# Australian Election 2019 #youngfuturesmatter

Social media tool kit

## Suggested newsletter/web copy

### Australian voters demand better access to mental health services for young people

Orygen, the National Centre for Excellence in Youth Mental Health, is calling on Australians to contact their local candidates in the upcoming Australian election and ask them to prioritise providing care and support for young people with serious and complex mental health issues.

More than three-quarters of Australians agree that mental health should be a top priority for the next Australian Government, polling by Galaxy YouGov has shown. The polling, undertaken in March, also found that:

* Only 29% of Australians believe that we have good access to treatment for young people with mental illness
* Less than 15% of Australians have confidence that if a young family member or friend was struggling with mental health issues they would get the help they needed before it reached crisis point

Professor Patrick McGorry, executive director of Orygen, said the findings of the poll confirmed that young people, particularly those with complex mental health needs, were slipping through the cracks when it comes to accessing holistic, comprehensive and evidence-based youth-focussed services and treatments.



“Just as the burden and cost of supporting a young person who is mentally unwell falls largely on the shoulders of family members and friends, the cost and burden of a derailed mental health system falls on the shoulders of future Australian Governments,” Professor McGorry said.

Find out more and get involved here: <https://www.orygen.org.au/About/Federal-Election-2019>

## Suggested Facebook posts

* Polling commissioned by Orygen, the National Centre of Excellence in Youth Mental Health has found more than 88% of Australians agree that symptoms of mental ill-health should be treated early, as would be done with other illnesses. Yet thousands of young people are slipping through the cracks each year, unable to access the mental health care they require. Visit our website to find out how you can protect the futures of these young Australians: <https://bit.ly/2XDZ86q>
* 76% of Australians agree that mental health should be a top priority for the next Australian Government. Visit the Orygen website to find out how you can make sure youth mental health remains a priority for the next Australian Government. <https://bit.ly/2XDZ86q>
* Young people with untreated mental ill-health are more likely to experience homelessness and unemployment. Visit the Orygen website to find out how you can help protect these young futures <https://bit.ly/2XDZ86q>

Suggested tweets

* Almost half of young people identify mental health as the top issue facing Australia today. You can protect young futures by voting for youth mental health in the Australian election. Find out more: <https://bit.ly/2XDZ86q> #youngfuturesmatter #ausvotes
* There has been a 300% increase in the rates of young people experiencing high or very high levels of psychological stress in the past 12 years. You can help fix this by voting for youth mental health in the Australian election. Find out more: <https://bit.ly/2XDZ86q> #youngfuturesmatter #ausvotes
* Young people make up a quarter of all mental health-related emergency department presentations. Young people should get care before it reaches that point. You can help fix this by voting for youth mental health in the Australian election. Find out more: <https://bit.ly/2XDZ86q> #youngfuturesmatter #ausvotes
* 76% of Australians agree that mental health should be a top priority for the next Australian Government. Contact your local candidates today and find out if youth mental health is their priority too <https://bit.ly/2XDZ86q> #youngfuturesmatter #ausvotes
* #yp with untreated mental ill-health are more likely to experience homelessness and unemployment. Visit the Orygen website to find out how you can help protect these young futures<https://bit.ly/2XDZ86q> #youngfuturesmatter #ausvotes

Links  
<https://www.orygen.org.au/About/Federal-Election-2019> or <https://bit.ly/2XDZ86q>