
VICTORIAN BUDGET 2021-22 SUMMARY

MENTAL HEALTH, YOUTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION RELATED MEASURES



1. Orygen welcomes the Victorian Government's historic investment which puts mental health into the heart of the 2021-22 Budget. The \$3.8 billion investment into mental health signals a clear commitment to implement, in full, the recommendations from the final report of the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System and fix what this Government has repeatedly acknowledged, is a broken system.
2. The mental health budget includes \$842 million in mental health and wellbeing support for children and young people, which will enact the Royal Commissions recommendation for two separate streams of care created – one devoted to infants and children (ages 0 to 11) and one devoted to young people (ages 12 to 25). These critical measures will support young people to access quality youth mental health clinical care, at a point in life when mental ill-health is most likely to first onset. The budget includes:
 - \$266 million to reform and expand 13 Youth Area Mental Health and Wellbeing Services across Victoria and to support organisations providing mental health care to young people. This will deliver more hours of care for young people, including extended and after-hours support.
 - \$141 million for 10 beds in each of five new Youth Prevention and Recovery Care (YPARC) units to be located in Melbourne's North Eastern Metropolitan region as well as the Barwon South-West, Gippsland, Grampians and Hume regions.
 - \$16 million for the expansion of existing Mobile Targeted Assertive Outreach teams which provide support to young people with multiple and complex needs.
 - \$16 million to establish four new Hospital Outreach Post-suicidal Engagement (HOPE) sites, specifically designed and delivered for young people. These will be located at the Royal Children's Hospital, Alfred Health, the Monash Children's Hospital and Orygen.
 - \$21 million for supporting the mental health for trans and gender-diverse young people, via an expansion of mental health services and primary care in the Monash Health and Royal Children's Hospital catchments and the development of a clinical pathway from the Royal Children's Hospital Gender Service to Orygen.
3. Orygen also welcomes the Victorian Government's commitment to support the activities of our organisation including our innovative and rapid translational research and online services to ensure that young Victorians receive effective services and support when and where they need it. In addition, this budget provides funding to expand the Custodial Forensic Youth Mental Health Service delivered by Orygen at the Parkville and Malmsbury Youth Justice Precincts. Additional hours for specialist mental health assessment and treatment interventions will be provided for young people in custody.
4. For young people there is also \$200 million committed for a new school mental health fund, which schools can use to deliver supports and programs that meet the needs of their school community.
5. Orygen has provided the following summary of key budget measures related to youth mental health, mental health more broadly, youth affairs and other budget measures which have a significant intersect with young people and their wellbeing.

REVOLUTION IN MIND

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Mental health reform in education: setting up children and young people to thrive	-	9.5	47.4	71.7	89.2
Supporting mental health for trans and gender-diverse young people	-	5.5	5.1	5.3	5.4
Supporting the mental health and wellbeing of people in contact with the criminal and youth justice systems	-	5.1	8.9	8.2	8.5
Supporting the mental health and wellbeing of young people	-	40.0	63.5	78.5	84.0
Expanding mental health treatment facilities for Victoria's youth	-	2.0	65.0	52.0	21.0

\$21.3 MILLION FOR SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH FOR TRANS AND GENDER-DIVERSE YOUNG PEOPLE

- Additional mental health support, primary medical care and peer supports for transgender and gender diverse young people.
- Expansion of mental health services and primary care in the Monash Health and Royal Children's Hospital catchments.
- Development of a clinical pathway from the Royal Children's Hospital Gender Service to Orygen.

\$30.7 MILLION FOR SUPPORTING THE MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF PEOPLE IN CONTACT WITH THE CRIMINAL AND YOUTH JUSTICE SYSTEMS

- Expanding the Custodial Forensic Youth Mental Health Service delivered by Orygen at the Parkville and Malmsbury Youth Justice Precincts.
- Additional hours for specialist mental health assessment and treatment interventions for young people in custody.
- Increased care and supports for prisoners transitioning out of custody, including specialist transition support social workers and coordinators;
- Increased access to the Hospital Outreach Post-suicidal Engagement (HOPE) program.

\$266.0 MILLION FOR SUPPORTING THE MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF YOUNG PEOPLE

- More hours of mental health treatment, care and support to young people through Youth Area Mental Health and Wellbeing Services, including extended hours and targeted assertive outreach.
- Integrating support for general wellbeing and alcohol and other drug treatment into Youth Area Mental Health and Wellbeing Services.
- Maintain the Orygen's youth centred research, online delivery, and operational activities of organisations delivering mental health care to young people.

