

# MEDIA ALERT

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** March 9, 2022

## **Mental Health must be part of Queensland flood and pandemic recovery – if not now, When?**

The Queensland Alliance for Mental Health is calling for a whole-of-government approach to mental health supports in the wake of the SEQ floods and the COVID-19 pandemic.

“We know there was a mental health crisis even before the pandemic and natural disasters,” QAMH CEO Jennifer Black said.

“And funding for community mental health services in Queensland is one of the lowest per capita in the nation, still sitting at the same level that it was at in 1999.”

Ms Black will put these concerns to the Queensland Mental Health Select Committee Inquiry into the Opportunities to Improve Mental Health Outcome for Queenslanders **tomorrow**.

“The pandemic, floods and their repercussions for housing, employment and other social determinants must all be considered through a mental health lens,” Ms Black said.

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**The Queensland Alliance for Mental Health will appear at the Queensland Mental Health Select Committee Inquiry on Thursday March 10 at 11.15am.**

**Watch live on parliament house stream at:**

<https://tv.parliament.qld.gov.au/Committees?reference=C6307#parentVerticalTab8>

QAMH CEO Jennifer Black will be available for comment afterwards via phone.

## **MEDIA CONTACT**

Emma Griffiths  
Director – Advocacy and Communications  
Queensland Alliance for Mental Health  
**T:** 0439 971 080  
**E:** [egriffiths@qamh.org.au](mailto:egriffiths@qamh.org.au)