



13 June 2018

Warm support for new investment in addiction treatment facilities

The key agencies involved in today's Government announcement of a \$16.7 million investment in new addiction treatment facilities for Aucklanders have warmly welcomed the initiative.

The new funding will see extra space added to Auckland City Mission's HomeGround development, paving the way for the relocation of the city's only dedicated inpatient medical detoxification service to this new, purpose-built facility.

The Chief Executives of Auckland City Mission, Waitemata DHB and Auckland DHB said the investment would enable the highest level of ongoing care and support to those seeking to overcome alcohol and drug-dependency issues, who are among the most marginalised and vulnerable people in our community.

The Community Alcohol and Drug Service (CADS), operated by Waitemata DHB for the wider Auckland region, currently runs the city's inpatient medical detoxification service from the Pitman House facility in Point Chevalier. It is proposed that staff from this part of the CADS team would work from the HomeGround site once construction is completed in 2020.

"This investment is incredibly significant for our redevelopment and will assist us to achieve positive outcomes for people with high and complex needs by ensuring people receive integrated support to address the health and social issues they face," says Auckland City Missioner Chris Farrelly.

Waitemata DHB CEO Dr Dale Bramley said: "The opportunity for our mental health clinicians and other specialist staff to provide medical detoxification care in a modern, purpose-built facility right alongside other services offered by the City Mission is a major step forward in how this type of treatment is delivered.

"This initiative will help to address the sustained high demand in Auckland for detoxification services. It also presents the opportunity for a new co-located model of care with other services that has the potential to reduce unnecessary ED presentations and hospital admissions."

Auckland DHB CEO Ailsa Claire said the investment recognised the essential contribution Auckland City Mission makes to the health and wellbeing of Aucklanders.

“Auckland DHB is proud to have a long-standing partnership with the City Mission that supports their work tackling all elements of poverty and homelessness in our community. The HomeGround development is a vital component of this broader programme of work and will make a tangible difference to those who most need their care and support.”

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