\$217.8 MILLION FOR MENTAL HEALTH REFORM IN EDUCATION: SETTING UP CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE TO THRIVE

- A School Mental Health Fund to enable schools to implement mental health and wellbeing initiatives from an evidence-based menu, rolling out to regional and rural government schools from Term 3 2022 and to all government schools by 2024.
- Improve supports available to young carers and referral pathways through the mental health and education systems.

- Expand the Mental Health in Primary Schools pilot to 90 government schools and 10 non-government schools in 2022.
- Continue the Maroondah Positive Education initiative, increasing wellbeing and educational outcomes in 27 schools.

\$140 MILLION FOR EXPANDING MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT FACILITIES FOR VICTORIA'S YOUTH

- Five new 10-bed youth prevention and recovery care units in the Barwon South West, Gippsland, Grampians, Hume and North Eastern Metropolitan regions.
- Three existing youth prevention and recovery care units to be upgraded in Bendigo, Dandenong and Frankston.

MENTAL HEALTH

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Supporting the mental health and wellbeing of infants, children and families	-	22.5	49.8	61.0	62.5
A mental health and wellbeing system with lived experience at the core	-	10.2	5.8	1.3	1.2
A new approach to commissioning: integrated regional governance	-	5.2	12.3	11.4	5.9
A new approach to information management to facilitate better information sharing for consumers	-	2.5	-	-	-
Designing a new statewide trauma service to better support people with lived experience of trauma	-	0.9	0.8	-	-
Enabling the mental health and wellbeing workforce to deliver a reformed system	-	55.1	68.3	41.2	41.7
Expanding statewide services to improve support for high and specialised needs	-	7.6	3.2	-	-
Facilitating government and community-wide suicide prevention and response	-	46.6	44.8	41.2	40.8
Facilitating translational research to support ongoing system improvement	-	3.8	4.9	5.0	4.9
Improving the quality and safety of services and promoting consumer rights	-	4.6	6.8	6.3	6.4
Integrated care for people living with mental illness and substance use or addiction	-	4.6	10.0	12.5	15.2
Mental health-led emergency responses for Victorians in crisis	-	3.7	3.8	-	-
New legal foundations and supporting consumers to exercise their rights	1.2	4.9	12.4	14.0	15.0
New local services for adults and older adults in their communities	-	5.9	36.3	78.1	143.4
New safe and compassionate models of care for bed-based services	1.2	87.9	104.1	87.6	89.2

Promoting good mental health and wellbeing and preventing mental illness		6.2	8.5	8.5	8.9
Redesigning and expanding Victoria's mental health and wellbeing infrastructure	-	10.0	10.0	-	-
Reformed area services to better support the mental health and wellbeing of adults and older adults	-	144.4	225.2	295.5	289.2
Strengthening system leadership, governance and accountability	-	17.9	18.2	17.3	17.8
Support for regulators and complaints handling bodies	-	5.6	0.9	1.0	1.0
Supported housing for adults and young people living with mental illness	-	3.4	6.8	14.6	15.6
Supporting Aboriginal social and emotional wellbeing	-	22.9	28.8	32.2	32.3
Supporting families and carers	-	5.9	25.9	29.5	31.4
Supporting the mental health and wellbeing of rural and regional Victorians	-	2.9	1.9	4.2	4.3
Working in partnerships to improve accessibility for diverse communities	-	6.1	6.4	6.2	7.5
Additional acute mental health beds in Warrnambool	-	4.1	6.2	0.6	-
Expanding and improving bed-based forensic mental health services: Thomas Embling Hospital	6.4	28.6	128.0	178.6	8.0
Supported housing for adults and young people living with mental illness (assets/infrastructure)	-	2.2	1.6	1.0	0.6

\$195.8 MILLION FOR SUPPORTING THE MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF INFANTS, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

- 13 reformed infant and child area mental health and wellbeing services for infants, children and families (aged 0-11)
- Three infant, child and family hubs based on a one-stop approach for child health, including emotional and developmental health.
- Evidence-informed online parenting programs and group-based parenting sessions.
- Community perinatal mental health teams in area adult and older adult mental health and wellbeing services.

\$18.5 MILLION FOR A MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING SYSTEM WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE AT THE CORE

Strengthen leadership by people with lived experience of mental ill-health through:

- A new non-government agency, residential service and website, providing better access to information, treatment and support.
- Expanding the Victorian Mental Illness Awareness Council.

