

Resolve

Improving well-being for people experiencing a mental health illness

The Resolve Social Benefit Bond aims to improve the well-being of individuals experiencing a mental health illness. It is a community-based program that will work with approximately 530 mental health patients in the Western New South Wales and Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health Districts over seven years.

Each participant will be provided with comprehensive, recovery-oriented mental health support over two years, tailored to his or her needs. Participants will be supported by Resolve peer workers who have a lived experience of a mental health illness as well as have access to a 24-hour 'warm' phone line.

Background

Nearly half of all Australians aged 16 to 85 will experience a common mental health illness, such as anxiety, depression and substance abuse.¹ Approximately 2000 individuals spent between 40 and 270 days as a mental health inpatient in NSW hospitals between 2012 and 2015.

People with severe mental health illnesses experience poor social outcomes, compared to their peers. They also access higher levels of government services across the health, justice and communities sectors, which can be costly for the state.

The NSW Government allocated \$1.8 billion to mental health services in 2016–17.

Outcome measurement

The Resolve program aims to reduce hospital use by participants by 25 per cent compared to a control group. Outcomes will be measured and independently certified throughout the investment.

NSW Health and an independent evaluator will measure the outcomes throughout the investment.

¹ Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2015.

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Social Impact Investment

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Performance

The program commenced in October 2017.

In March 2019, Social Ventures Australia published the first [Resolve Social Benefit Bond: Annual Investor Report](#).

Investment type: Social Benefit Bond

Social Benefit Bond Principal: \$7 million

Contract value: \$21 million*

Term: 7.75 years (commencing in October 2017)

Parties:

- » Service provider – Flourish Australia
- » Government agency – NSW Health
- » Financial intermediary – Social Ventures Australia

* Expected contract value includes the social benefit bond principal of \$7 million

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