

## **Expression of Interest**

### **NSW Mental Health Consumer Subcommittee**

Are you a person with personal lived/living experience of mental illness with a passion for influencing change and contributing to NSW Mental Health policy? Are you connected to the mental health system and wish to advocate on behalf of the group you wish to represent?

The Consumer Subcommittee provides advice to the NSW Ministry of Health and the Mental Health Program Council regarding policy, planning and strategic issues relating to mental health consumers in NSW.

The Subcommittee aims to improve service delivery, service quality and service access for mental health consumers and aims to ensure mental health consumer's concerns and perspectives are given appropriate priority in accordance with government objectives. The Subcommittee meets quarterly in Sydney, and are required to provide out of session input to policy when required.

### **Structure of committee**

The structure of the committee consists of 7 core members, who will also refer to a broader group of expert consumer advisors as needed for input into development and review of specific health policies and programs. The broader group will consist of 10 members.

There are three standing members of the Committee; the Executive Director of Mental Health, NSW Ministry of Health, the Chief Executive Officer of Being, and the Chair of the NSW Public Mental Health Consumer Workers Committee.

The Consumer Subcommittee is co-chaired by The Executive Director of Mental Health, NSW Ministry of Health and the Chief Executive Office of Being.

### **The committee has four core positions:**

- A person with a lived experience of mental illness representing the NGO sector
- A person with a lived experience of mental illness representing forensic mental health who has encountered the justice system
- A person with a lived experience of mental illness from a regional, rural or remote Local Health District
- A person with a lived experience of mental illness from a metropolitan Local Health District

### **The broader group of expert consumer advisors will consist of (10 positions):**

- A young people with a lived experience of mental illness representing young people
- A person with a lived experience of mental illness representing people from CALD backgrounds
- A person with a lived experience of mental illness representing Aboriginal and Torres Strait islanders
- A person with a lived experience of mental illness who is not employed in a consumer position representing rural or remote communities

- A person with a lived experience of mental illness who is not employed in a consumer position representing metropolitan communities
- A person with a lived experience of mental illness representing older people
- A person with a lived experience of mental illness representing people in the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex community
- A person with a lived experience of mental illness representing people with an intellectual disability. (Note: Arrangements for a support worker will be made for participation of this adviser as required. Meeting room / venue will also be arranged for this adviser to conduct out of session work of the subcommittee as required).

### **Key responsibilities for committee members:**

- Develop an annual work plan identifying key strategic priorities to progress for each year;
- Advise the Mental Health Program Council on the appropriate mechanisms to obtain consumer input for the development, implementation and review of policies and programs – on a case by case basis;
- Nominate expert consumer advisers to participate in time limited working groups, workshops and consultations to develop and review policies and programs as required;
- Represent and advocate for the views of the lived experience constituency;
- Provide timely comment on policies and procedures that go before the Mental Health Program Council to ensure that the interests of consumers are adequately and appropriately reflected;
- Provide advice to the Mental Health Program Council and the NSW Ministry of Health on issues of concern to mental health consumers;
- Prepare and attend quarterly meetings at the Ministry of Health in North Sydney;
- Review and read meeting and out of session papers.

### **Remuneration for Consumer Representatives**

Representatives will be paid a sitting fee for their attendance at meetings at The Ministry of Health. Representatives will be additionally reimbursed for out of pocket expenses and travel expenses incurred for involved in the subcommittee.

In general, sitting fees for pre-reading do not apply. Payment of fees for any other out of session work will be considered by the NSW Ministry of Health.

### **Training**

Training will be provided to the successful applicants as part of the induction process. This training will provide further information about the roles and responsibilities of committee members.

### **How to apply**

Applicants interested in applying for a vacant position listed should complete the attached Expression of Interest Form including addressing the selection criteria and position you are seeking, and forward their completed expression of interest form to [communications@being.org.au](mailto:communications@being.org.au)

For further information or assistance with completing this application, please contact Peter Schmiedgen on 02 9332 0200.

## Consumer Sub-Committee

### Expression of Interest (EOI) Form

EOI No.

*Office use only*

**Closing date: Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

To help you prepare your application, before you submit your application please check through the following and tick off as appropriate.

To support your application we suggest you:

- Read the information pack to understand the Expression of Interest process.
- Contact Peter Schmiedgen at Being for any assistance or further information required
- Email your completed Expression of Interest Form to [communications@being.org.au](mailto:communications@being.org.au)

For your applications to be accepted, all information and selection criteria must be completed in the following document.

#### 1. Name

#### 2. Contact details

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Preferred method of communication:

#### 3. Consumer Representative Position being applied for

**Please tick the box for the position you wish to apply for:** (If you are applying for more than one position you will need to address selection criteria for each position you are applying for. **Please note, you can only hold one position on the subcommittee at a time.**

Please tick which position you are applying for and if applying for more than one position please nominate your preference for positions (1 being the highest preference)

**CORE Members positions**

Tick Preference  
(1-4)

**A person with lived/living experience of mental illness representing from a metropolitan Local Health District**

**Broader Group positions**

Tick Preference  
(1-8)

**A young person (18-25 years) with lived/living experience of mental illness representing young people**

**A person with lived/living experience of mental illness representing people from CALD backgrounds**

**A person with lived/living experience of mental illness representing Aboriginal and Torres Strait islanders**

**A person with lived/living experience of mental illness representing older people**

**A person with lived/living experience of mental illness representing people with an intellectual disability.**

**Selection Criteria**

Please provide answers to the below questions in a separate document numbering the responses to the questions.

1. Please explain your broader understanding of mental health practice in NSW
2. How have you influenced change through systemic advocacy?
3. Please provide detailed work / volunteer / consumer engagement history evidence of your employment, experience and expertise in your chosen field/representation in the mental health system
4. What does good practice mental health policy mean to you?
5. What do you believe are three current hot topics/issues for mental health consumers in NSW, and more specifically the community you wish to represent? Please provide an explanation for each topic.
6. If successful in one of the above positions, how will you plan to represent the broader community you are applying to represent as opposed to your individual experiences?

- 7. What is your understanding and beliefs on consumer participation in the mental health system?**
- 8. Please provide information on how you contributed and are connected to the mental health system? How do you think this will assist you as a committee member?**
- 9. How would you ensure a good working relationship with all committee members and stakeholders? Please provide an example of how you collaborate with multiple stakeholders**

Please send completed Expression of Interest form via Email to [communications@being.org.au](mailto:communications@being.org.au)

Or call Peter Schmiedgen on 9332 0200 for further information or assistance with the application.

**Applications must be received by 5pm 27/07/19. Applications received after this date will not be accepted.**