



National Mental Health Consumer and Carer Forum (NMHCCF) Report

Name of Delegate:
State / Territory:
Date of meeting: 14-15 August 2008
Venue: Stamford Plaza Sydney Airport
Consumer / Carer Representative (please circle)
Key Issues Discussed: Mental Health Standing Committee New consumer and carer representatives on the Mental Health Standing Committee (MHSC) will be selected from the NMHCCF membership and this selection is currently being progressed. Additional funding support for the NMHCCF As a result of lobbying by the Mental Health Council of Australia (MHCA) the Department of Health and Ageing have provided the extra funding to the NMHCCF for <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business planning• Development of the NMHCCF website• NMHCCF attendance at the annual workshop for the National Register of Consumers and Carers being run by the MHCA• Administration support (the new Administration/project Officer will work on NMHCCF secretariat support as well as managing the National Register) Forward Planning This key item was the largest of the agenda and was facilitated by an independent consultant. The purpose of the session was to review the Strategic Plan April 2007-2008 and agree on a way forward for outstanding tasks (including the nominated priority areas) as well as draft a plan for the NMHCCF for the next 3 years. At the session the NMHCCF defined its purpose, goals, roles, stakeholders, values, and work practices as a foundation for the above task. It then set out a plan to consider 2008-9 priorities and streamlining ways of working and agreed to feed this into the business planning process, for which a working group has been set up. A series of teleconferences over the next few weeks will input into the Forward

Planning Process which will be considered at the next NMHCCF teleconference on the 19 November 2008.

Draft Nationally Consistent process for the selection of consumer and carer reps in each state/territory for the NMHCCF.

The purpose of this document is to provide states and territories with some guidance on the selection of high quality representatives to the NMHCCF. It is currently being considered by State/territory Liaison Contact Officers who are asked to provide comment to the NMHCCF Executive Officer (contact nmhccf@mhca.org.au or phone 02 6285 3100)

IIMHL Exchange and Conference

There is now a consumer and carer representative on the IIMHL project team. People wishing to provide input to this process could provide this to their NMHCCF representative who will then pass this on.

Key Decisions Made:

- Ongoing progress on the NMHCCF Forward Plan as outlined above.
- Selection process for a consumer and carer representative to the MHSC.
- Advanced communication skills training to be continued.
- Next NMHCCF teleconference will be on 19 November 2008.

Actions Required:

- Comment is sought from State and territory Liaison Contact Officers on the *Draft National Process for the Selection of Consumer and Carer Representatives for the NMHCCF.*