

### NEW VEHICLE EXPANDS REACH OF T25 CLINIC YOUTH HEALTH SERVICE

This Friday, the ACT Minister for Health, Rachel Stephen-Smith will officially launch an expanded service that will provide young people across the Canberra region with improved access to free health and wellbeing support.

Aurora Gungahlin Rotary Club, supported by contributions from Gungahlin Rotary Club and Hall Rotary Club, alongside generous support from Snow Foundation, John James Foundation and Lennox Motors, has donated an eight-seat vehicle to support the work of T25 Clinic.

The Rotary Club of Aurora Gungahlin has a long history of supporting its local community with an emphasis on the young and those in need. When the Club heard that Directions Health Services needed a van to support its T25 program, they saw this is a further opportunity to help improve the health of young people in our community. It fits well with the Club's other programs to provide: education scholarships, leadership training, work experience, anti-bullying initiatives, youth crime prevention, support for disabled youth and relief for mothers from abusive backgrounds, and more.

T25 Clinic is a free, nurse-led health and wellbeing service for young people aged 14-25. Previously known as Teen Clinic, the service is delivered by Directions Health Services in partnership with Woden Community Service, providing a local and trusted primary health and wellbeing service designed specifically for young people. Young people can drop in to any of our weekly clinics at Gungahlin, Belconnen, Dickson, Woden, Lanyon and Queanbeyan.

The T25 team, which includes a GP, nurses, mental health and alcohol and other drug clinicians, a peer support worker and a youth worker, provides wrap-around, early intervention support tailored to each young person's needs. Through safe, confidential, and medically informed care, the service empowers young people to take charge of their health while offering reliable transport to appointments, outreach clinics and programs such as the T25 Youth Group, helping prevent serious risks including substance misuse, untreated STIs, unplanned pregnancy, and mental health crises, including suicide.

The donation of this vehicle reflects a strong community partnership and a shared commitment to ensuring young people can access the care they need, providing connection, improved health outcomes and brighter futures for young people across our region.

#### Quotes

"This vehicle removes one of the biggest barriers young people face when accessing healthcare – simply getting there. But it's about much more than transport. It's about connection, belonging and making sure young people feel supported to prioritise their health and wellbeing."

**Stephanie Stephens, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Directions Health Services**

"Strong communities are built on strong connections. By contributing this vehicle alongside our Rotary partners of Hall and Gungahlin, the Snow and John James Foundations, we're helping create opportunities for young people to stay connected, supported and healthy."

**John Platten, Vice President, Aurora Gungahlin Rotary Club**

"As a nurse, I see firsthand how difficult it can be for young people to access healthcare. Not because they don't want help, but because practical barriers like making appointments and transport get in the way. This vehicle helps remove that barrier and allows us to reach young people who might otherwise miss out on vital care."

**Sandy Lendrum, Nurse Practitioner & Team Leader, T25 Clinic**