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Queensland Government announcement on recovery a step forward

Community Mental Health Australia President Liz Crowther has congratulated the Queensland Government's *Connecting Care to Recovery* announcement – a five-year plan to invest in mental health and drug and alcohol services.

'In Mental Health Week it is vital all government's across the country – federal, state and territory – demonstrate a commitment to work together and to link services – regardless of who funds them – so that people with complex mental illness receive the support they need.'

'In many instances people with a complex mental illness also experience co-morbidity – often drug and alcoholic problems - and they need to have both these issues addressed to get better and remain well,' Ms Crowther said.

'For someone with co-morbidity, they want to be able to receive the services they need when they need them, and for this to happen, services must work together'.

'Community Mental Health Australia congratulates the Queensland Government recognising the importance of collaboration in their five-year plan for mental health and drug and alcohol services. In particular the focus on building the Government's relationship with non-government and community organisations, the sector Community Mental Health Australia represents.'

'We also welcome the Queensland Government's announcement to work collaboratively with the Primary Health Networks. The PHNs are receiving significant Federal mental health and drug and alcohol money, and it will be vital that state and territory governments work with them. This includes planning and commissioning the services that people in the regions need,' Ms Crowther said.

Community Mental Health Australia (CMHA) is a coalition of the eight state and territory peak community mental health organisations, established to provide leadership and direction promoting the benefits of community mental health and recovery services across Australia.

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