



**Kevin Humphries MP**  
**Minister for Mental Health**  
**Minister for Healthy Lifestyles**  
**Minister for Western NSW**

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**BATHURST MENTAL HEALTH FACILITY TO PROVIDE  
MORE HELP FOR LOCAL YOUTH**

Youth mental health services in the Bathurst region will be greatly improved following the opening of a state-of-the-art child and adolescent mental health facility today by the Minister for Mental Health, Kevin Humphries and the Member for Bathurst, Paul Toole.

Housed in the recently refurbished former dental clinic building on the grounds of the Bathurst Hospital, the “Willows” youth mental health facility will ensure more help is available for young people in the Bathurst region with a mental health issue.

“The \$250,000 refurbishment and expansion of the existing facility will ensure more space is available to provide additional support and activities aimed at improving the social and emotional wellbeing of children, teenagers and their families,” Mr Humphries said.

“The new service at Willows will offer community based assessment and treatment options close to home that will aim to intervene as early as possible to provide the best possible recovery outcomes for young people in the Bathurst community.”

Mr Toole said the opening of Willows demonstrated the NSW Government’s commitment to improving mental health services for people throughout regional NSW.

“With one in four young Australians set to suffer from mental illness in any given year it has never been more important to provide increased access to youth-specific mental health services, and in an environment they feel comfortable and safe in,” Mr Toole said.

“This warm and welcoming environment will make the provision of mental health services accessible to even more young people in need of assistance throughout our community.”

Mental Health Drug and Alcohol Service Regional Manager, Adrian Fahy, said the expansion of services in Bathurst resulted in the need for more space to cater to the therapeutic requirements of young people.

“Willows will be staffed by a dedicated team of five full-time staff and a visiting psychiatrist who will work with a large number of children and adolescents from throughout the Bathurst and mid-western regions, including an expected 20 new referrals to the service every month,” Mr Fahy said.