

Expressions of Interest

Youth Participation for the Western Australian Mental Health Network Youth Mental Health Sub Network

The Mental Health Network (MHN) aims to improve outcomes for people with mental health issues by building capability and leadership and strengthening the provision and coordination of care and support across the State.

The MHN achieves this by:

- **Engaging:** Enabling consumers, families/carers, health professionals, health and community services, the Mental Health Commission and Department of Health WA to engage and collaborate effectively;
- **Learning:** Sharing information, experience and ideas; and,
- **Informing:** Providing independent and informed advice

We are seeking expressions of interest for steering committee members, to contribute as part of the Youth Mental Health Sub Network Steering Committee. The Youth Mental Health Sub Network Steering Committee invites expressions of interest from;

- Young people with personal experience of mental health challenges
- Families, carers or supporters (support persons¹) of young people who have experienced mental health challenges

The Youth Mental Health Sub Network

The Youth Mental Health Sub Network assists the MHN to achieve its mission with particular focus on young people aged 16 to 24 years in Western Australia.

It does so by facilitating engagement and effective collaboration between key stakeholders including consumers and support persons, health professionals, health and community services, employees of the Mental Health Commission, Department of Health WA and Health Service Providers with an interest in the mental health of young people experiencing mental health difficulties; sharing information, experience and ideas and provides independent and informed advice.

The Youth Mental Health Sub Network Steering Committee

Purpose: The Sub Network Steering Committee is the organising committee for the Youth Mental Health Sub Network. Supported by the MHN, their purpose is to bring together representatives from the youth mental health community to learn together and to provide advice and input to the MHN Co-Leads, MHC and other decision makers within the mental health sector regarding the development of mechanisms that actively support the common goal of making improvements for young people with mental health difficulties and their support persons and service providers.

¹ Refers to a family member or significant others impacted by someone else's mental health and/or alcohol and other drug use. A large proportion of support persons are carers as defined in the Western Australian *Cares Recognition Act 2004*, the Australian *Carer Recognition Act 2010* and the Western Australian *Mental Health Act 2014*. In this document, the term "support persons" includes carers, families, significant others, friends and advocates.

Responsibilities:

- Support the MHN in its mission to engage, learn and inform.
- Contribute to improving the mental health and wellbeing of Western Australians.
- Provide opportunities for Youth Mental Health Sub Network members, related organisations and individuals to engage, collaborate and facilitate better integrated and connected services for young people with mental health issues.
- Draw upon a community of practice approach to facilitate learning among Youth Mental Health Sub Network members, the MHN and the community that promotes best practice for young people with mental health issues.
- Assist and advise on the development of mechanisms such as care pathways, models of care and/or service that actively support the common goal of making improvements in the mental health sector and system change including integration of care and continued development of a person-centred and recovery orientated culture.
- With agreement and content approval of the MHN Co-Leads, provide advice aimed at improving outcomes for young people with mental health issues, to key stakeholders, either upon request or initiated by the Sub Network, including the MHC, DoH, WA Primary Health Alliance and the Chief Psychiatrist.

Duration of appointment: 2 years with the possibility of renewal.

Frequency of meetings: Monthly or as determined by the Youth Mental Health Sub Network

Time and location of meetings: Thursdays, 9:15am to 10:45am, Youth Mental Health, 32-34 Salvado Road, Wembley. Attendance via videoconference can be negotiated.

Payment

Consumer and support person² steering committee members will be remunerated for their time according to the policies and payment scales endorsed by the sponsoring agency.

Selection Criteria for this Committee:

The Mental Health Network Youth Mental Health Sub Network Steering Committee is looking for members who:

1. *Are committed to the purpose and responsibilities of the committee (For more information on the Mental Health Network click [here](#));*
2. *Have lived experience with youth mental health as a consumer or support person and can represent their experience and knowledge effectively;*
3. *Have well-developed interpersonal skills including the ability to work as part of a team, give constructive input, maintain good working relationships with stakeholders, listen objectively, negotiate and make reasoned judgements; and*
4. *Have knowledge, skills and/or experience with participation on committees or other decision-making processes, familiarity with and input into the development of policy and procedure documents.*

² Support Person Committee members may be eligible for participation payments by Carers WA

Guiding Principles for Steering Committee members:

- The Youth Mental Health Sub Network Steering Committee will adhere to the following:
- Members of the Steering Committee are present to bring knowledge, skills and experience relevant to the work of the committee and not as organisation, constituency or personal representatives;
- A member will make a Declaration of Interest where they have an organisational, professional or personal interest that may conflict with a matter before the committee. In this instance, the Co-Chair(s), will determine if a conflict exists and any action needed to address the conflict;
- Sub Network Steering Committees are to include mechanisms for communicating with the broader Mental Health Network to ensure consultation has breadth and depth from all stakeholders;
- In their formal capacity, Steering Committees Members are expected to communicate respectfully with all stakeholders;
- Work products created by the Youth Mental Health Sub Network will be developed in accordance with the Working Together: Engagement Framework. They will be designed with engagement of consumers and support persons with lived experience in youth mental health, and are to be produced using co-design principles;
- Feedback and/or reviews of documentation are to be provided within requested timeframes;
- Advice, feedback and/or reviews of documentation should be communicated by the Sub Network Co-Chairs. Co-Chairs are required to inform the MHN Co-Leads of their intended communication prior to providing the advice, feedback or review;
- Outgoing work from this group will be reflective of current evidence;
- Members will maintain confidentiality if an issue is raised and confidentiality is requested.
- It is each member's responsibility to canvas views and provide feedback to its constituency as appropriate and as directed by the group;
- The Co-Chairs will seek to reach a consensus view and resolution of any dissenting issues shall be achieved by a process identified by the Co-Chairs; and
- Steering Committee members with direction of the Co-Chair(s) are able to co-opt/seek expert advice on an as need basis.

Selection Process

Written applications will be assessed, and shortlisted applicants may be asked to meet with the Co-Chairs of the Youth Mental Health Sub Network Steering Committee for an informal selection discussion. This will also provide the opportunity for applicants to ask questions about the work of the Youth Mental Health Sub Network Steering Committee.

For more information please contact: Warwick Smith or Lyn Millett, Co-Chair/s, Youth Mental Health Sub Network Steering Committee by email warwick.smith@health.wa.gov.au or lmillett@childhood.org.au .

To apply:

Please provide a brief written expression of interest and resume and return it by 4pm, 28 June 2020.

- Email to: MHNetwork@mhc.wa.gov.au with Youth Mental Health Steering Committee Application in the subject line.
- Post to:
The Mental Health Commission

Attention: Bianca Fish
GPO Box X2299
Perth Business Centre
WA, 6847

- Hand deliver to Mental Health Commission, Level 1, 1 Nash Street, Perth WA.

The Mental Health Network Youth Mental Health Steering Committee is sponsored by the North Metropolitan Health Service.