



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND YOUTH AFFAIRS

MICHAEL PETERSSON MLA (CHAIR), ELIZABETH KIKKERT MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), ELIZABETH LEE MLA

Inquiry into Youth Mental Health in the ACT
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Asked by ELIZABETH KIKKERT MLA:

In relation to: Respite Care

1. Besides Marymead, which other service providers provide respite care services for young people?
 - a. How many beds does each provider, including Marymead, have?
2. What is the name of the program that allows for a young person to be eligible for respite?
3. How much funding does the ACT Government provide to Marymead and other providers for respite services?

MINISTER STEPHEN-SMITH: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:--

1. Marymead is currently the only service available to provide respite care for children and young people under the age of 16 who may require short term or crisis accommodation outside of the family home.
 - a. Marymead does not have a guaranteed number of beds for providing respite care to children and young people. Marymead primarily provide disability respite services and youth respite is delivered on a fee for service basis subject to availability.
2. The name of the program is *Safe and Connected Youth*. The project is a collaborative undertaking between the Community Services Directorate, Youth Coalition and three nominated Non-Government Organisations (Conflict Resolution Service, Woden Community Services and Northside Community Services).
3. The ACT Government does not directly fund any providers for respite services for children and young people under the age of 16 who may require short term or crisis accommodation outside of the family home. Youth Coalition, as the lead community sector partner for the project, is funded for brokerage to support accommodation arrangements. The primary use of this funding has been to purchase respite from Marymead on a fee for service basis. The project was originally provided \$40,000 for brokerage and received an additional \$50,000 as part of the COVID-19 stimulus package.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Education, Employment and Youth Affairs

Signature:

Date: 16/6/20

By the Minister for Children, Youth and Families, Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA