

SAVE THE BARRETT ADOLESCENT CENTRE

and save the lives of young people with severe mental health issues

Click TAKE ACTION NOW to **HELP**

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Everyone can do something ...

This is rare opportunity for each of us to do something truly meaningful. An email, a tweet, a post on Facebook might not seem like much. But *if enough people do it*, those that hold the power to ensure a future for young suffers of severe mental illness will have to listen.

WE NEED A COMMITMENT TO EXTENDED, IN-PATIENT CARE WITH ON-SITE SCHOOLING from 2014 onwards.

Acute care and community-based options are essential. But WITHOUT one or more LONG-TERM, RESIDENTIAL options where SPECIALISED ON-SITE PRACTITIONERS and EDUCATORS can offer flexible treatment and training, too many young sufferers of SEVERE MENTAL ILLNESS will end up feeling that they are hopeless cases. No one deserves that. So ...

Anyone, anywhere in the world, can:

Click here to
Take 1 minute
to
HELP

or

Email anyone you know (particularly people who live in Australia) with the link to this site – savebarrett.org or to the 1 Minute to Help page

Tweet the link to this site – savebarrett.org – or to the [1 Minute to Help page](#) and continue to use the hashtag #savebarrett wherever possible

Post a link on Facebook to this site – savebarrett.org – or to the 1 Minute to Help page

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you can:

Email the Queensland Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian at
[redacted] or write to PO Box 15217
Brisbane City East QLD 4002.

Email the Queensland Health Minister Lawrence Springborg
at [REDACTED] or write to him at GPO Box 48, Brisbane Qld 4001.

Email the Queensland **Premier Campbell Newman** at [REDACTED] or write to him at PO Box 15185, City East Qld 4002.

Contact the Queensland Mental Health Commissioner Dr Lesley van Schoubroek at
t: 07 3405 9772 f: 07 3405 9780 or 0638 415 885

at: PO Box 13027 George Street QLD 4003
to: [REDACTED] (07) 3669 2000 (07) 3669 2000

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t: 07 3405 9772 f: 07 3405 9780 m: 0438 415 665
a: PO Box 13027 George Street QLD 4003
e: [redacted] w: www.qmhc.qld.gov.au

Email the **Chief Executive, Children's Health Queensland Dr Peter Steer** at or write to him at GPO Box 48 Brisbane QLD 4001 Australia
([Background info doc with more detailed content suggestions here.](#))

Email the **Executive Director Mental Health & Specialised Services, West Moreton Hospital and Health Service**, Sharon Kelly at [redacted] or write to Ms Kelly at PO Box 73, Ipswich Qld 4305.

Email the **Chief Executive, West Moreton Hospital and Health Service, Lesley Dwyer**
at [REDACTED] or write to Ms Dwyer at PO Box 73, Ipswich
Qld 4305.

Email the Queensland Education Minister John-Paul Langbroek at [redacted]

(and copy/cc the Education Department at [REDACTED]
or write to him at PO Box 15033, City East QLD 4002.

(If you're a Queensland resident), email/write to **your local MP** by going to <http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/members/current/list>
(or you can find who your representative is at <http://www.qld.gov.au/about/contact-government/contacts/local-mp/>)

Your own words are most meaningful but if you need some sample text, you can use any/all of the following:

I am writing following the state government's announcement that it will be closing the Barnett Adolescent Centre. I believe that a residential facility that offers care and treatment for young people with severe mental health issues will always be needed in Queensland and that the government should **FULLY** implement the recommendations of the Expert Clinical Reference Group which addresses the needs of young sufferers of severe mental illness and their families. Without a long-term residential centre which offers treatment, education and support, lives already compromised will be in further turmoil, without any hope of improvement. Please do what you can to ensure an **IMMEDIATE PUBLIC COMMITMENT TO EXTENDED, PATIENT CARE with ON-SITE SCHOOLING** for the young people of Queensland from 2014 onwards.

Email Australia's Federal Health Minister, *t.b.a. under the new incoming government*

Email Australia's Federal Minister for Mental Health *t.b.a. under the new incoming government*

Again your own words can make the most impact but if you'd prefer a starting point it could be something like:

I am writing to you due to the announcement by the Queensland state government of the closure of the unique inpatient facility for young people with severe mental health issues – the Barrett Adolescent Centre. This life-saving treatment and education facility will close in 2014 and your support as the Federal Minister for Health/Mental Health and Ageing to ensure an **IMMEDIATE PUBLIC COMMITMENT TO EXTENDED, PATIENT CARE with ON-SITE SCHOOLING** would be invaluable. Please do what you can to make sure that there will always be facilities offered comprehensive treatment and education options – as the Barrett Centre has throughout the last 30 years – for those who so desperately need it.

... and encourage everyone you know to
TAKE ACTION NOW!

'IN THE MEDIA' PAGE AT savebarrett.org - DECEMBER 2014

NEWS IN THE MEDIA TAKE ACTION NOW HOME

IN THE MEDIA

5 December 2014, *ABC News 7:30 program*
Coroner announces inquest into deaths of former Barrett Centre patients

5 December 2014, *ABC News website*
Coronial inquest into teenagers' deaths after mental health facility closure

19 November 2014, *Northern Daily Leader*
Barrett Centre move to Redland canned over koala laws

11 November 2014, *ABC TV News*
Parents request meeting with Director General to discuss care for ex-Barrett Teens

7 November 2014, *ABC News 7:30 program*
Health Department admits it failed three teenage patients

7 November 2014, *ABC News website*
Queensland Government warned against closing Barrett Adolescent Psychiatric Centre at Wacol, Brisbane

5 November 2014, *ABC TV News*
Review into the Barrett Centre's Closure less than ideal

5 November 2014, *ABC News website*
Mental Health Facility Closure Led to Incidents, report finds

5 November 2014, *'Drive' (Rebecca Levingston) 612 ABC Brisbane*
An Exclusive Update on the Barrett Centre Closure

15 September 2014, *Brisbane Times*
Labor promises new mental health centre for Townsville

30 August 2014, *Radio 4ZZZ*
Labor commits to re-opening mental health facility if re-elected

24 August 2014, *Brisbane Times*
Palaszczuk: Queensland ALP will right LNP wrongs

8 August, 2014, *ABC News 7:30 program*
Parent plead for re-think on adolescent mental healthcare

8 August 2014, *ABC News website*
Barrett Adolescent Centre closure: Parents call for answers after residential youth mental health facility shuts doors

8 August 2013, *Brisbane Times*
Queensland aims for 'Rolls Royce' Youth Mental Health Plan
(See 8 August post on News page for summary)

4 August 2014, *'Evenings' (Rebecca Levingston), 612 ABC Brisbane and ABC Local Radio:*
The State of Health in Queensland with Minister Lawrence Springborg
(The Barrett Centre issue is discussed between 15:07 and 18:32)

26 July 2014, *Radio 4ZZZ*
Call for Inquiry regarding closure of Barrett Centre

19 July 2014, *Brisbane Times*
Petition calls for probe into Barrett Centre closure

17 July 2014, *Brisbane Times*
Barrett Centre suicide link to be investigated: Springborg

15 July 2014, *Brisbane Times*
Call for Inquiry after two Barrett Centre Suicides

9 April 2014, *ABC News website*
Queensland Health to roll out mobile youth mental health outreach services

21 February 2014, *ABC News website*
Call for north Qld to get extended youth mental health centre

31 October 2013, *'The World Today', ABC Local Radio and Radio National:*
Parents fear looming closure of teens' mental health centre
Click [here](#) to go to the program's blogsite where a transcript and the full audio are available

29 October 2013, *ABC news website*
Parents fear being stranded by mental health centre closure

29 October 2013, *'The World Today', ABC Local Radio and Radio National:*
Parents warn closure of mental health centre dangerous for teenagers
Click [here](#) to go to the program's blogsite where a transcript and the full audio are available

30 September 2013, *612 ABC Brisbane and ABC Local Radio:*
Dr Lesley van Schoubroeck: Queensland's Mental Health
Click [here](#) to go to the program's blogsite where the full audio is available
(The Barrett Centre issue is discussed between 11:17 and 16:08)

13 September 2013, *Rockhampton Morning Bulletin*
Springborg to Task on Facilities for the Young Mentally Ill

12 September 2013, *Brisbane Times*
Centre's Future Must Be Assured: Opposition

17 August 2013, *The Source News*
Fight for the Barrett Adolescence Centre Continues

8 August 2013, *Radio 4ZZZ*
Queensland Health defends closure of Barrett Adolescent Centre and Closure of Queensland adolescent mental health centre causes controversy
Click [here](#) to go to the program's blogsite where the full audio is available.

8 August 2013, *Queensland Times:*
State closure of Barrett Adolescent Centre is a "betrayal"

7 August 2013, *'The World Today', ABC Local Radio and Radio National:*
Queensland's only live-in mental health care for teenagers to be closed
Click [here](#) to go to the program's website where a transcript and the full audio are available.

7 August 2013, *Brisbane Times*
Barrett Centre patients' futures up in the air

7 August 2013, *612 ABC Brisbane and ABC Local Radio:*
Calls to ABC Radio reacting to announcement of Barrett Centre's closure
Click [here](#) to go to the program's blogsite where the full audio is available.

7 August 2013, *Brisbane Times:*
Barrett Adolescent Centre to Close Next Year

7 August 2013, *The Australian:*
Qld to Close Mental Health Unit for Teens

6 August 2013, *612 ABC Brisbane and ABC Local Radio:*
The Health Minister announces the closure of the Wacol facility and Shadow Health Minister, Jo-Ann Miller responds.
Click [here](#) to go to the program's blogsite where the full interviews are available.

31 July 2013, *612 ABC Brisbane and ABC Local Radio:*
Interviews with a Current Patient at Barrett Adolescent Centre and her Grandmother/Guardian.
Click [here](#) to go to the program's blogsite where the full interviews are available.

31 July 2013, *Brisbane Times:*
Barrett Centre to Remain Open, says Queensland Mental Health Commissioner Lesley van Schoubroeck

30 July 2013, *612 ABC Brisbane and ABC Local Radio:*
Extensive Coverage of the Adolescent Mental Health issue with a focus on the Barrett Centre with Evenings presenter, Rebecca Levingston.
Click [here](#) to go to the program's blogsite where the series of interviews is available.

30 July 2013, *Brisbane Times:*
Parents in Dark over Youth Mental Health Centre

16 July 2013, *612 ABC Brisbane and ABC Local Radio:*
Queensland Health Minister Lawrence Springborg discussed the Barrett Centre with Evenings presenter, Rebecca Levingston.
Click [here](#) to go to the program's blogsite where the full interview is available.
(The Barrett Centre is discussed between 10:14 and 12:05.)

25 March 2013, *Queensland Times:*
Mental Health Site has No Guarantee of Future

17 Dec, 2012, *The Satellite:*
Future of Adolescent Centre Still Uncertain

7 Dec 2012, *Brisbane Times:*
Experts' recommendations on youth centre's future 'window dressing'

11 Dec, *'The Project', Channel 10:*
Teen Mental Health Centre in Trouble

5 Dec 2102, *Queensland Times:*
Our Troubled Youth Double-Crossed

20 Nov 2012, *Brisbane Times:*
Medical Professionals Back Threatened Facility

19 Nov 2012, *Queensland Times:*
Fears Mental Health Centre at Wacol May Close

8 Nov 2012, *Herald Sun and Courier-Mail:*
(same story then ran on [news.com.au](#) on 10 Nov, 2012)
Queensland Child Protection Inquiry told Barrett Adolescent Centre School is to Close

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