

THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION'S PEER WORKFORCE PROJECT  
COMMUNIQUE – STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING - 25 November 2021

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The Mental Health Commission's (MHC) Peer Workforce Project (Project) aims to guide the development of a thriving state-wide consumer, family and carer Lived Experience (Peer) Workforce across the mental health (including suicide prevention) and alcohol and other drug sectors. This Project supports strategic directions outlined in the WA State Priorities Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drugs 2020 – 2024 and the Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drug Workforce Strategic Framework 2020-2025.

To manage the development and delivery of the Project, a Steering Committee comprising of members representing portfolios across the sectors has been established. The Steering Committee will provide the strategic oversight and guidance to the Project. The Steering Committee co-chaired by the Assistant Director System Engagement, (MHC) and Margaret Doherty, representing the Family Carer/Community portfolio, met for the first time on 22 July 2021. This communique has been developed to provide all stakeholders with information and outcomes from the 25 November 2021 meeting which was co-chaired by Sara Walsh A/Assistant Director System Engagement, (MHC) and Margaret Doherty.

Niall Rhatigan from [wellrounded](#) (bespoke engagement consultants) presented an overview of the proposed 'In the Frame' All of Stakeholder co-design Workshop. Feedback was provided to the consultants about the collection of data, peer workforce history, proposed workshop questions as well as measures to ensure meaningful representation from family/carers, the alcohol and other drug sector, Aboriginal people, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and peer workers and services from regional and remote areas.

The Steering Committee were informed that pre-design workshops held in early November for consumers, carer/family members, peer workers and service providers had been a huge success in regard to participation and the collection of valuable data which will be used to inform the design of the 'In the Frame' All of Stakeholder co-design Workshop being held on the 30 November 2021.

The Steering Committee reflected on the Project's principles: Safety, Authenticity, Humanity, Equity and Diversity (co-designed Principles from the [Working Together Mental Health and Alcohol and Other Drug Engagement Framework](#)) and affirmed that the proposed workshop design aligns with the Principles.

The next Steering Committee meeting is scheduled on Friday 17 December 2021. More information about the project, including governance structure, meeting communiques and the Project, Steering Committee, PPEG and SRG Terms of Reference documents can be found on the MHC Project page [here](#).

Please feel free to distribute the Communique to your wider networks.

For further information or if you have any queries, please contact Louise Howe 08 6553 0600 or email [engagement@mhc.wa.gov.au](mailto:engagement@mhc.wa.gov.au).