



Government of **Western Australia**  
Mental Health Commission

23 March 2022

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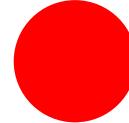
# Licensed Psychiatric Hostels Forum



Please mute your microphone  
unless speaking



Please use the raise hand  
button to speak, then unmute



This meeting is being  
recorded for your convenience

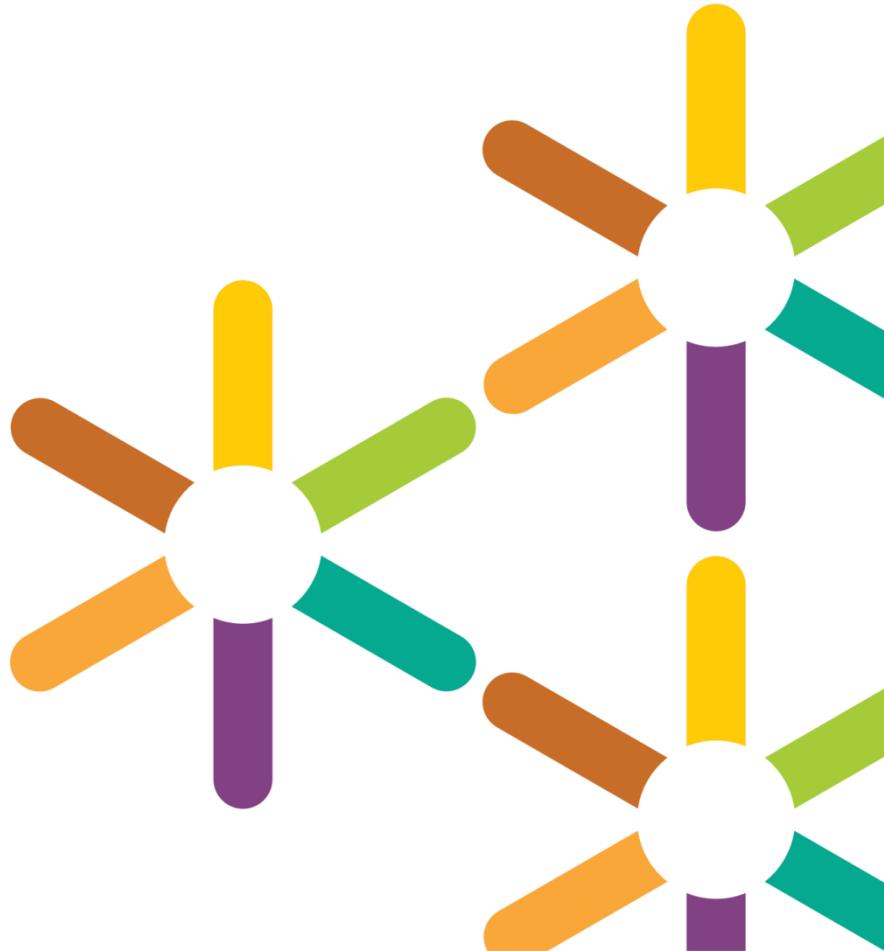


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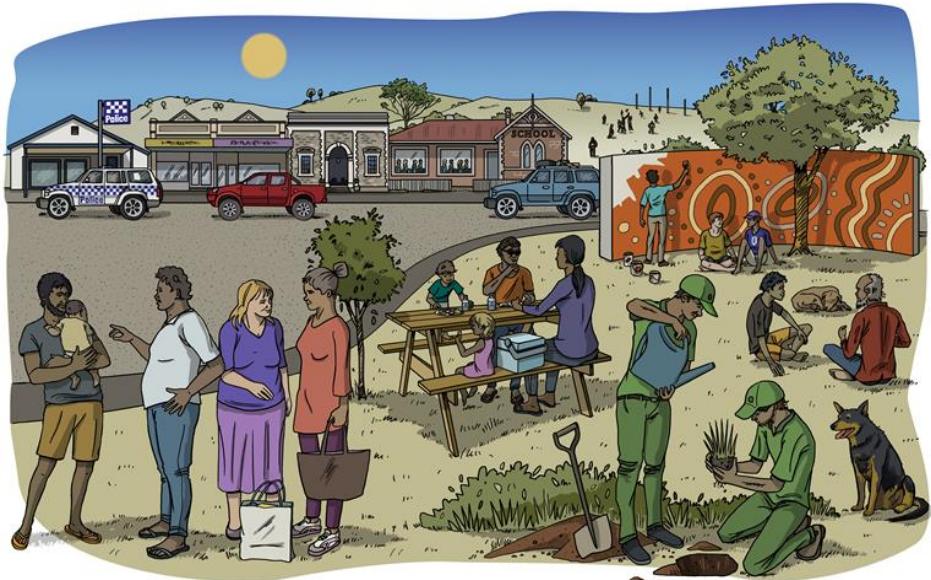
# Licensed Psychiatric Hostels Forum





