



St James

Transitional Care Unit Fact Sheet

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How common are mental health issues?

Almost half of the Perth population will experience a mental health issue in their lifetime, and one in five people have experienced a common issue such as anxiety in the previous 12 months.

Many people experiencing mental health issues can be faced with a shortage of transitional care services after hospitalisation, when returning back to their lives in the community. At the same time, other people who are currently living in the community and experiencing mental illness are missing out on the support they need. Ultimately, this increases the pressure on our hospitals and limits the care which can be provided.

2

What is the St James Transitional Care Unit?

The St James Transitional Care Unit is an innovative approach to mental health care by the Western Australian government.

It will provide an urgently needed residential service for mental health consumers, while supporting them to return to participating and contributing to their communities. The unique program focusses on meaningfully engaging with and contributing to the community. This includes return to work activities and volunteering.

Community-based care options are shown to provide better long-term outcomes in consumer's mental health recovery journey.

3

How many people will reside there?

The service will accommodate up to 40 adults aged 18-64 years. It will offer residential mental health staged recovery services for those experiencing mental health issues.

Consumer residents will work on individual recovery goals needed for independent living, work and/or study. Consumers are expected to be on-site for two to four weeks, with longer stays for approximately six months.

4

Information about the building

Works are being completed to make the facility fit-for-purpose, and the building footprint will not be altered. As such, there should be minimal noise and traffic impacts during the refurbishment process.

Measures have been put in place to minimise any potential increased traffic flow around the facility. These include restricted visiting hours limited to evenings and on weekends. A new one-way traffic management layout with pick-up / drop-off zones will improve onsite traffic flow. Dedicated visitor parking and staff parking bays have also been allocated, and there is convenient access to public transport links.

5

What will make this a success?

St James Transitional Care Unit is a community-based model of care staffed by specialised mental health clinicians and a peer support workforce. It will have strong links with the local community, hospital and community-based mental health services, and primary health care, to ensure continuity of care for consumer residents.

The service will be recovery-focused and person-centred. It represents a fundamental shift from treating symptoms to coaching people to develop a life of meaning and purpose for themselves.

It fills an important gap in supporting residents with mental health issues who may require additional supports to transition home from hospital admission or to help them stay in the community and avoid emergency department presentation or hospital admission.

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Your support

We anticipate that having consumers recovering from mental health issues living locally will promote social acceptance and inclusion.

We urge the community to embrace the new purpose of what was previously an aged care facility, to now providing care to another important social group in our community.

Need more information?

Please get in touch to share your questions, feedback and suggestions.

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Right care
Right place

