# MENTAL_HEALTH_CMYK.jpg Expressions of Interest

**Consumer and Family/Carer Member**

Co-Leadership Safety and Quality Mental Health Steering Group

Involving all stakeholders in the Mental Health Commission’s (MHC) work is essential if improvements in mental health, alcohol and other drug outcomes are to be achieved. The MHC recognises the valuable contribution that consumers, family, carers and community members make to the planning, implementation, delivery and evaluation of mental health and alcohol and other drug programs and services.

We are seeking one consumer and one family member/carer to be part of the Co-Leadership Safety and Quality Mental Health Steering Group (CSQMH Steering Group) who:

* has a lived experience of a mental illness or mental heath issue or caring for someone who has; and
* who can contribute to discussions and decisions regarding a range of systemic safety and quality issues that may arise in publically funded mental health services in Western Australia[[1]](#footnote-1).

The Co-Leadership Safety and Quality Mental Health Steering Group is comprised of representatives from the MHC, the Department of Health (DoH), the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist (OCP) and Health Service Providers (HSPs) for the purpose of:

* Providing a coordinating function for the governance of safety and quality in publically funded mental health services in WA;
* Facilitating shared understanding of an integrated and comprehensive safety and quality governance system across mental health services;
* Strengthening collaboration, partnerships and communications among the different agencies to ensure effective responses to safety and quality issues in publically funded mental health services;
* Building on existing standards for accreditation and licensing and improving the implementation of associated processes; and
* Reducing duplication and streamlining safety and quality processes in mental health services.

The attached Terms for Reference (ToR) provide more information about the members, functions and responsibilities of the CSQMH Steering Group.

This in an ongoing group that meets every three months at the MHC,1 Nash Street, Perth. The MHC is next to McIver Train Station and paid street parking is easily accessed. The next meetings are:

* Tuesday 11th December 10 – 11.30am. There may be additional meetings held during these times.

**The Requirements of the Role on the CSQMH Steering Group include:**

1. Be a consumer and/or family member/carer who has been able to integrate their experiences of mental distress into their lives, retain value from their lived experience and have wisdom to share with others.
2. Ability and willingness to consult within a network of consumers, families, carers or community members and sufficiently confident to be able to present their views in discussions and decision-making.
3. Good understanding of matters that affect people with mental health problems and their families, carers and community including marginalisation issues, stigma and discrimination. Understanding of the rehabilitation and recovery paradigm and the value of consumer, family, carer and community participation.
4. Well-developed interpersonal skills including the ability to give constructive input, maintain good working relationships with stakeholders, listen objectively, negotiate and make reasoned judgements. Demonstrated ability to use these skills to   
   achieve results.
5. Knowledge, skills and/or experience of participation on committees or other decision-making processes.
6. Knowledge related to a range of systemic safety and quality issues that can arise in publically funded mental health services in Western Australia, including understanding of quality related standards (refer to ToR).

**Responsibilities of members:**

To contribute their best effort to achieving the objectives of the Steering Group by:

* Liaising and networking with people with mental illness and/or their families/carers.
* Contributing fully and constructively at meetings.
* Bringing a problem solving attitude to the team and contributing to a positive team culture.
* Being reliable, dependable and taking responsibility for actions assigned.
* Following the ToR of the Committee Public Sector Code of Ethics, and the Mental Health Commission’sCode of Conduct.

**Consumer, family/carer members can expect:**

1. To be equal members of a group that is respectful, open and operates with integrity.
2. To be reimbursed for their participation and out of pocket expenses.
3. Timely communication of working documents.
4. To be supported in their role on the Steering Group and to have access to representative training through organisations such as Consumers of Mental Health WA; Carers WA; Health Consumers’ Council and WA Association for Mental Health.

**Selection Process:**

**The closing date for the EOI is 28 August 2018.** Applications will be shortlisted and applicants may be asked to meet with two MHC staff for an informal discussion. This also provides the opportunity for applicants to ask questions about the work of the Steering Group and to clarify any details regarding partcipation. The process usually takes approximately three weeks from the closing date. We are expecting to notify people of the outcome of their applications by 31 August 2018.

This role is subject to a criminal records screening check, however a conviction does not exclude the applicant from the selection process by any means. The Mental Health Commission will initiate and pay for the criminal records screening.

**Payment and Reimbursement:**

Participation payment and reimbursement of out of pocket expenses are offered to consumer, family, carer and community members who are engaged in MHC activities in line with the MHC Consumer, Family, Carer and Community Paid Partnership Policy (available at mhc.wa.gov.au under the “enagement” tab). The paid participaton rate at the **advisor tier is $70 per hour** for a minimum of three hours, which includes reasonable out of pocket travel expenses (eg parking fees). Additional out of pocket expenses can be reimbursed but must be negiotiated and approved by the MHC before expenses are incurred.

**For more information please contact:** Louise Cefalo on [Louise.cefalo@mhc.wa.gov.au](mailto:Louise.cefalo@mhc.wa.gov.au)or call 6553 0335.

**To apply:** Please complete the attached application form (including meeting the requirements of the role) and return it by *5pm on 28 August 2018*:

* Email to [louise.cefalo@mhc.wa.gov.au](mailto:louise.cefalo@mhc.wa.gov.au)
* Post to:  
  The Mental Health Commission  
  Attention: Louise Cefalo  
  GPO Box X2299  
  Perth Business Centre  
  WA, 6847
* Hand deliver (marked Attention Louise Cefalo) to Level 1, Workzone,1 Nash Street, Perth. We are adjacent to McIver Station.

1. This includes all public mental health hospitals, community mental health services, non-government mental health services and private psychiatric hostels in WA. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)