

## MEDIA RELEASE

15 August 2025

### NO ACTION 12 MONTHS ON FROM REPORT REVEALING 460,000 PEOPLE MISSING OUT ON COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS

16 August 2025 marks the first anniversary of the release of the [Analysis of unmet need for psychosocial supports outside of the National Disability Insurance Scheme](#) (Unmet Needs Report). Commissioned by the Australian, State, and Territory governments under the [National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Agreement](#), the Unmet Needs Report quantifies the number of people with moderate and high-need mental health challenges missing out on community-based mental health supports (also known as psychosocial supports).

Psychosocial supports are non-clinical, community-based supports which help people living with mental health challenges live well and safely in their community.

Under the National Agreement all governments hold a shared responsibility for addressing the psychosocial support gap. In the three years since the Agreement was ratified the only thing they have delivered was the Unmet Needs Report.

MIFA CEO Tony Stevenson said the lack of action to address the gap is inexcusable.

‘Since 2022, the only thing they have done is commission the Unmet Needs Report. In the 12 months since the report was released, they have not taken a single concrete step to address the gap.’

‘In 2019, three effective community support programs were axed and their funding folded into the NDIS. Since then, there has been a gap in community supports for people with moderate and high-need mental health challenges,’ he explained.

‘In 2020, the Productivity Commission identified 150,000 people as missing out on these vital supports. In 2022 Australia’s health ministers accepted shared responsibility for addressing the gap. In 2024 we learned there were nearly half a million people missing out on these supports. Since then – nothing.’

‘This anniversary should not pass without some hard questions to our elected representatives on their lack of action on this matter.

‘MIFA calls on all governments to:

- Expand existing services by 30 October 2025
- Establish a Lived Experience-led co-design team to advise on a fit for purpose psychosocial support service supply chain by 30 October 2025
- Fully address the gap by 1 July 2030.’

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