



Media release

Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services
Member for Woodridge
Hon Cameron Dick MP

September 11, 2017

Wanted: creative ideas to shine spotlight on youth mental health

Health and Ambulance Services Minister and Member for Woodridge Cameron Dick today announced that Logan will play host to the Positive Mindset Creative Arts Festival 2017.

The Positive Mindset Creative Arts Festival offers young people across the Metro South Health region the chance to compete in five arts categories – music, dance, drama, visual and media arts.

“Entries are now open for the Festival which helps raise awareness of the importance of good mental health in our youth,” Mr Dick said.

“Childhood and adolescence can be a difficult time, and we know that preventing the onset of mental health problems and early intervention can reduce the impact and severity of illness across a person’s lifetime.

“Schools are invited to take part in this friendly competition designed to foster creative talent and transform the ways people talk about and deal with mental health.”

Mr Dick said the Palaszczuk Government was committed to delivering contemporary and responsive mental health and addictions services for children and young people.

“More than 70% of mental illnesses will emerge for the first time by the age of 25 years,” he said.

“That’s why it is equally important to work to promote positive mental health in the community.

“Our Government is allocating 25 per cent of our \$350 million five year plan for mental health, alcohol and drug services, *Connecting Care to Recovery* towards new services for children and young people.”

The Festival centres around three main themes for students, create, connect and chat.

Create

Being creative helps you to keep a positive mindset.

Connect

Your community will support you during difficult times. Stay connected to stay positive.

Chat

Do you have a friend who just doesn’t want to hang out anymore? A friend whose smiley face is now a frown? Sometimes just having a chat in person or on the phone is the first step towards helping them feel better. You can make a difference!

Students will also have their work featured in an art exhibition and participate in the Grand



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Final event at the Logan Entertainment Centre on 11 October 2017, during Queensland Mental Health Week.

Mr Dick said he was looking forward to seeing the community's talent on display during the Festival. For more information about the festival visit <http://metrosouth.health.qld.gov.au/arts-festival>.

If you or someone you know needs support you can phone 13 HEALTH or Lifeline on 13 11 14.

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