



Pru Goward

Minister for Family and Community Services

Minister for Social Housing

Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

MEDIA RELEASE

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NSW GOVERNMENT COMMITTED TO REDUCING YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

The NSW Government has committed \$13.9 million to support vulnerable children and young people at risk of homelessness access support 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Minister for Family and Community Services and Social Housing Pru Goward made the announcement ahead of speaking at today's Youth Homelessness Matters Day forum.

"The Premier has made reducing youth homelessness a personal priority and today's announcement means that anyone under 24 can continue to access vital support services any time of the day," Ms Goward said.

"Homelessness disrupts the lives of young people, affecting their education, friendships and mental health.

"This funding extension means children and young people in crisis can access a bed and round the clock support – importantly, it means that every youth crisis refuge continues to have an open door."

In 2016-17, more than 18,936 young people aged between 15 and 24 were helped by specialist homelessness services in NSW.

The NSW Government is investing in a range of youth homelessness services including:

- \$12 million for the Premier's Youth Initiative
- \$9.9 million for the Homeless Youth Assistance Program
- \$48.7 million for specialist youth homelessness services
- \$4 million for Rent choice Youth

The 2017/18 Budget included a record \$1.1 billion to support people experiencing homelessness and improve services for social housing tenants.

MEDIA: Benjamin Flores | 0428 577 285