



The information contained in this info-graphic depicts what initiatives are currently underway to support relieving the immediate pressure on Emergency Departments and in-patient beds, as well as other medium to long term priority projects that will ultimately lead to system reform.

Initiatives that support relieving the immediate pressures

- **Long Stay Patient Project** - Long-term, system-wide solutions include a MHC Patient Flow Policy Officer to work closely with Health Service Providers, non-government organisations and the Longstay Working Group to identify barriers and possible solutions to discharge long-stay mental health patients from hospital when clinically fit. Patients are reviewed on a case-by-case basis to ensure the necessary supports are also provided. Since early 2021, the Patient Flow Policy Officer and the Longstay Working Group have assisted with discharging a number of long-stay patients from hospital. This in turn not only provides these patients with more suitable and appropriate accommodation and support, but also frees up beds for others who need clinical assistance.

MHC is actively collaborating with Departments of Health and Communities via a Steering Committee and Working Group to collaborate on cross-agency solutions for all long stay patients in health services, including mental health patients and patients with disability. The Working Group has also assisted a number of successful discharges of long-stay patients from hospital to the community including where accommodation and NDIS related issues have been a barrier.

Long-term, systematic solutions are also currently being investigated and proposed.

- **Active Recovery Team (ART)** is a pilot aimed at bridging the gap between clinical mental health services and community-based organisations who provide care outside of the hospital setting. The model has been developed to engage and support individuals who repeatedly present to Emergency Departments (ED) in crisis, to provide responsive and tailored treatment as they recover from an acute or crisis episode
- **Independent Community Living Strategy (ICLS)** is a service provided to support individuals to live independently in the community, with drop in supports and to aid them working towards their recovery
- [Step Up/Step Down Services](#) provide short term, residential support and individualised care for people following discharge from hospital, or those who are in the community experiencing a change in their mental health to avoid a possible hospitalisation

Initiatives that support relieving the immediate pressures (continued)

- In April 2021, the Mental Health Inpatient Snapshot Survey (MHISS) 2021 was conducted across all publicly funded authorised and designated (specialised) mental health inpatient facilities in Western Australia. The primary purpose was to provide a one-day Statewide snapshot of the number of mental health inpatients who could be discharged if appropriate accommodation and/or support services were available, and the types and intensity of services required. The MHISS provides important evidence for decision-making in relation to the planning of hospital-based, community-based accommodation and mental health support services.
- The publication of the MHISS results will also contribute to meeting Sustainable Health Review Recommendation 6B: Immediate transparent public reporting of patient outcomes and experience

In addition, work is currently underway to support the implementation of the below programs

- [Youth Mental Health and AOD Homelessness Service](#) - when operational the service will specifically target young people aged 16 to 24 years who have severe mental health issues (with or without alcohol and other drug issue(s)) and who are homeless or at risk of homelessness
- [Community Care Unit \(CCU\)](#) will be a 20-bed facility providing community-based non-acute transitional residential mental health rehabilitation and recovery services for people with severe and persistent mental health issues and complex needs, who require a high level of support

- Other projects as detailed in the [WA State Priorities Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drugs 2020 – 2024](#)

Longer term initiatives that will ultimately lead to system reform

- [Roadmap for Community Mental Health Treatment Services](#), including Emergency Response Services
- [Taskforce into WA Public Mental Health Services for Infants, Children and Adolescents](#)
- [Graylands Reconfiguration and Forensic Taskforce](#)