

## Consumer and Carer Participation Review Implementation Advisory Committee

### EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

**Have you experienced a mental illness?  
Do you provide support to someone who has a mental illness?**

**Would you be interested in advising Mental Health Services on the implementation of its recent review of consumer and carer participation?**

Mental Health Services is currently inviting expressions of interest from mental health consumers, family members and carers to be part of a newly established Advisory Committee, to progress the implementation of recommendations from the Consumer and Carer Participation Review.

Two consumer and two family/carer representatives will be appointed to the committee and people from rural and regional areas are encouraged to apply.

Sitting fees and reimbursement of out of pocket expenses will be paid.

Committee meetings will be held on a monthly basis initially and will be reviewed as implementation progresses. There may also be a requirement for some out of session work and decisions depending upon the work of the Committee. Teleconferencing and video conferencing facilities will be available to ensure statewide membership coverage.

#### Review Background:

In 2008 the Minister for Health and Human Services requested that Mental Health Services undertake a statewide review of consumer and carer participation within the mental health sector.

The aim of the Review was to identify an optimum model for mental health consumer and carer participation within Tasmania and to inform the implementation of Tasmania's Consumer and Carer Participation Framework. Findings from the Consumer and Carer Participation Review identified that changes needed to be made to the existing participation practices, consumer and family/carer groups and that a policy framework needed to be developed within Mental Health Services to ensure an integrated and sustainable participation model.

A copy of the Consumer and Carer Participation Review report, including recommendations can be downloaded from <http://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/mentalhealth>

#### What is the Implementation Advisory Committee?

*Draft Terms of Reference for the Advisory Committee is included in this package as Appendix A.*

In summary, the Consumer and Carer Participation Review Implementation Advisory Committee will:

- Provide a strong consumer and carer focus in progressing recommendations
- Provide strategic direction in relation to the implementation of recommendations
- Provide advice in relation to appropriate engagement strategies with key stakeholders
- Provide specialist advice from the member's perspective in relation to issues that might effect the successful implementation of recommendations
- Assist in identifying key milestones for the implementation of the Review recommendations and ensure that timelines and milestones are met by the project implementation team
- Assist in marketing of the implementation of the Review to respective constituencies and memberships.

### **What will my role as a consumer or family/carer representative be?**

- Consumer representatives will be responsible for representing a mental health consumer perspective based on consultation with other consumers and the lived experience of mental illness. Consumer representatives will be responsible for representing a personalised perspective rather than an organisational perspective.
- Family/carer representatives will be responsible for representing a perspective based on consultation with other family members and carers who provide support to someone with a mental illness and the lived experience of being a family members or carer. Family/carer representatives will be responsible for representing a personalised perspective rather than an organisational perspective.

### **How do I submit an Expression of Interest (EOI)?**

If you are interested in submitting an EOI in order to be considered for membership to the Advisory Committee please provide an account of how you are able to fulfil the following criteria:

- Demonstrated ability to provide a consumer or family/carer perspective at a system advocacy level.
- An understanding of the principles of consumer and carer participation
- Being widely informed of and able to represent a consumer or family/carer experience beyond one's own personal experience
- Being able to provide advice and strategic direction to Mental Health Services from a consumer or family/carer perspective
- Being able to problem solve, use initiative and contribute to the goals of Mental Health Services
- Support the promotion of consumer and family/carer participation in Mental Health Services

- Demonstrated ability to work as part of a team and make a contribution to the operation of a team
- Demonstrated high degree of integrity and discretion with the ability to maintain confidentiality where appropriate
- Capacity to provide, accept and respond to constructive feedback in a professional manner
- Demonstrated communication and interpersonal skills including conflict resolution skills.

Please provide a written response to how you are able to fulfil the criteria above as well as indicating whether you are providing a consumer or family/carer perspective.

### **How are representatives selected?**

After you have completed and submitted your EOI, a panel will review and consider it and then invite you to attend an interview with the panel to discuss your EOI.

### **What support will be provided?**

Consumer and family/carer representatives who are selected as members of the Participation Review Implementation Advisory Committee will receive support from Mental Health Services Senior Consumer and Carer Liaison Consultant. Representatives will also report directly to the Senior Consumer and Carer Liaison Consultant.

