



MEDIA STATEMENT



Brittany Lauga MP B Urb Dev (Urb&Reg Plan)(Hons), C.Dec

MEMBER FOR KEPPEL AND ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

26 February 2021

Youth drug and alcohol counselling to start soon

Free alcohol and drug counselling for young people between 12 and 21 years starts in Rockhampton and surrounding communities on Monday 1 June 2020 through a new State Government-funded program to be delivered by Lives Lived Well.

Due to COVID-19, this new support program will initially be offered over the phone and online.

When safe to do so, it will open as a comprehensive Day Program for Young People inclusive of alcohol and drug counselling and support, group programs and a chill-out area in a new Lives Lived Well service location.

This expansion of our treatment services is thanks to additional funding from the Queensland Government, which also extends to delivery of a residential rehabilitation treatment service in Rockhampton, due to open in 2021.

Lives Lived Well CEO Mitchell Giles thanked the State Government for its ongoing support, allowing us to provide more treatment options in Rockhampton.

“This additional support has come at a time when we have concerns people may be increasing their use of alcohol and drugs due to higher levels of stress and pressures brought on by the impacts of COVID-19,” Mr Giles said.

“We look forward to providing this program in full when safe to do so in our new space in Rockhampton, but during this time of COVID-19 restrictions, we are pleased we can still provide professional alcohol and drug counselling to young people via virtual options.”

Lives Lived Well is also continuing to provide online and phone support to people aged over 18 years, and will return to in-person counselling when safe to do so.

Program inquiries can be made by calling Lives Lived Well on 1300 727 957 or visit [liveslivedwell.org.au](https://www.liveslivedwell.org.au) for service updates.

For all media enquiries contact:

Michelle Saftich – Marketing & Media Officer

e michelle.saftich@liveslivedwell.org.au or marketing@liveslivedwell.org.au

The Member for Keppel and Assistant Education Minister Brittany Lauga said the 42-bed residential service in Parkhurst is being built by the Queensland Government for the CQ Health and Hospital Service.

Delivering for you in Keppel

Coming to Central Queensland in late 2021...

A new purpose-built residential alcohol and drug treatment centre currently under construction by the Queensland Government, will open in Rockhampton in late 2021 – the first of its kind for Central Queensland.

The centre is being built at 607-701 Yaamba Road, Parkhurst (near the Music Bowl). With 42 beds, recreational facilities and extensive grounds, it will provide a supportive, safe, drug, alcohol and smoke-free environment to springboard changes for those adversely impacted by their use of alcohol and/or drugs.

Queensland Health is funding Lives Lived Well to deliver drug and alcohol treatment services including:

- residential rehabilitation – 32 beds (adult single rooms)
- residential withdrawal treatment unit (8 beds for adults)
- family residential rehabilitation (2 three-bedroom family units)

The new centre is an addition to Lives Lived Well's existing adult and youth services in Rockhampton, Gladstone, Emerald, Mackay and the Whitsundays. This new service provides more access and choice – meeting the diverse needs of people in the region who are wanting to address their use of alcohol or drugs.

The centre will provide:

Live-in Recovery

This residential rehabilitation program is for people aged 18 years and over, delivered over a six-week cycle. Using the latest research and our experience in providing other similar, it will provide tools and strategies to:

- reducing harms associated with alcohol or substance use
- manage life's challenges
- set and work towards goals
- reduce the likelihood or frequency of relapse.

The first patients of the Rockhampton's Alcohol and other Drug Rehabilitation Centre could be receiving treatment as soon as August 2021, the Member for Keppel and Assistant Education Minister Brittany Lauga said today.

Construction of the facility, at the back of the former Music Bowl site, has now begun.

Ms Lauga said Woollam Constructions began early site works last week and construction of the 42 bed units will commence in January.

She said the project would create 48 construction jobs.

“It’s great to know that Woollam Constructions has a strong presence in Rockhampton and will be using local trades and suppliers wherever possible,” she said.

“Supporting new infrastructure like this will boost services and is a continuation of Queensland’s plan for economic recovery from COVID-19.”

Member for Rockhampton Barry O’Rourke said the start of civil works was a big step towards getting better services for the Central Queensland community.

“The residential rehabilitation and withdrawal management centre will provide live-in treatment for adults seeking to address their substance use,” he said.

“It will also deliver two family units as part of the new centre to provide accommodation for parents with young children so they can access the treatment program.”

Woollam Constructions has had a presence in Rockhampton since 1963 and is a well-established contractor which has delivered projects such as Rockhampton Hospital carpark and has committed to using local sub-contractors and suppliers wherever possible.

Contact John 0400787037

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