\$34.8 MILLION FOR A NEW APPROACH TO COMMISSIONING: INTEGRATED REGIONAL GOVERNANCE

- Eight new interim regional bodies to develop, coordinate and plan mental health and wellbeing services across Victoria. Establishing eight regional multi-agency panels to improve coordinated care.

\$2.5 MILLION FOR A NEW APPROACH TO INFORMATION MANAGEMENT TO FACILITATE BETTER INFORMATION SHARING FOR CONSUMERS

- New approach to include a review of data required for service delivery and systems administration.

\$1.7 MILLION FOR DESIGNING A NEW STATEWIDE TRAUMA SERVICE TO BETTER SUPPORT PEOPLE WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE OF TRAUMA

- New service to include community engagement, policy development and co-design of the service with stakeholders and people with a lived experience of trauma.

\$206.3 MILLION FOR ENABLING THE MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING WORKFORCE TO DELIVER A REFORMED SYSTEM

- 120 graduate placements for nurses and 140 postgraduate mental health nurse scholarships per year.
- New allied health graduate positions and government-funded psychiatry rotations for junior medical officers.
- Support and increase the lived experience workforce in Victoria's mental health system through new training programs, ongoing education and career pathways.

\$10.8 MILLION FOR EXPANDING STATEWIDE SERVICES TO IMPROVE SUPPORT FOR HIGH AND SPECIALISED NEEDS

- Redesign statewide mental health services and provide an uplift in the capacity of community-based statewide service providers to relieve immediate community demand.
- Continued support for mental health consultation and liaison services.
- Implement a service capability framework.

\$173.4 MILLION FOR FACILITATING GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY-WIDE SUICIDE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

- Establishing of a new intensive 14-day support program.
- State-wide implementation of the Hospital Outreach Post-suicidal Engagement (HOPE) program, including ongoing funding for nine adult HOPE sites, **including \$16 million for four new child and youth HOPE sites (Royal Children's Hospital, Alfred Health, Monash Children's Hospital and Orygen) and additional clinical outreach services.**
- A new suicide prevention and response office.

\$18.6 MILLION FOR FACILITATING TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH TO SUPPORT ONGOING SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT

- Establish the Collaborative Centre for Mental Health and Wellbeing.

\$24.1 MILLION FOR IMPROVING THE QUALITY AND SAFETY OF SERVICES AND PROMOTING CONSUMER RIGHTS

- Establish of a mental health improvement unit within Safer Care Victoria.
- Eliminating seclusion and restraint through workforce education and training, and by embedding Safewards within all mental health, emergency and general health units in public hospitals.

\$42.3 MILLION FOR INTEGRATED CARE FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUBSTANCE USE OR ADDICTION

- Establish statewide specialist services to integrate mental health and alcohol and other drugs services.
- Establish new addiction medicine specialist hubs.
- Build, train, and strengthen the dual diagnosis workforce.

\$7.5 MILLION FOR MENTAL HEALTH-LED EMERGENCY RESPONSES FOR VICTORIANS IN CRISIS

- Commencing work to establish Ambulance Victoria as the lead responder to triple zero calls concerning mental ill-health or psychological distress.

\$47.5 MILLION FOR NEW LEGAL FOUNDATIONS AND SUPPORTING CONSUMERS TO EXERCISE THEIR RIGHTS

- An opt-out non-legal advocacy service for clients subject to, or at risk of, compulsory treatment orders.
- Increase access to legal representation for clients before the Mental Health Tribunal.
- Develop and deliver new legislation to replace the Mental Health Act 2014.

\$263.7 MILLION FOR NEW LOCAL SERVICES FOR ADULTS AND OLDER ADULTS IN THEIR COMMUNITIES

- Establish the first 20 new local adult and older adult mental health and wellbeing services, with the first in Benalla, Brimbank, Frankston, Greater Geelong, Latrobe Valley and Whittlesea.
- An integrated alcohol and other drug services trial will be delivered in select sites.

\$370.0 MILLION NEW SAFE AND COMPASSIONATE MODELS OF CARE FOR BED-BASED SERVICES

- Ensure that 53 recently built adult and youth beds are available for patients.
- Opening a 35-bed women's mental health unit.
- Continuing hospital in the home.

\$32.1 MILLION FOR PROMOTING GOOD MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING AND PREVENTING MENTAL ILLNESS

- Establish a new mental health and wellbeing promotion office to lead development and coordination of mental health promotion and prevention activities.
- Develop Victorian mentally healthy workplaces framework.
- Establish social prescribing trials across eight regions and for three years.

\$20.0 MILLION FOR REDESIGNING AND EXPANDING VICTORIA'S MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING INFRASTRUCTURE

- Undertake coordinated and comprehensive service and capital planning across the mental health system, which may include upgrades to existing assets, new community service facilities and more new acute beds.