# Acknowledgement of Country

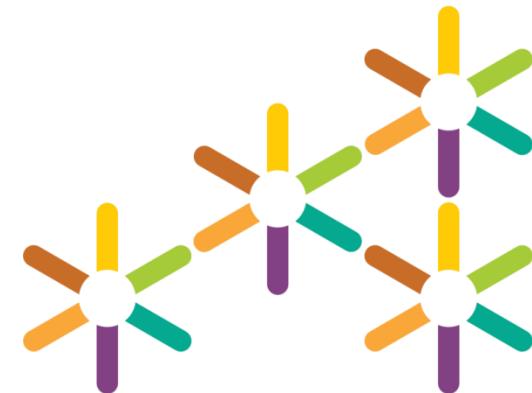
I would like to show my respect and acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today and pay my respect to their Elders past and present.



# Acknowledgement of Lived Experience

I acknowledge the individual and collective expertise of those with a living or lived experience of mental health, alcohol and other drug issues.

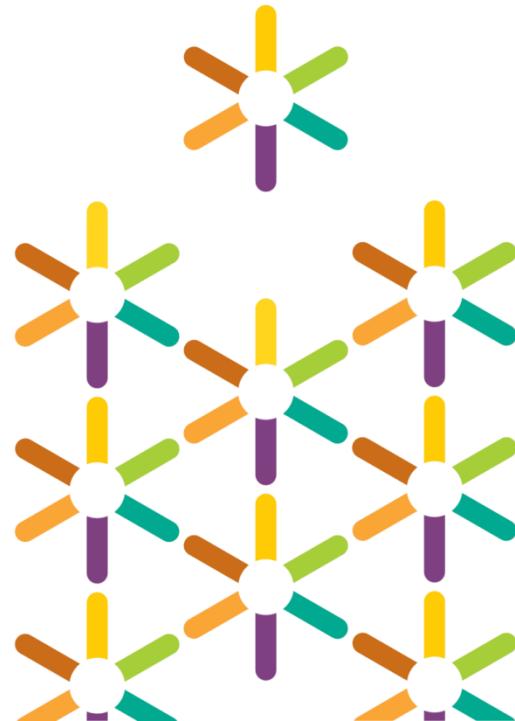
We recognise their vital contribution at all levels and value the courage of those who share this unique perspective for the purpose of learning and growing together to achieve better outcomes for all.



# Outline

## Purpose of today:

- Lessons Learned from Hostels
- Updates: Devices, Contact Point, PPE and RATS
- WACOSS Cleaning Reimbursement
- WACOSS Community Services Surge Pool
- GP/Nurses Support
- Open Discussion



