



Kevin Humphries MP

Minister for Mental Health

Minister for Healthy Lifestyles

Minister for Western NSW

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 15th March 2013

HELPING MORE PEOPLE ON THE NORTH COAST OVERCOME DRUG AND ALCOHOL ADDICTION

North Coast residents caught in the cycle of drug and alcohol addiction will from today have increased access to treatment and rehabilitation services.

The Minister for Mental Health and Healthy Lifestyles, Kevin Humphries, and Minister for North Coast, Don Page, were in Binna Burra today to announce that the NSW Government will provide the Buttery with \$718,000 over three years to expand its programs that help drug and alcohol dependent people rid themselves of their addiction.

“There are few problems that are crueller and more debilitating than drug addiction, so I am pleased to announce the NSW Government is providing vital funding to the Buttery to expand its delivery of drug and alcohol treatment services to the Northern NSW region,” Mr Humphries said.

“This announcement reflects the NSW Government’s commitment to helping people with drug and alcohol problems overcome their addictions, get back on their feet and lead meaningful lives in their communities.”

Through the funding the Buttery will deliver a methadone-to-abstinence rehabilitation residential treatment program, which is designed for people currently on opioid substitution treatment (methadone and buprenorphine) who wish to live drug free.

Mr Page said a significant focus of the new service will be to help re-integrate people recovering from drug and alcohol addiction back into the community

“For over 38 years the Buttery has been dedicated to helping people with drug and alcohol issues find their way out of addiction by discovering their own worth, their strengths and their place in society,” Mr Page said.

“I was pleased to invite Minister Humphries to the Buttery last year to see the good work they are doing and he was as impressed as I was about their commitment to helping turning around the lives of some of the most vulnerable people in our communities.

“The NSW Government is committed to keeping people out of our acute hospital wards, out of our prisons and back in the community supporting themselves and making a valuable contribution, and this funding will go a long way to helping the Buttery achieve these aims.

“I congratulate the Buttery on winning this tender and I am confident that the organisation will continue to deliver high quality services that go towards breaking the destructive cycle of substance addiction.”

Buttery Director Barry Evans said a significant focus of the expanded programs will be to help re-integrate people recovering from drug and alcohol addiction back into the community.

“This funding will increase our ability to provide a range of services to help people find purpose in their lives, such as job training and living skills training as well as ongoing counselling and support for dependence,” Mr Evans said.

“The Buttery has a long and proud history of helping people when they need help most, and through this funding we will be able to extend our commitment to helping more people across the North Coast on their path to recovery.”