



**Australian Government**  

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**Department of Health and Ageing**

**COAG Mental Health**  
*Increased Funding for the Mental Health Council of Australia*

**Why is this important?**

- The Commonwealth will provide an additional \$1.0 million over five years to the Mental Health Council of Australia (MHCA) to support the MHCA's role in promotion, education and provision of advice to the Commonwealth on mental illness in Australia.

**Who will benefit?**

- The MHCA is the peak non-government organisation representing the interests of the mental health sector in Australia, particularly consumers. This increased funding recognises the pressures that the increasing incidence of mental illnesses in the community creates. Through the MHCA, it will support mental health organisations to maintain their capacity to respond to changing community needs, and provide timely advice to government.

**What funding is the Government committing to the initiative?**

- This measure forms part of the Government's contribution to the COAG Mental Health package, as announced on 5 April 2006.
- The Government will provide an additional \$1.0 million over five years to the MHCA.

**What have we done in the past?**

- The MHCA has been funded under the Community Sector Support Scheme (CSSS) since 1998 and currently receives \$344,710 a year.

**When will the initiative conclude?**

- This is an ongoing initiative.