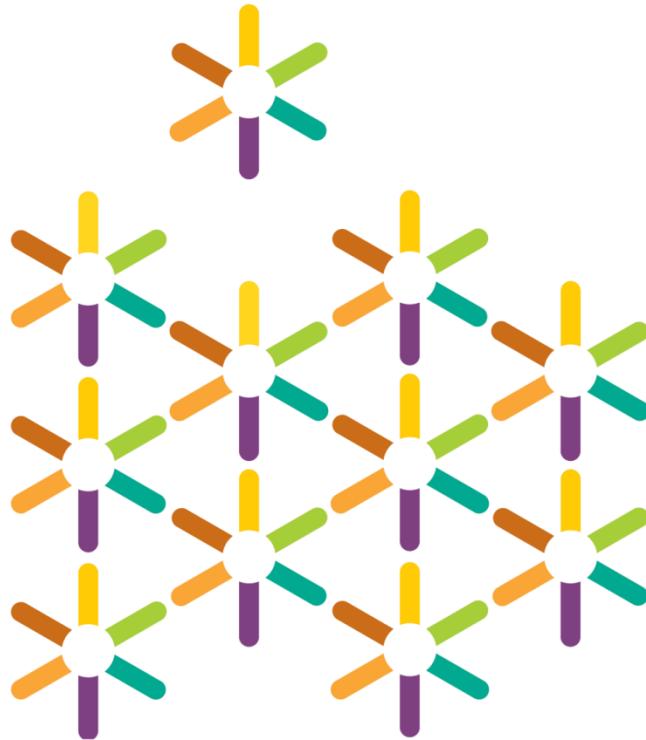


# Quick Announcements

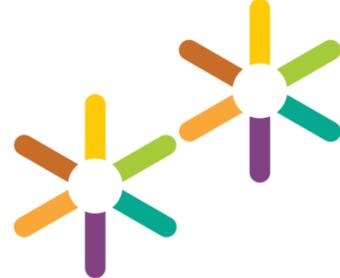
- Links to MHC COVID updates:
- <https://www.mhc.wa.gov.au/your-health-and-wellbeing/covid-19/information-for-psychiatric-hostels/>
- Updated Guidelines for Use of RATS in the Workplace:
- <https://www.mhc.wa.gov.au/your-health-and-wellbeing/covid-19/information-for-psychiatric-hostels/>
- MHC Mental Health Introductory Training Availability:
  - 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of March (Tuesday and Wednesday)
  - 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of April (Monday and Tuesday)
  - To register interest please email:  
[covidcoordinationcentre@mhc.wa.gov.au](mailto:covidcoordinationcentre@mhc.wa.gov.au)

# Lessons Learned

- Gayle Knight - (St Barts)



# Reporting Positive COVID Cases



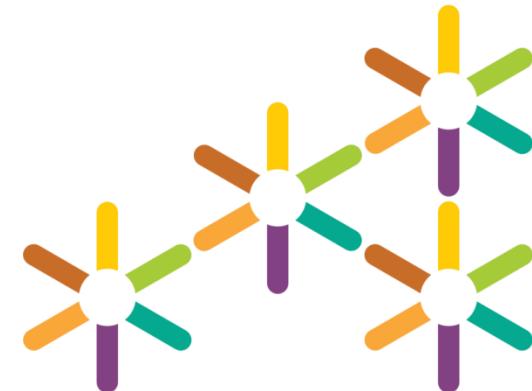
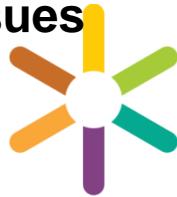
- Licensed Private Psychiatric Hostels (PPHs) to report all COVID-19 suspected and confirmed cases to the MHC Contact Point by calling 6553 0666
- The Contact Point will notify the OCP, LARU and your Contract Officer of these reported cases on your behalf
  - No need to contact them separately
- All non-urgent requests/queries can be emailed to covidcoordinationcentre@mhc.wa.gov.au



# Contact Point

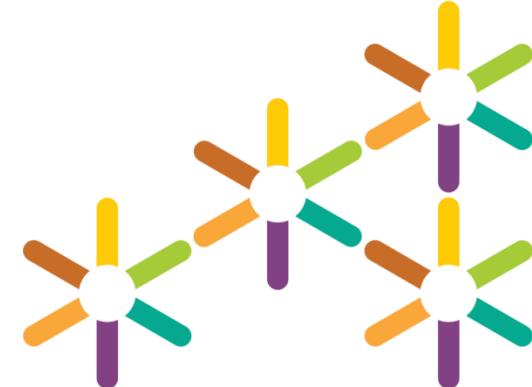
**A single point of contact for hostels experiencing COVID-19 related issues**

- Please call in the first instance – 6553 0666
- 23 contacts regarding either positive cases or close contacts
  - 1 - Positive staff and residents
  - 5 - Positive residents
  - 17 - Positive staff or close contact residents



