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MEDIA RELEASE

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MHCTas responds to the State Budget Where will families, friends and carers get support, education and training?

Mental Health Carers Tasmania faces 'a same old' response to our budget submission asking for recognition and funding to further engage with families, friends and carers of people living with mental illness.

The Treasurer's approach to taking care of Tasmanians is to build more roads, bridges and bricks and mortar but nothing for the very people who will use them.

Mental health families tell us about their need for education and access to face to face support, they tell us about their struggle to get adequate and timely information so they can provide the right care and the right support. We know that well cared for carers, families and friends of people with mental illness make a difference to the lives of the people in their care but, there is a limit.

MHCTas CEO, Maxine Griffiths, says, *"families can give only so much but with better support from our governments they could keep giving and contributing to our communities. If we support families and mental health unpaid carers to receive the right information and education to care, they will keep going. We can't afford to lose the valuable work from unpaid carers and families - we simply couldn't foot the bill!"*

A fairer budget would have considered physical and *social* infrastructure that captures all Tasmanians in need and provides some preventative measures for mental health families and carers.

Maxine Griffiths AM
CEO
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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.