### **What do I need to do now?**

Complete your EOI by addressing the selection criteria as outlined in this document and send to:

Lynette Pearce  
Senior Consumer and Carer Liaison Consultant  
Mental Health Services  
PO Box 708  
LAUNCESTON TAS 7250

Email: [lynette.pearce@dhhs.tas.gov.au](mailto:lynette.pearce@dhhs.tas.gov.au)

closing date for submission of expressions of interest is

**MONDAY 26<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2009**

### **What if I have more questions?**

If you have any questions in relation to membership of the Consumer and Carer Participation Review Implementation Advisory Committee or if you have any queries in relation to completing the EOI please contact Lynette Pearce on 6336 4387 or email [lynette.pearce@dhhs.tas.gov.au](mailto:lynette.pearce@dhhs.tas.gov.au)

# Consumer and Carer Participation Review Implementation Advisory Committee

## Terms of Reference

### Background

Research shows that the best results for the treatment of most serious health problems are achieved with the consumer, their family and/or close friends are all part of the treating team<sup>1</sup>. This is highlighted in the international, national and state policy frameworks for mental health services. The Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services is committed to ensuring that consumers and carers have opportunity to provide input into the treatments they or their loved one receives as well as the opportunity to influence service planning, development and evaluation of mental health services in Tasmania.

In 2008 the Minister for Health and Human Services requested that Mental Health Services undertake a statewide review of consumer and carer participation within the mental health sector.

The aim of the Review was to identify an optimum model for mental health consumer and carer participation within Tasmania and to inform the implementation of Tasmania's Consumer and Carer Participation Framework. Findings from the Review identified that changes needed to be made to the existing consumer and carer participation practices, consumer and family/carer groups and that a policy framework needed to be developed within Mental Health Services to ensure an integrated and sustainable participation model.

Following an extensive consultation process with mental health consumers, the family members and carers that support them, Mental Health Services and Community Sector Organisations the Consumer and Carer Participation Review report was developed. This report has since been endorsed by the Minister for Health and has been publicly released.

A key recommendation is to bring together stakeholders through an Advisory Committee, to support the implementation of the Review.

### Purpose

The Consumer and Carer Participation Review Implementation Advisory Committee will provide support and advice in relation to the implementation of recommendations made in the Consumer and Carer Participation Review report. This will be a time limited committee, initially for twelve months.

### Role and Function

The Consumer and Carer Participation Review Implementation Advisory Committee will:

- Provide a strong consumer and carer focus in progressing recommendations

---

<sup>1</sup> Australian Mental Health Services – Family Inclusive Services

- Provide strategic direction in relation to the implementation of recommendations
- Provide advice in relation to appropriate engagement strategies with key stakeholders
- Provide specialist advice from the member's perspective in relation to issues that might effect the successful implementation of recommendations
- Assist in identifying key milestones for the implementation of the Review recommendations and ensure that timelines and milestones are met by the project implementation team
- Assist in marketing of the implementation of the Review to respective constituencies and memberships.

## Membership

- Project Sponsor:       ▪ Dr John Crawshaw, CEO, Statewide and Mental Health Services
- Chair:                    ▪ Narelle Butt, Manager, Service Development, Statewide and Mental Health Services
- Membership:            ▪ Statewide Director of Nursing, Statewide and Mental Health Services
- Mental Health Council of Tasmania
- ARAFMI Tasmania Inc. Representative
- Mental Health Consumer Organisation Representative
- Area Manager, Mental Health Services
- Mental Health Consumer Representative x2 (non-organisational rep)
- Mental Health Family Member / Carer Representative x2 (non-organisational rep)
- Dr Manilall Maharajh, Clinical Director, Northern Mental Health Services
- Manager, Workforce Development, Statewide and Mental Health Services
- Ex-officio
- Nick Goddard, Manager, Coordination and Innovation Unit, Statewide and Mental Health Services
- Project Manager:       ▪ Lynette Pearce, Senior Consumer and Carer Liaison Consultant, Statewide and Mental Health Services

## Member Responsibilities

- Organisational representatives will be responsible for representing the views of their respective organisation.
- Consumer representatives will be responsible for representing a mental health consumer perspective based on consultation with other consumers and the lived experience of mental illness. Consumer representatives will be responsible for representing a personalised perspective rather than an organisational perspective.
- Family/carers representatives will be responsible for representing a perspective based on consultation with other family members and carers who provide support to someone with a mental illness and the lived experience of being a family members or carer. Family/carers representatives will be responsible for representing a personalised perspective rather than an organisational perspective.

- Advisory Committee members representing a constituency or membership will be responsible for ensuring that they represent the views of their constituency based on consultation regarding the implementation of Review recommendations.

## **Meeting Times**

- The Consumer and Carer Participation Review Implementation Advisory Committee will meet on a monthly basis and will have the capacity to meet out of session as required. This may be reviewed as implementation progresses.

## **Meeting Protocols**

### **Agenda**

- Agenda to be circulated five (5) days before the scheduled meeting.

### **Meeting Papers**

- Meeting papers will be circulated with the agenda no later than five (5) working days prior to the scheduled meeting.

### **Minutes**

- Minutes will be distributed within one week of the meeting.
- Matters of confidentiality will be identified in the Minutes of the meeting.

## **Review of Terms of Reference**

The Terms of Reference will be reviewed as necessary.