

PARKERVILLE CHILDREN AND YOUTH CARE

Statement by Member for Swan Hills

MR F.A. ALBAN (Swan Hills) [12.53 pm]: Over the past 113 years, Parkerville Children and Youth Care has been protecting and caring for the most vulnerable children and youth in our community. Many of these children and youth have suffered chronic histories of multiple abuse and display a range of trauma-related behaviours. Parkerville Children and Youth Care provides a therapeutic environment that utilises a range of professional services to children in their care and offers valuable outreach services and programs to the wider community for children, young people and families in need. The rich history behind Parkerville Children and Youth Care sees the organisation still connected to the original site founded by Sister Kate and Sister Mary. With many of the original buildings still standing, the out-of-home care team that works with the children and carers is located in the old school building. Part of the grant of \$232 000 received recently from Lotterywest will see the historic school renovated.

The grant awarded by Lotterywest will also go towards establishing a south west service centre for its therapeutic family services programs. South West Therapeutic Family Services provides a school-based support service in eight local schools in the area and provides a specialist psychology service for children, young people and families who have experienced abuse and trauma. The school-based support service program already works with more than 800 children. We thank Parkerville Children and Youth Centre for its many years of care for some of the most disadvantaged in our society.