

Media Release

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, 11 August 2021

NCOSS WELCOMES INVESTMENT IN SOCIAL SERVICES SECTOR

The peak body for social services in NSW, NCOSS, has welcomed the NSW Government's \$10 million investment in the sector, which will work to support frontline services throughout the state.

As part of the investment, NCOSS will receive \$1 million to support resilience building across the sector for emergency responses and to convene a symposium for health and community service NGOs.

This most recent \$10 million investment is part of the third tranche of funding under the \$50 million Social Sector Transformation Fund (SSTF).

NCOSS CEO Joanna Quilty said the funding will allow NCOSS to ramp up its work with frontline services supporting those most in need.

"Throughout the pandemic, frontline services across NSW have played a vitally important role in ensuring the most vulnerable are supported," Ms Quilty said.

"These services know their local communities, understand where the pressure points are and what resources are needed, but too often there is a disconnect between the frontline services and the decision-makers.

"NCOSS has been working hard with these organisations in areas hardest hit by the pandemic, like Fairfield, to help them resolve issues, identify gaps and act as conduit to government.

"This funding will allow us to ramp this activity up and, ultimately, better support those NGOs that are doing the heavy lifting right across the state.

"We will also be able to develop resources, training, guidance and other ongoing supports so that our sector is well prepared, and it's important role capitalised on, for future disasters - be it COVID, floods, bushfires or other natural disasters."

Ms Quilty said the symposium will bring the sector together to reflect on the unprecedented events of 2020 and 2021; share experiences and lessons learnt, including the lessons learned from projects funded through the SSTF; and identify and prepare for future challenges.

For more information about NCOSS, visit www.ncoss.org.au

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