

We are seeking expressions of interest for the

BEING – Mental Health Consumers Co-design Committee

Applications now open for two additional members. This is a paid opportunity.

To be considered you must identify as:

- Having lived/living experience of mental health issues
- Aboriginal / Torres Strait Islander living in New South Wales, or
- Reside in a rural or remote area of New South Wales based on the [Department of Health Rural, Remote and Metropolitan Area](#) classifications (Urban centre populations of 5,001 to 99,999 considered rural and 5,000 or less is considered remote)

Who are we?

BEING – Mental Health Consumers is the independent, state-wide, peak organisation representing the views, perspectives and experiences of people who live with mental health issues in NSW.

The core work of BEING – Mental Health Consumers is to collaborate with mental health consumers across NSW to achieve and support systemic change. We do this through consumer consultation and co-design, as well as collaborative and responsive policy advocacy work. This includes writing submissions, participating in committees, and providing input and advice to government and other organisations working in the mental health sector.

BEING – Mental Health Consumers has a strong focus on human rights and advocates for the rights of people living with mental health issues and suicidal thoughts to live and participate in the communities they choose. We are a value-based organisation whose work is underpinned by recovery-oriented and trauma-informed principles including respect, social justice, transparency, and a belief that recovery is possible for every individual.

Purpose of the BEING – Mental Health Consumers Co-design Committee

BEING – Mental Health Consumers recognises the importance of including consumer voices in the design and development of the services we operate and view our members as intrinsic to the advocacy work we undertake in influencing policy and services design for people living with mental health issues.

We have established the BEING – Mental Health Consumers Co-design Committee to assist us with our advocacy work and the establishment of several exciting new programs, some of which include:

- BEING Leadership Academy
- BEING Lived Experience Network
- BEING Suicide Support and Awareness Program

Some key work of the BEING – Mental Health Consumers Co-design Committee may include co-design of policies and procedures, and information tips and factsheets, however it is anticipated that there will be opportunities for working groups to be formed from the BEING – Mental Health Consumers Co-design Committee membership, who may work on individual projects and programs as outlined above.

Payment

Payment for attendance will be at a rate of \$110 for half-day meetings and \$220 for full-day meetings. As most meetings will be around two hours in duration, a half-day fee will be paid to cover costs for reading of papers and attendance.

Meetings

The BEING – Mental Health Consumers Co-design Committee will meet once per month on the third Thursday. Committee members serve a term of 12 months.

Due to COVID-19 and the need to work remotely at present, members of the BEING – Mental Health Consumers Co-design Committee will be required to have a computer/laptop and reliable internet connection.

Selection criteria and eligibility

The BEING – Mental Health Consumers Co-design Committee is open to people based in NSW who live with mental health issues (consumers) and who have had previous experience in participating in systemic advocacy and program committee work.

We currently have two positions available. One of these is a dedicated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander position, and the other is a dedicated position for a person living in a rural or remote area.

BEING – Mental Health Consumers Inc. welcomes applications from people from diverse backgrounds and encourages Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, LGBTIQ+, people with disability, and people from culturally diverse backgrounds to apply for this role.

Application process

If you would like to apply for a position with the BEING – Mental Health Consumers Co-design Committee, please provide your expression of interest by email or word document and be sure to include the following information:

- Your name, suburb, email and phone contact details
- Are you a current member of BEING – Mental Health Consumers? (desirable though not essential)



- A brief outline about why you would like to be involved in the BEING - Mental Health Consumers Co-design Committee
- Any relevant previous experience with individual or systemic advocacy, committee or board work
- A brief summary of your lived experience of mental health issues

Please submit your expression of interest by 30 April 2021 to info@being.org.au