



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QoN No. 55

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND COMMUNITY WELLBEING
Mr Johnathan Davis MLA (Chair), Mr James Milligan MLA (Deputy Chair), Mr Michael Pettersson MLA

Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2020-2021
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Asked by ELIZABETH KIKKERT MLA:

Ref: Output Class 1.5 Safer Families, Community Services Directorate (CSD) Annual Report 2020–2021

In relation to:

1. Minister, my question concerns the Health Justice Partnerships, which provide coordinated health and legal assistance to pregnant women at risk by the provision of a lawyer in the maternity wards of Calvary Public Hospital, the Centenary Hospital for Women and Children and the Gungahlin Child and Family Centre. Minister, how successful have the Health Justice Partnerships been to date, and what plans does the ACT government have for the future of these partnerships?
 - a. Are there any plans to expand the Health Justice Partnerships to the Canberra Hospital? If so, when?

MS BERRY: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. The health justice partnerships have successfully supported more than 900 women in the first 3 years of operation. Clients had an average of 3 legal problems each and have received advice in relation to domestic and family violence, children, housing and finance.
 - a. Funding from the 2021-22 Budget allowed for the expansion of the health justice partnership into the Canberra Hospital emergency department.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Health and Community Wellbeing

Signature:

Date:

21/03/21

By the Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, Yvette Berry MLA