



Rachel Nolan MP

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\$371,000 to support Ipswich Drug Court participants

Ozcare has received a boost to help local residents get their lives back on track through the Drug Court program, thanks to a \$371,470 Queensland Government grant.

Members of Parliament Rachel Nolan (Ipswich) and Wayne Wendt (Ipswich West) joined together to welcome the triennial funding announcement.

The Drug Court and Accommodation Support pilot programs in Ipswich had been so successful they are now a permanent sentencing option," Ms Nolan said.

"The community also benefits from a reduction in drug-related crimes and offenders revisiting the justice system," she said.

Mr Wendt said during the pilot phase of the project, Ozcare has developed specialist knowledge, local support networks and a track record of helping people "kick the habit" and get their lives back on track.

"Awarding funding for the next three years is a step in the right direction, giving Ozcare the peace of mind to plan its programming and staffing for the next three years," he said.

Communities Minister Lindy Nelson-Carr said five organisations across Queensland would share in the triennial funding to provide accommodation and support to residents who don't have access to suitable housing.

"These organisations will provide safe, supported accommodation and support for families to give them a better chance of breaking the crime cycle," Ms Nelson-Carr said.

"Service providers like Ozcare will help participants develop the skills they need to live an independent, drug and crime-free life."