available here.

Comments attributed to WAPHA Executive General Manager Commissioned Services, Mark Cockayne:

"The expansion of Head to Health mental health services means more Western Australians will benefit from this essential mental health initiative."

"Head to Health centres offer a friendly, low-key environment for people who need support, helping reduce the stigma associated with mental health issues which can make some people reluctant to seek help."

Comments attributed to St John of God Social Outreach CEO, Susan Cantwell:

"The decision to co-locate the new Gosnells and Mirrabooka services within medical practices was important for ease of access and for ensuring they become an integral part of the local communities."

"There is currently high demand for mental health support in the broader Gosnells and Mirrabooka areas, so we welcome the opportunity to establish and operate these new Head to Head services in places where they will really make a difference."

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WAPHA is commissioning two more sites in Armadale and Northam, expected to open in the second half of 2023 and 2024, respectively.

These new sites are part of a wider range of Head to Health services available to the community including the Head to Health Assessment and Referral Phone Service 1800 595 212, the Head to Health website www.headtohealth.gov.au and Head to Health Centres.

This activity has been made possible through funding provided by the Australian Government under the PHN Program.

ENDS

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About Us: WA Primary Health Alliance shapes, strengthens and sustains primary health care through partnerships and strategies that improve people's access and health outcomes. As the operator of WA's three Primary Health Networks – part of the Australian Government national PHN program – we help communities and people most at risk of poor health to get better access to care closer to home. We achieve this by supporting general practice to deliver the highest quality patient care, funding local primary health care services based on community needs and connecting local services to simplify the health care system. Along with our strong partnerships, our statewide structure allows us to deliver better health, together for the benefit of the WA community. For more information, visit www.wapha.org.au

About St John of God Social Outreach: <u>St John of God Social Outreach</u> is part of <u>St John of God Health Care</u>, which operates 14 private hospitals and two public hospitals, as well as no-cost, community-based mental health and homelessness services in WA, NSW and Victoria.