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Q1

How you can use my information

Yes, you can publish my completed survey with organisation name on the website (contact details will be removed)

Q2

My contact details

Organisation (Organisation name will appear on the Assembly website unless you request confidentiality.):

Perinatal Wellbeing Centre

Name (Individual names and contact details will not be published.):

[REDACTED]

Phone number:

[REDACTED]

Email address:

[REDACTED]

Postal address:

[REDACTED]

Q3

Please provide a brief overview of your organisation/group and its purpose.

As an Accredited Mental Health Service, Perinatal Wellbeing Centre (formerly PANDSI) provides perinatal mental health support to clients from pregnancy until their youngest child reaches two years of age. We individually assess each client and develop a tailored plan of support to best meet their needs. In addition to a comprehensive telephone counselling service (supplemented with email support when needed), Perinatal Wellbeing Centre offers a range of programs and workshops designed to provide mental, emotional and physical benefits to those experiencing perinatal depression, anxiety, stress and/or are finding it challenging adjusting to parenting.

Q4

Yes (go to question 5)

Did you provide a pre-Budget submission to the ACT Government?

Q5

Do you think that the issues raised in your pre-Budget submission have been addressed in the Budget?

No,

If no or partially, please comment.:

It is disappointing to see no funding for perinatal mental health in this Budget. Our organisation is grateful to have received some funding to address the massive spike in demand associated with the lockdown, but nothing to meet ongoing operations as costs increase and needs continue to grow. The toll taken on the mental health of expectant and new parents experiencing bushfires, toxic smoke and a pandemic has been intense, and this has translated into significant increases in the services delivered, and the complexity of client care, for front line services like Perinatal Wellbeing Centre. For some mothers, additional residential clinical support is the most appropriate form of care, yet the ACT has no public mother/baby mental health units. Whilst the Budget includes significant hospital growth, it neglects this vital area of need.

Q6

Has your organisation/group developed a written analysis of the ACT Budget that you would like to submit?

Yes (please email it to the Economy, Gender and Economic Equality Committee)

Q7

Please list your top three priority areas for the 2021-2022 ACT Budget, in order of importance.

Priority 1

Perinatal mental health

Priority 2

General mental health

Priority 3

Maternity services

Q8

Please outline your views of the 2021-2022 ACT Budget in relation to your top three priority areas

Priority 1

Missing from the Budget altogether

Priority 2

Great to see some funding for different mental health services. Clarity around priorities would be valuable

Priority 3

I understand this is delayed until the new Strategy

Q9

Are there any other issues related to the 2021-2022 ACT Budget that you would like to bring to the committee's attention?

No