\$954.3 MILLION FOR REFORMED AREA SERVICES TO BETTER SUPPORT THE MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF ADULTS AND OLDER ADULTS

- Establish 22 reformed adult and older adult area mental health and wellbeing services.
- Pilot integrated alcohol and other drugs treatment and wellbeing supports.

- Continue the provision of existing community mental health service hours for adults and older adults.
- Establish a specialist behaviour response team to respond to high risk unsafe behaviour in inpatient units.
- Expand physical footprint of both area and new local services to accommodate increased service delivery.

\$71.2 MILLION FOR STRENGTHENING SYSTEM LEADERSHIP, GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- Support the establishment of the Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission.
- Transfer of functions from Mental Health Reform Victoria to the new Mental Health and Wellbeing Division of the Department of Health, led by a Chief Officer for Mental Health and Wellbeing.
- Bolster accountability structures for Victoria’s mental health system, including developing an outcomes framework and a performance monitoring and accountability framework.

\$8.5 MILLION FOR SUPPORT FOR REGULATORS AND COMPLAINTS HANDLING BODIES

- Additional funding for the Mental Health Tribunal, Mental Health Complaints Commissioner, Victorian Disability Worker Regulation Scheme and the Disability Services Commissioner.
- Strengthen compliance and enforcement of the Non-Emergency Patient Transport Act 2003
- **Funding to the Commission for Children and Young People to support the implementation of new Child Safe Standards.**

\$116.2 MILLION FOR SUPPORTING ABORIGINAL SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL WELLBEING

- Establish new structures and self-determined services across Victoria to support and promote Aboriginal social and emotional wellbeing, including:
 - expanding social and emotional wellbeing teams to Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOs) across Victoria,
 - funding the Victorian Aboriginal Controlled Health Organisation to establish an Aboriginal social and emotional wellbeing centre of excellence.
 - ACCHOs will also be funded to commission the delivery of culturally appropriate social and emotional wellbeing services for children and young people
 - **Resourcing Infant, Child and Youth Area Mental Health Services to support Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, with the creation of Koori mental health liaison officer positions.**

\$92.7 MILLION FOR SUPPORTING FAMILIES AND CARERS

- Increased funding for the Carer Support Fund, Tandem and its carer participation registers.
- The Families where a Parent has a Mental Illness (FaPMI) program will be expanded, and **funding will be provided to co-design and expand supports for young carers.**

\$13.3 MILLION FOR SUPPORTING THE MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF RURAL AND REGIONAL VICTORIANS

- Incentivise mental health workers to find employment in rural and regional areas.
- **Two trials of digital mental healthcare delivery and to support the Live 4 Life and Be Well in the Ranges programs, all to operate in rural and regional areas.**

\$26.2 MILLION FOR WORKING IN PARTNERSHIPS TO IMPROVE ACCESSIBILITY FOR DIVERSE COMMUNITIES

- Enable engagement in the mental health reform process and support communities to navigate the mental health and wellbeing system, including:
 - Expanding the Rainbow Door program to support people who identify as LGBTIQ+ to access and navigate the mental health and wellbeing system
 - **Continuing the Healthy Equal Youth project to support young LGBTIQ+ Victorians.**

\$10.9 MILLION FOR ADDITIONAL ACUTE MENTAL HEALTH BEDS IN WARRNAMBOOL

- An additional five acute mental health beds at the mental health Acute Inpatient Unit at Warrnambool.

\$349.6 MILLION FOR EXPANDING AND IMPROVING BED-BASED FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES: THOMAS EMBLING HOSPITAL

- Deliver an additional 82 beds at Thomas Embling Hospital in Fairfield, along with some refurbishment of existing beds and supporting infrastructure.

MEDICAL RESEARCH

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Facilitate translational research to support mental health system improvement	-	3.8	4.9	5.0	4.9
Medical Research	-	8.5	8.5	0.8	0.3
Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Accord	-	0.4	0.4	-	-

\$18.6 MILLION OVER FOUR YEARS TO FACILITATE TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH TO SUPPORT MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT.

- Establish the Collaborative Centre for Mental Health and Wellbeing.
- Funding of the Murdoch Children’s Research Institute to deliver the Generation Victoria (GenV) initiative.
- \$800,000 over the next two years for the Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Accord.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Student health and wellbeing	-	2.1	4.1	4.2	2.1
Establishing the Victorian Skills Authority	0.6	17.7	22.2	22.5	22.9
High-quality and accessible training	-	14.1	29.6	29.8	25.5
More training places for the TAFE and training system	-	84.3	1.5	1.5	1.5
Enhancing secondary vocational pathways	-	-	8.8	-	-

\$12.5 MILLION OVER FOUR YEARS FOR 'STUDENT HEALTH AND WELLBEING'

- Funding is provided to continue implementation of the school-wide positive behaviour support (SWPBS) framework. Implementation in schools will be supported by 17 specialist SWPBS coaches, working with schools to improve teachers' capability to effectively manage student behaviour and foster respectful school environments.

\$85.3 MILLION OVER FOUR YEARS TO ESTABLISH THE VICTORIAN SKILLS AUTHORITY

- The VSA will be an anchor organisation, bringing together industry, providers and other stakeholders to produce insights on priority training areas, and inform an annual Victorian Skills Plan to better guide training delivery where it's needed most.

\$99 MILLION OVER FOUR YEARS TO FUND 'HIGH-QUALITY AND ACCESSIBLE TRAINING

- Contributions for government-subsidised accredited courses delivered by TAFEs and other registered training providers will increase in 2022 to maintain a high-quality training system. This includes subsidy rates, maximum concession contribution rates and non-Free TAFE fee waiver rates.

\$89 MILLION OVER FOURS YEARS ADDING MORE TRAINING PLACES FOR TAFE AND TRAINING SYSTEM

- Funding is provided to continue support for eligible students to enhance their skills and employment opportunities by providing subsidised vocational education and training.

\$8.8 MILLION IN 2022/2023 TO ENHANCE SECONDARY VOCATIONAL PATHWAYS

- The Head Start Apprenticeship and Traineeship program will also continue, giving students the opportunity to undertake a traineeship or apprenticeship while completing their senior secondary certificate.

YOUTH JUSTICE

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Embedded Youth Outreach Program	-	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6
Community based diversionary services and opening Cherry Creek	0.1	73.4	47.7	21.7	22.3
Youth Justice COVID-19 response	1.4	-	-	-	-
Supporting vulnerable Victorians	0.1	6.8	3.8	2.2	2.2

\$6.4 MILLION FOR EMBEDDED YOUTH OUTREACH PROGRAM

- Continue the embedded Youth Outreach Program in the existing locations of Werribee and Dandenong, where police officers and youth workers are paired to provide assessment, initial support and referral for vulnerable young people and prevent possible future reoffending.

\$165.2 MILLION FOR COMMUNITY BASED DIVERSIONARY SERVICES AND OPENING CHERRY CREEK

- Funding is provided for core youth justice programs, ongoing investment in diversionary programs, and establishing a new custodial operating model at Cherry Creek.

\$1.4 MILLION FOR YOUTH JUSTICE COVID-19 RESPONSE

- Funding is provided to strengthen and support the Youth Justice response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic in Victoria's Youth Justice Centres.

\$15.1 MILLION FOR SUPPORTING VULNERABLE VICTORIANS

- Funding is provided to address demand through Honorary Justice Services Support and to continue the Youth Referral and Independent Persons Program for young people.

FAMILY VIOLENCE

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Responses for children and young people impacted by family violence and sexual assault	-	14.1	9.7	10.0	10.3
Intervening early to prevent family violence	-	1.2	1.2	-	-

\$44.1 MILLION FOR RESPONSES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IMPACTED BY FAMILY VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

- Funding is provided to continue the statewide expansion of services to adolescents who use violence in the home, extend sexually abusive behaviour treatment services and provide sexual assault support services targeted to children and young people.

\$2.4 MILLION FOR INTERVENING EARLY TO PREVENT FAMILY VIOLENCE

- Funding is provided to support the development of tools and resources for addressing drivers of sexual violence in young people, and the delivery of youth-focused programs that promote healthy relationships and community understanding of family violence.

YOUTH AFFAIRS

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Engaging and supporting at-risk young people	-	9.2	9.2	-	-
Strengthening youth participation and connection	-	3.7	3.7	-	-

\$18.4 MILLION FOR ENGAGING AND SUPPORTING AT-RISK YOUNG PEOPLE

- Continued funding for community-led initiatives that support young Victorians at risk of disengagement from the community. These initiatives provide vulnerable young people from African and Pasifika backgrounds with culturally-specific early interventions and increased education and employment opportunities.

\$7.4 MILLION FOR STRENGTHENING YOUTH PARTICIPATION AND CONNECTION

- Continued funding for initiatives that support young people at risk of disengagement, including mentoring and school participation projects.