

Annual Report

1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023





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The Western Australian Association for Mental Health (WAAMH) acknowledges the Whadjuk Noongar people as the traditional custodians of the land and water where WAAMH is situated. We pay respect to elders past, present and emerging, and acknowledge the ongoing spiritual connection that Aboriginal peoples have to the lands across Western Australia. We also acknowledge the valuable role and voice of people with lived and living experience of mental health challenges, their families and carers.

The Western Australian Association for Mental Health (WAAMH) has been the peak body for community mental health services in Western Australia for nearly 60 years.

WAAMH inspires community attitudes, influences mental health priorities and policies, and implements practice through its mental health promotion, sector development and training, and systemic advocacy work.

OUR VISION

As a human right, every one of us will have the resources and support needed for mental wellbeing, recovery and citizenship.



- 1 RESPECT
- 2 SELF-DETERMINATION
- 3 INCLUSION
- 4 INTEGRITY
- 5 COURAGE

OUR MEMBERS

- Community-managed organisations providing mental health services, programs or supports.
- People and families with lived or living experience of mental health issues and suicide, with whom WAAMH engages in genuine partnership.
- A wide network of collaborative relationships at a state and national level with organisations which share our values and objectives.
- Individuals, mental health professionals, and community members who have an interest in, or whose work relates, to mental health.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



In presenting the 2022-23 Annual Report this year, I am proud to report to you yet another strong year of achievements and impact for WAAMH.

In a year of significant uncertainty at both the state and commonwealth policy environments, WAAMH continued to apply pressure at both levels to drive long overdue investment in a strong and contemporary community sector that meets the needs of people experiencing distress and their families.

This unrelenting pressure is slowly but substantially reaping rewards. At a Commonwealth level, WAAMH's national networks have worked to ensure the issue of unmet needs for psychosocial supports remains a national policy priority and that coordinated action is taken at an intergovernmental level to address this.

At a State level, WAAMH has been particularly pleased with the responsiveness and political leadership demonstrated by government in responding to issues raised by lived experience leaders and the community sector in relation to the Independent Governance Review. We are very hopeful that some of the structural and cultural issues that are holding back system transformation will be resolved.

WAAMH is also delighted to welcome the new Commissioner of the WA Mental Health Commission, Maureen Lewis. Maureen has significant experience working in other Commissions in other jurisdictions in areas of reform, and we look forward to continuing to work with her and the Commission productively in the next year.

This Annual General Meeting (AGM), we farewell two Board members, Carli Sheers and Lorrae Loud. Carli has been a much-valued consumer representative. She served a full term on the Board and during that time, proved a constructive and positive Board member, serving on all of WAAMH's sub-committees, including chairing the Lived Experience Partnership sub-committee. I thank Carli for her good governance skills, her personal commitment, and for championing lived experience values.

Lorrae's enduring commitment and voice for rural and remote communities, together with her executive leadership skills, have been so important to the work WAAMH does, including our partnership and report with UWA's Centre for Social Impact, in understanding and giving voice to the unique needs of Western Australia's regions.

“...WAAMH’s national networks have worked to ensure the issue of unmet needs for psychosocial supports remains a national policy priority and that coordinated action is taken at an intergovernmental level to address this.”

We were also very fortunate to have Ruth Charles as a WAAMH Board member, filling the casual vacancy created by the retirement of Arthur Papakotsias. Her government acumen, knowledge and networks were invaluable to us, and we regretfully farewelled her during the year.

The outstanding professionalism of WAAMH’s staff, led by our CEO Taryn Harvey, continues to drive our performance, and the personal commitment to WAAMH’s vision evident in this professional pride is remarkable. It is important as a mental health organisation that we lead and model for the sector in providing a workplace where people enjoy working together on meaningful endeavours, and it is pleasing to see this continue as WAAMH grows in size and complexity. I am very proud to be associated with such a mission-driven team.

