



**MINISTERIAL TASKFORCE INTO PUBLIC MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR
CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS AGED 0 – 18 YEARS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA**
COMMUNIQUE – 11 MARCH 2021

I am excited to provide an update on the work that the Ministerial Taskforce into Public Mental Health Services for Children and Adolescents aged 0-18 years in Western Australia (the Taskforce) and the supporting project team have already achieved. Ms Robyn Kruk, the taskforce chair, officially joined the team on Tuesday 2 March and is busy finalising the papers for the first Taskforce meeting that will be held on Thursday 11 March.

The expression of interest for the lived experience representative on the Taskforce has now closed. We listened to your feedback and have decided to appoint a consumer representative and a family/carer representative to ensure that the voice of lived and living experience is strongly represented on the Taskforce.

The quality of applications that we received from people with lived experience were outstanding. I am really proud to advise that the consumer representative is Georgia Anderson and the family / carer representative is Wendy Cream.

I am also pleased to announce that Dr Pradeep Rao has been jointly nominated by the Child and Adolescent Health Service (CAHS) and WA Country Health Service (WACHS) to be the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) clinical representative on the Taskforce. Dr Rao will provide a strong CAMHS clinical perspective the Taskforce.

I know that the work of this Taskforce is of great interest to many people in our community, so we have set up a [dedicated webpage](#) on the Mental Health Commission (MHC) website that is the central information hub for all Taskforce activities and information. Engagement and consultation opportunities will be posted here, as well as a communique after each Taskforce meeting. Please check the page regularly to ensure you keep updated.

The Taskforce are currently calling for expressions of interest via the website for the following representatives to join the Expert Advisory Groups:

- [Lived experience of metropolitan or regional / rural child and adolescent mental health services in WA](#)
- [Clinicians with expertise in their respective fields](#)

Expressions of interests for these roles close 9am Monday 15 March. The three expert advisory groups (clinical, lived experience and interagency) will support the Taskforce.

Members of the public are invited to submit feedback or questions via email: CATaskforce@mhc.wa.gov.au.

Jennifer McGrath
COMMISSIONER