



SYSTEM REFORM: WHERE TO INVEST?

CONNIE DIGOLIS

CEO AT THE MENTAL HEALTH COUNCIL OF TASMANIA

**THE FAILURE IN
OUR MENTAL
HEALTH SERVICE IS
IN NOT DOING
MORE SOONER.
WHERE ARE WE
GOING WRONG?**

"If you offer early treatment, the person's life can be preserved, their trajectory, their social world and their prospects can be safeguarded. If you wait for five or ten years [...] a critical period of life has passed them by."

- Professor Patrick McGorry

WE MUST CHANGE THE WAY WE DELIVER MENTAL HEALTH CARE. THE ALTERNATIVE IS A SYSTEM WHICH WILL:

- Focus on integration, prevention and community-based intervention
- Steer people away rather than towards our hospitals and ED's
- Encourage early recognition, access and referral
- Deliver co-designed and co-delivered services, with the needs of consumers and carers taking priority



WHERE IS THE SUPPORT TO SEE THIS HAPPEN?

The vision is for a mental health system that:

- Enables recovery
- Prevents and detects mental illness early
- Ensures that all Australians with a mental illness can access effective and appropriate treatment and community support to enable them to participate fully in the community

(5th National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Plan)





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**"A PERSON'S ACCESS TO
TREATMENT SHOULD NOT
DEPEND UPON THE
RESOURCES THEY HAVE
ACCESS TO."**

- MENTAL HEALTH CONSUMER



WHAT COULD SYSTEM REFORM LOOK LIKE?

- Primary focus on prevention and early intervention
- Community based support models
- 24/7 access to a range of support options away from hospitals
- An integrated stepped model of care – one system, one service
- Access to clear, current information to support service navigation and referral pathways





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**“WHEN IT COMES TO HEALTH FUNDING,
THE SMART MONEY IS ON PREVENTING
HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS IN THE FIRST
PLACE, IF WE FEEL THE SOLUTION IS JUST
TO HAVE A RENOVATION OF A BUILDING,
THEN CLEARLY SOMETHING HASN'T BEEN
UNDERSTOOD.”**

- DR BASTIAN SEIDEL, RACGP