# TEEN CLINIC – A NURSE LED, TEENAGE RURAL HEALTH MODEL.

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## TEEN CLINIC

* IS A **NURSE LED**, DROP IN CLINIC FOR TEENAGERS. IT HAS BEEN RUNNING FOR TWO YEARS AND HAS WIDE COMMUNITY ACCEPTANCE. IT IS A FULLY INTEGRATED MODEL THAT IS FREE AT THE POINT OF CARE, REQUIRES NO APPOINTMENT OR MEDICARE CARD AND IS FULLY INTEGRATED WITH GPS AND SUPPORTING PSYCHOLOGISTS.
* PRIMARILY IT IS A SOFT ENTRY POINT FOR TEENAGERS WHO HAVE POOR HEALTH LITERACY. RESPECT AND CONFIDENTIALITY ARE CORE VALUES OF THE SERVICE. IT IS A WHOLE OF PRACTICE APPROACH TO SUPPORTING RURAL YOUTH. IMPORTANTLY IT ISN’T A SEXUAL HEALTH CLINIC OR MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC, THERE IS NO STIGMA ATTACHED. IT IS AN EARLY INTERVENTION MODEL AS ALL HEALTH ISSUES AFFECT THE MENTAL HEALTH OF TEENAGERS!
* THE NURSE LED MODEL HAS BEEN STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY APNA AND COORDINARE THE LOCAL PHN. IN MAY 2017 THE TEEN CLINIC MODEL WAS PRESENTED TO THE BIPARTISAN PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE ON THE PREVENTION OF YOUTH SUICIDE AND WAS WELL RECEIVED AS A REPRODUCIBLE, SUSTAINABLE AND COST EFFECTIVE MODEL FOR THE DELIVERY OF HEALTH CARE TO TEENS IN COUNTRY TOWNS.