Community Care Unit

What is a Community Care Unit?

A Community Care Unit (CCU) is an accommodation facility for adult mental health consumers who are in recovery but require additional support and life skills to successfully transition to independent community living.

CCUs are situated in the community to simulate an independent living environment, with the added benefit of providing 24 hour, 7 day clinical care and supervised residential rehabilitation for adults over 18 years of age.

The service aims to promote an individual's recovery from mental illness by providing opportunities that maximise their strengths and potential.

The clinical team supports consumers to increase their capacity and confidence to function within the community.

CCUs are not a new concept and have been operating in other parts of Queensland and interstate for many years with very positive outcomes for both consumers and local communities.

Where will the CCU be located?

The CCU is being constructed on Wallace Street and Hoare Street in Manunda. The main entrance is on Wallace Street.

How big is the complex?

The new architecturally designed facility will comprise of 20 one-bedroom villas with some common rooms and parking areas. The residential style facility is designed to be visually appealing and blend in with existing infrastructure.

Who will be staying at the CCU?

Consumers who will benefit from participating in this recovery based rehabilitation program are not acutely unwell but require more support than is generally available to them at home.

These consumers could be male, female, young adults, mothers, fathers, grand-parents, employed, unemployed, skilled or unskilled. It depends on their home situation and how advanced they are through their individual recovery programs.

Please visit the Cairns Community Care Unit website for more information at www.health.qld.gov.au/cairns_hinterland/html/ccu-home.asp
Location of the CCU

The CCU is located within the community as the CCU residents have reached a point in their recovery that enables them to integrate back into the community.

Their phase of rehabilitation requires interaction in a social setting and a move toward increased independence. Only consumers meeting these circumstances will be referred to the facility.

Businesses

Local businesses may be positively influenced by the unit.

Businesses providing amenities and other services will find that they will get increased patronage from the CCU as has occurred with similar facilities elsewhere in Queensland and interstate.

Will neighbours be affected by the CCU?

The CCU will be similar to all manner of unit complexes - it will fit in with the current aesthetic of Cairns and will have a variety of people who reside there from all walks of life.

Research shows that neighbours of existing CCUs are unaffected by activities at facilities. Feedback suggests that the 24 hour presence of staff at the facility has the added benefit of security for local residents.

What type of illnesses are residents of the CCU recovering from?

The CCU does not cater for specific mental illnesses but is focused on an individual's rehabilitation and social interaction, complemented by 24 hour clinical support.

How is the 24 hour support provided?

The CCU is staffed by clinicians 24 hours a day providing therapeutic interventions with medication management, group meetings, advice, independent living education and clinical risk analysis.

What additional support is provided?

The presence of daily 24 hour support means that assistance is always available. There is access to the Cairns Hospital Emergency Department for more acute interventions.

Similar to any accommodation complex, police, fire and ambulance are available by calling 000.

Are there other facilities like this already operating?

There are several similar facilities in and around Brisbane and a large number throughout Australia.

There are CCUs located at Coorparoo, Mountain Creek (Sunshine Coast), Redcliffe-Caboolture, Strathpine and Windsor.

For further information please contact

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