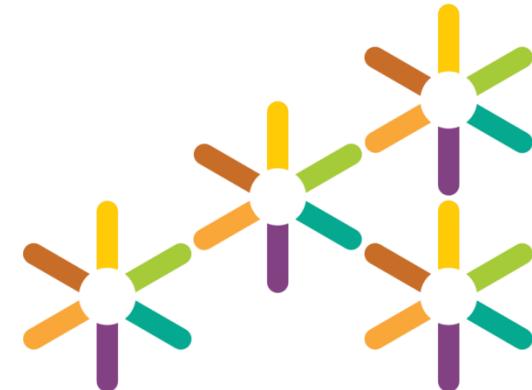
# PPE

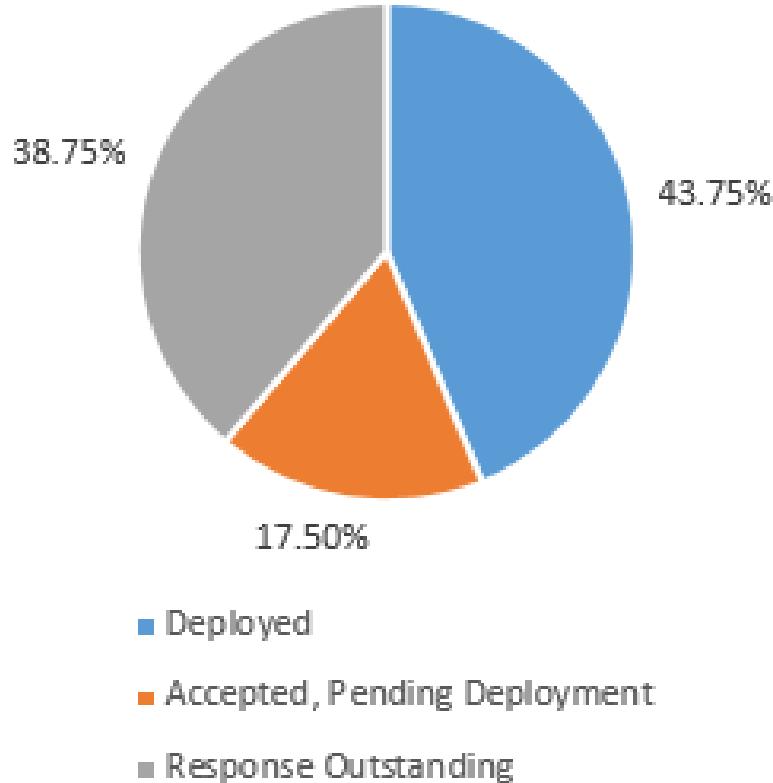
- Most services have received their initial allocation of 2 weeks' worth of gowns and masks.
- Reordering process can take 2 weeks.
- Services should contact the Contact Point ASAP if they have less than a 2-week supply.
- Larger allocation of PPE will depend on storage.
- Small supply of gloves and eyewear.



# RATs

- MHC collaboration with Department of Communities (DoC).
- Disseminated 59,000+ RATs to MHC funded services via DoC.
- Not for surveillance or prevention at the time.
- New Dept of Health [Guidance for use of RATs in the Workplace](#)





## Devices

- 164 units offered to 26 MH & AOD residential providers across 86 sites
- 13 have taken up the offer (94 devices), 1 declined and 12 have yet to respond
- Devices not taken up by 28/03/22 will be available for isolating residents

# Department of Communities and WACOSS – Cleaning

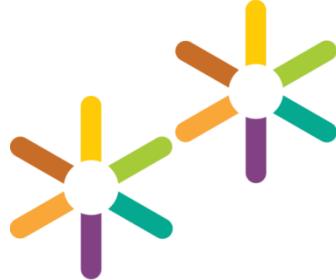


Cleaning Reimbursement portal is [live](#)

## Eligibility Criteria

- Not-for-profit community service with a WA Government contract, providing services to vulnerable community members
- Cleaning is required in response to a positive COVID case
- Recommended – Use TGA approved products
- Organisations to follow the CHO cleaning guidelines
- Funding available on a reimbursement basis on the provision of receipts and meeting the eligibility criteria
- No limit on number of times an organisation can claim as long as the claim meets the eligibility criteria

# Department of Communities and WACOSS – Cleaning



## Restrictions

- Not to be used for reimbursement for regular cleaning
- Not for Aged care or NDIS federally funded programs or individual NDIS care packages
- Claims are valid from 14/01/2022 and are ongoing while funds available

## Further Information

- Email: [info@wacoss.org.au](mailto:info@wacoss.org.au)  
[TGA approved products](#) | [CHO cleaning guidelines](#)
- Link : <https://www.wacoss.org.au/covid-19-cleaning-reimbursement-scheme/>



# **Department of Communities and WACOSS**

## **– Community Services Surge Pool**



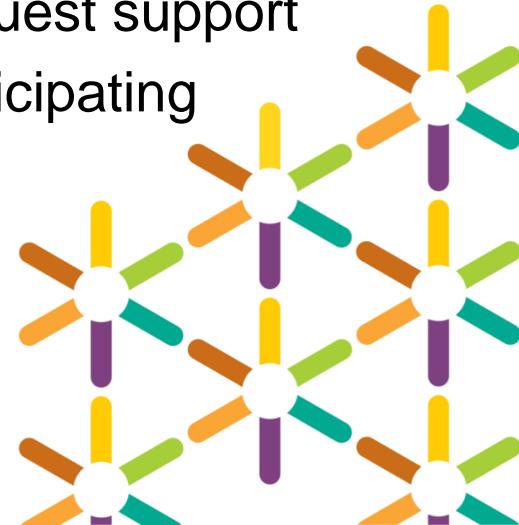
### Background

- Eastern states' social services sector saw significant impact to service delivery due to Omicron
- The development of a Community Services Surge Pool (CSSP) has the potential to mitigate the impact to clients and social services
- WACOSS developed resources and systems to enable inter-organisational secondments, and will be the 'match-maker' between those needing a surge force and those with capacity to send staff on external secondment

