



PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

**FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT**

**Community Recognition Statement**

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18 June 2020

**LIFELINE**

**Ms SONIA HORNERY ( Wallsend ) :**

Across Australia, every 30 seconds, Lifeline receives a call from someone in need. The number of calls per day have swollen by 50%.

Lifeline Newcastle, is a 24 hour crisis support centre and will soon become a centralised hub for video counselling services thanks to a substantial donation from NRMA Insurance and RACV going directly into Newcastle.

The funds will go towards providing an extra 10 full time counsellors at Lifeline Newcastle. They will help provide online counselling across 16 different regions as well as running the local service.

Regional Manager of Lifeline Hunter Central Coast, Robert Sams, advises that Lifeline is needed now, more than ever, with individuals and communities coping with drought, bushfires, COVID-19, soon having to pay full mortgages again, and the Jobkeeper subsidy coming to an end. A lot of people are struggling.

Thank you to NRMA Insurance and RACV for the much needed funding boost to Lifeline, and thank you to Robert Sams and your team, for all the hard work that you do.