Partnerships for Community Mental Health
Part 1

Australia

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Community Mental Health Promotion in Australia

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COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH IN AUSTRALIA

Australia recognises the importance of having a well integrated, coordinated and effective mental health system.

- Access to mental health services across the spectrum of illnesses and life span
- Focus on prevention and early intervention
- Mental illness is more than a health issue – recovery needs to integrate social support as well as clinical support
- Australia is prioritising measures to improve the social participation of people with mental illness

Mental health reform is a priority for the Australian Government

- Appointment of first Federal Minister for Mental Health, the Hon Mark Butler MP
- 2011-12 Budget: $2.2 billion Delivering National Mental Health Reform package
Delivering National Mental Health Reform Budget package includes a range of initiatives which will contribute to reform in the community mental health sector:

- National Mental Health Commission
- Ten Year Roadmap for Mental Health Reform

Australian mental health promotion activities

- Beyondblue – the national depression initiative
- National Mental Health Stigma Summit
- Mental Health First Aid
Australian mental health promotion activities

- National Survey of Mental Health Literacy and Stigma
- National Online Mental Health Portal
  - ~$14.4 million over five years
  - easy one-stop access to evidence-based psychological therapy for more than 45,000 people
- Virtual Clinic
- e-Mental Central Support Centre
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Further information