# Department of Communities and WACOSS – Community Services Surge Pool

## How it will work

- An organisation realises that they lack staff due to COVID and will be unable to operate a critical service
- The organisation contacts CSSP WACOSS to request support
- CSSP WACOSS reaches out to the Group of Participating organisations
- A willing organisation is identified
- Staff are sent across
- Follow ups



# **Department of Communities and WACOSS – Community Services Surge Pool**

## Benefits of the CSSP

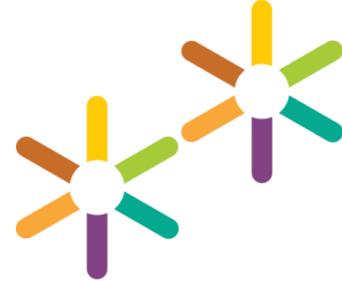
- Clients to continue receiving support, irrespective of workforce disruptions
- Organisations access to additional workforce for immediate deployment
- Contributing organisations can manage human resources more effectively

## Next steps

- We have developed the resources and systems to enable this initiative, but success is dependent on organisations to reach out and register with WACOSS.
- If you are interested to contribute to, or draw from, the Surge Pool, please visit:  
<https://www.wacoss.org.au/community-sector-surge-pool/>

**WACOSS Surge Workforce Contact:** [milan@wacoss.org.au](mailto:milan@wacoss.org.au)

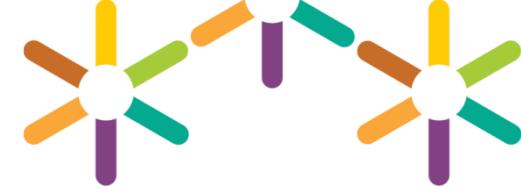
# Homeless Healthcare (HHC)



- We provide a GP service for people experiencing homelessness in the community and hospital settings
- Have a 20 bed Medical Respite Centre for those who are too sick for streets, but not sick enough for hospital.
- Expertise in trauma-informed care, AOD and mental health
- We work collaboratively with social services
- Composed of dedicated team of doctors, nurses and caseworkers

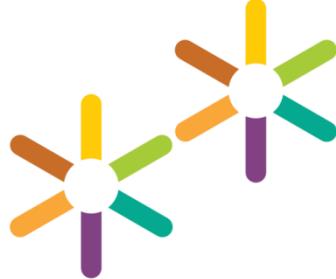


# MHC Contracted GP and Nursing Supports



- Primarily physical healthcare however, HHC GPs and Nurses are all very mental health aware
- Mobile vaccination services available
- Face to face support for hostels with known positive COVID case(s)
- Telehealth also available
- Support to hostel residents in isolation accommodation is also available
- Available from 8.30am to 1pm, Monday to Friday
- **Referral Process** – Hostel to call the MHC Hostel COVID Contact Point (6553 0666)

# Open Discussion



- Comments, questions or feedback?

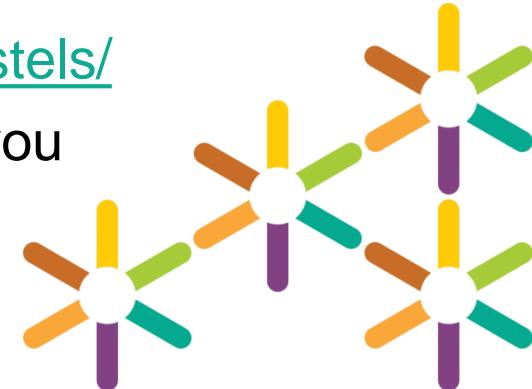
Coordination and  
Communications  
Centre

for Psychiatric Hostels



# Next fortnight

- Regular fortnightly discussions – next meeting is **Wednesday 6/04/22 at 2pm**
- Contact Point Number: 6553 0666
- Email: covidcoordinationcentre@mhc.wa.gov.au
- Information for Hostels webpage:  
<https://www.mhc.wa.gov.au/your-health-and-wellbeing/covid-19/information-for-psychiatric-hostels/>
- Today's slides and recording will be shared with you
- Thank you all for attending today





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Mental Health Commission

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*Western Australia.*



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Additional key performance indicators may be developed over the life of the Strategy as needed that focus on priority groups, drugs of concern and emerging issues.

