



NINETEENTH YOUTH PARLIAMENT
PRIVATE MEMBER'S MOTION No. 1 of 2026

A Comprehensive Framework for Mental Health Support and Youth Rehabilitation in the Cayman Islands

WHEREAS a study conducted by the Alex Panton Foundation shows that the depression rate in the Cayman Islands is 4.6%, which is more than four times the global average of 1.1%, underscoring a growing mental health challenge that requires urgent attention;

AND WHEREAS unmet mental health needs among young people place significant strain on families, schools, and our communities, contributing to behavioural issues and involvement in criminal activities;

AND WHEREAS other Caribbean countries have been successful in implementing mental health hotlines and have reported significant usage;

AND WHEREAS many young people lack consistent access to structured mentorship, safe recreational opportunities, and early-intervention support services, thereby increasing vulnerability during after-school hours and weekends;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Honourable Youth Parliament Government considers implementing a Community Mental Health Crisis Hotline, which will be established as an essential emergency support service, staffed by trained mental health professionals, to provide immediate emotional support, guidance, and referrals for young people and families in distress;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Honourable Youth Parliament Government considers implementing a nationwide Youth Engagement and Support Programme that utilises existing facilities to deliver supervised activities, mentorship, counselling, and skill-building opportunities during after-school hours and weekends, therefore ensuring a sustainable, cost-effective, and inclusive approach to youth support across the Cayman Islands.

Moved By: Mr. Rayne Harding
 Elected Member for George Town South

Seconded By: Ms. LeJae McLean
 Elected Member for West Bay Central

Received in the Clerk's Office on 20th January, 2026

Passed/Rejected by the CPA Youth Parliament this 9th day of March, 2026