

Dear Sarah,

**My colleagues Kyzar and the Advocate, Zoe Robinson, presented to the parliamentary committee as part of the Inquiry into the Equity, accessibility and appropriate delivery of outpatient and community mental health care in New South Wales last Friday.**

Kyzar would like to make an additional point in response to one of the questions about the expense of mental health care for young people.

Providing mental health care is a preventative measure and far cheaper than allowing a child to end up in the justice system or develop other complex problems.

His juvenile detention cost \$250,000 year and as he spent 5 years in juvenile detention, the total cost was \$1.25 million.

If he'd had the support in the first 0-5 years of life, when he needed it most, that would have cost far less than \$1.25 million.