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## MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2019

### Federal Government Budget Response

## You haven't listened!

Families, friends and carers welcome any additional funding to improve access to mental health services. However we sit in disappointment as we delve into the budget papers looking for a response to our call to be heard.

There is no new funding to support unpaid mental health carers. We are at the frontline of Tasmania's mental health crisis and yet we don't see any recognition for our efforts.

It's great to hear rhetoric from politicians about the need to better support unpaid carers but there is no action.

Mental health carers are exhausted. We experience challenges with our own mental health and face barriers to accessing employment and education.

We hoped to see real support for mental health carers. Real support means more money for respite, easier access to finding and keeping a job and support services that meet our needs.

The cost of replacing our unpaid care is not affordable. We are not asking for the estimated \$13.2 billion per annum that Government would otherwise need to payout. We just need support!

Maxine Griffiths AM  
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### OUR VISION

Carers of people affected by mental ill health are understood, respected, valued and supported to build their capacities and improve their qualities of life.