

## How to access the service

The Mental Health Alternative Care Service is located in Port Pirie.

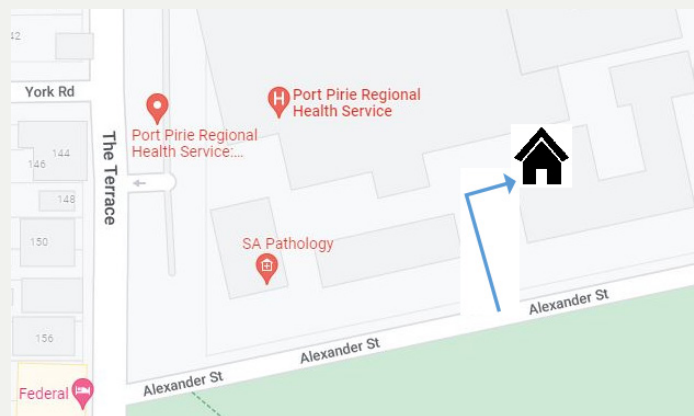
You can access the service from Alexander Street. The service is located at the western end side entrance of the old Community Health building. Signage is displayed on the street and onsite.

Drop in or call ahead on 0403 816 239 to let us know you are on your way.

It is a free service, open from 8:30 am – 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday.

If you or someone you care for needs immediate emergency assistance, please call 000 or speak to the Mental Health Triage Team on 13 14 65.

## How to find us



## For more information

Mental Health Alternative Care Service  
Port Pirie Regional Health Service Campus  
Old Port Pirie Community Health Building  
Alexander Street, Port Pirie SA 5540  
Telephone: 0403 816 239



**Health**  
Yorke and Northern  
Local Health Network



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# Mental Health Alternative Care Service (MHACS)

Care closer to home, tailored for you.



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## **The Mental Health Alternative Care Service (MHACS) is a welcoming, safe and inclusive place for people experiencing a mental health crisis.**

The service offers a calm space to help you or your loved one reduce distress, understand your immediate needs and develop a care plan for support into the future.

Using a combination of peer-led recovery and clinical support, the service is co-delivered by experienced Mental Health Clinicians and non-clinical Mental Health Support Workers.

Our experienced staff will work with you to understand what will help right now and then if needed, connect you with the right support for later.

## **The benefits**

The service provides

- a safe, caring and low-stimulus environment
- an alternative to hospital in a time of mental health crisis
- timely access to care, closer to home and your supports
- easy referral processes
- linkage with GPs, hospitals and community services
- follow-up and aftercare planning
- a recovery-focused model of care

## **What to expect at your visit**

Our welcoming staff will greet you on arrival. The service provides a calm, home-like environment.

You can take your time and relax in a space of your choice, whether in the lounge or a private room.

When you are ready, our experienced staff will help you with the appropriate care plan for your needs.

## **Who we support**

The service provides support to

- people experiencing mental health distress or mental health crisis
- people who are 16 or over
- people who are important to you (family, friends and carers)

The MHACS is not able to meet the needs of people

- under 16 years of age
- whose primary health need is not mental health related
- have an associated medical condition that needs Emergency Department assessment or care (e.g. substance overdose)
- who need prescriptions or orders for medical procedures or medical certificates
- who are currently under Section 56/57 of the Mental Health Act

The Mental Health Alternative Care Service is delivered by the Yorke and Northern Local Health Network. The service forms part of the State Government's strategy to promote integrated care across the community, Emergency Department, and hospital settings, and mental health services.

