Vox pops

We asked workers who support young people in Wodonga:

What do you want to see in the future for young people and their mental health and wellbeing?

"For young people to be consulted and have autonomy over how the Mental Health Service is delivered."
-- Savannah, Residential Care Worker

"I hope for enough resources across the community to ensure that no young person falls through the cracks."
-- Katy McCarron, Team Leader, CAMHS, Albury Wodonga Health

"Every young person deserves the chance to receive holistic mental health support so they can achieve their full potential. Young people in Wodonga need the government to invest further in an early intervention services and a local mental health inpatient service to provide intensive ongoing support because, at the moment, the nearest is in Melbourne."
-- Megan Hanley, Junction Support Services CEO

"That young people receive timely, holistic support - services often close too quickly."
-- Colleen, Program Manager

"To have more clinicians on the ground to support young people's mental health needs."
-- Shari Webb, Senior Clinician/Social Worker, CAMHS, Albury Wodonga Health

"More culturally specific services for Aboriginal young people including after school programs."
-- Taylor, Residential Care Worker

"A genuine sense of belonging in their community!"
-- Dom, Team Leader

"Streamlined, holistic care from an adequately funded and resourced system."
-- Jade, Case Manager

"To be able to gain access to services that will assist them to develop skills to positively manage their mental health as they make the journey into adulthood."
-- Ally, Case Manager
"Both mental health services across our community continue to work together so that no matter which service the young person makes contact with, they are supported to gain access from the service they most need, at the time they most need it."
-Lucie Shanahan, Executive Director Mental Health, Albury Wodonga Health

"Empathy, not labelling. Judgemental eyes do not help anyone."
— Chris, Case Manager

"That they genuinely feel they have a right to be treated with respect & safety and experience no further harm in respect to their mental health."
— Gayle Webber, Clinician/Social Worker, CAMHS, Albury Wodonga Health

"For clinical and community services to have the resources to provide a more intensive and person directed approach for young people. I would also love to see more young people involved in sports and other community groups and for the local communities to have support in making these groups as inclusive and accessible as possible."
— Jen, Program Manager

*I wish...*

"For young people to be able to seek and gain assistance whenever required, safely, within an inclusive, understanding and accepting community."
— Jacque, Community Worker

"I wish young people were more confident to reach out to each other if they suspect a peer is not travelling well."
— Zach, Case Manager

"My wish for young people is to get outside, breathe some fresh air and use your body."
— Tim, Outdoor Education Specialist