

MEDIA RELEASE

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Lighthouse, a new community-based treatment service for young people with severe and/or complex mental health needs.

Lives Lived Well has launched Lighthouse, a new community based mental health treatment service on the Gold Coast, designed to provide long-term clinical support for young people with severe and/or complex mental health needs.

Funded by Gold Coast Primary Health Network (GCPHN), the service was officially launched today, Friday 11 October, during Mental Health Week. Speakers at the launch included Lives Lived Well CEO Mitchell Giles and GCPHN Director of Commissioning (Programs) Libby Carr.

Mr Giles said that the multi-disciplinary Lighthouse team would work with young people, aged 12 to 18, providing longer term support to help them better manage the impacts and symptoms of past complex trauma and to work towards creating positive life changes.

Mr Giles added: "The young people who come to Lighthouse will be reaching out for help and with the aim of charting a different course in their lives, we are pleased we can be there with the long-term, best practice clinical care that they need."

Lighthouse would not have been possible without the funding support from Gold Coast Primary Health Network.

Gold Coast Primary Health Network CEO Matt Carrodus said the Australian Government Department of Health has provided \$2 million dollars over four years to fund the new service.

"We believe this funding will help to make a huge difference in the lives of our young people," Mr Carrodus said.

"Gold Coast Primary Health Network plays a key role in identifying the current and future health needs of local residents. We had determined that there is a gap in services for young people with severe and complex mental health needs who require long-term treatment in the community, which this service will address.

"I would like to encourage GPs, psychologists, psychiatrists, primary health and community support services, schools or the families of young people who may require assistance, to contact Lighthouse," Mr Carrodus said.

To find out more about the Lighthouse service, based at Southport, visit www.liveslivedwell.org.au or call 07 5699 8248. Lives Lived Well is also the lead agency for headspace Southport.

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