



National Mental Health Consumer and Carer Forum (NMHCCF) Report

Name of Delegate:												
State / Territory / Organisation:												
Date of meeting: 5-6 March 2012												
Consumer / Carer Representative (please circle)												
<p>Key issues discussed:</p> <p>NMHCCF membership NMHCCF membership has grown over the past year and now includes culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) consumer and carer representation and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) consumer representation. ATSI carer representation is currently being sought via the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO).</p> <p>Executive Committee A new NMHCCF Executive has been elected:</p> <table><tr><td><i>Consumer Co-Chair</i></td><td>Michael Burge (rep from the former Australian Mental Health Consumer Network)</td></tr><tr><td><i>Carer Co-Chair</i></td><td>Keiran Booth (Mental Health Carers Arafmi Australia)</td></tr><tr><td><i>Consumer Deputy Co-Chair</i></td><td>Lyn English (SA)</td></tr><tr><td><i>Carer Deputy Co-Chair</i></td><td>Judy Bentley (ACT)</td></tr><tr><td><i>Consumer Ordinary Executive member</i></td><td>Darren Jiggins (TAS)</td></tr><tr><td><i>Carer Ordinary Executive member</i></td><td>De Backman-Hoyle (blueVoices)</td></tr></table> <p>These positions were elected prior to the meeting. The next Executive Committee election will be held early 2014.</p> <p>National Mental Health Commission The NMHCCF appreciates the selection of NMHCCF member Janet Meagher as a Mental Health Commissioner. Janet discussed the Commission, including the launch, stakeholder engagement and priorities, with members on Day 1 of the meeting.</p> <p>Robyn Kruk, CEO of the Commission, attended the meeting on Day 2 and spoke to members about the development of the National Report Card on Mental Health and Suicide Prevention. She also discussed the engagement of stakeholders, including consumers and carers, and the development of a formal relationship between the NMHCCF and the Commission.</p>	<i>Consumer Co-Chair</i>	Michael Burge (rep from the former Australian Mental Health Consumer Network)	<i>Carer Co-Chair</i>	Keiran Booth (Mental Health Carers Arafmi Australia)	<i>Consumer Deputy Co-Chair</i>	Lyn English (SA)	<i>Carer Deputy Co-Chair</i>	Judy Bentley (ACT)	<i>Consumer Ordinary Executive member</i>	Darren Jiggins (TAS)	<i>Carer Ordinary Executive member</i>	De Backman-Hoyle (blueVoices)
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NMHCCF Forward Plan

The NMHCCF has established a working group and engaged a Facilitator to progress the NMHCCF Forward Plan (titled *Strategic Directions 2012-15*). Members discussed NMHCCF priority areas for inclusion in the plan, including national mental health and disability reform, workforce development and partnerships. It is anticipated that the new forward plan will be finalised in the next few months.

National Committees

Updates were provided from representatives on the following national committees:

- Mental Health Standing Committee
- Borderline Personality Disorder Expert Working Group
- Health Workforce Australia Standing Committee for the NGO and Private Sector

Members also discussed ongoing NMHCCF involvement in the development of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). It was agreed that the NMHCCF should attend the next meeting of the Disabled Peoples Organisations and Advocacy agencies for People with Disability. This time limited group has been established to discuss the actions necessary to enable people with disability to engage with the development and implementation of the NDIS.

Guest speakers

- Leanne Craze spoke to members about the National Mental Recovery Framework Project
- Jaelea Skehan (Mindframe) provided an overview of the Mindframe National Media Initiative and discussed consumer and carer engagement with the media
- Melissa Lond and Pam Saunders (Department of Human Services) answered members' questions about Centrelink policies and practices related to carer allowance and carer payment
- Professor Nicholas Procter (Mental Health in Multicultural Australia [MHiMA]) provided an overview of the MHiMA project and discussed possible links between the project and the NMHCCF

Key Decisions Made:

- The NMHCCF will develop Advocacy Briefs on the following issues; CALD, ATSI and Borderline Personality Disorder
- Next NMHCCF teleconference will be held on Wednesday 20 June 2012
Post meeting note: This date may change. The National Recovery Forum is being held 21-22 June 2012 and may impact on member availability for the NMHCCF teleconference
- The National Register/NMHCCF issues forum will be held on Thursday 3 and Friday 4 May 2012

Key Actions:

- NMHCCF to develop a formal relationship with the National Mental Health Commission
- Membership of Advocacy Brief Editorial Working Group to be renewed
- NMHCCF Forward Plan to be finalised by the Forward Plan Working Group in consultation with the Facilitator.