I would like to thank all the Board members for their generosity of time and spirit they give so willingly to WAAMH and the broader sector on top of enormous day job commitments. Their staunch commitment to mental health reform through a lens of citizenship, of contributing lives and thriving communities is invaluable and inspiring.

Finally, in reflecting on the importance of you, our members, in supporting us to create and shape a contemporary mental health system that upholds people’s human rights and adapts to people’s needs, WAAMH appreciates your steadfast support and engagement. The tide is turning, and we will need all hands on deck for the exciting work ahead.

Kerry Hawkins — President

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT



It's my pleasure to take this opportunity to reflect on 2022-23 and particularly on two important advocacy successes that we've celebrated. These successes are an affirmation of WAAMH's guiding principles of human rights, recovery, co-production and social inclusion. They demonstrate our values of self-determination, integrity and courage and are a product of organisation and collaboration.

WAAMH faced operational challenges in 2022-23, dealing with capacity constraints and budget limitations. Key roles remained unfilled, hindering our ability to adapt to growing demands. Feedback from recruitment processes highlighted concerns about the potential system governance changes and the implications, impacting the recruitment of crucial positions. Similar to our members, WAAMH grappled with cost inflation and limited funding, with the core service agreement unchanged for over a decade. Despite efforts to offset staffing costs through fee-for-service activities and sponsorship, challenges persisted, emphasising the crucial need for more investment in the community sector.

An Independent Governance Review (IGR) in 2022 made unexpected recommendations for core mental health responsibilities across policy, planning and commissioning to transfer across to the Department of Health. There had been no explicit reference to mental health in the Review's terms of reference and very limited engagement with mental health stakeholders as part of the review. Concerned at the implications of the proposed changes, WAAMH took a leadership role in coordinating a collective response by people with lived experience, service provider organisations and peak bodies voicing our concerns about the recommendation and asking for a further process to reflect on the issues raised and examine the options in response. This prompted a decision to form a working group to further examine recommendations 14 and 15 of the review with targeted stakeholders during the first half of 2023. WAAMH and some of our members were actively engaged in this process.

In August 2023, the Minister announced the Government's response to the recommendations, which included amongst other things that the Mental Health Commission (MHC) would retain its key functions. Our focus now turns to building new momentum and positive outcomes following this period of uncertainty.

In March 2023, the WA Parliament passed the Criminal Law (Mental Impairment) Bill 2022, delivering on the very first commitment for the 2017 election made by former Premier Mark McGowan at WAAMH's 2016 WA Mental Health Conference. WAAMH played a leadership role in coordinating

“WAAMH continued to represent and support the sector and other stakeholders with practical initiatives such as projects and training, positive mental health promotion, and a successful conference...”

the community advocacy that secured this election commitment as well as advocacy after the election to ensure the commitment was delivered. Unfortunately, due to a combination of competing priorities, the complexity of the legislation and COVID, the delivery of this reform was significantly delayed. The Bill was finally introduced to Parliament in the final sitting days of the 2022 WA Parliamentary Calendar and was successfully and promptly passed within the first weeks of State Parliament in 2023. The Bill reflects the advocacy priorities our advocacy coalition and WAAMH had called for, and is a significant win in terms of human rights in this State.

This reform was of particular significance to myself, as it is an issue which I have worked on both at WAAMH and as the CEO of Developmental Disability WA (DDWA) both systemically and individually. It is through work on this challenging issue that I built some of the strong relationships with fellow advocates that I enjoy today. While we are pleased and relieved the law reform has been completed, it's likely that ongoing advocacy will be necessary to ensure that supports in the community are resourced to ensure the intent of the legislation is realised and people don't continue to be imprisoned unjustly.

As you will see from this annual report, WAAMH continued to represent and support the sector and other stakeholders with practical initiatives such as projects and training, positive mental health promotion, and a successful conference – our first since COVID.

I'd like to acknowledge that 2023 saw the departure of long-term staff member, Brooke Johns, who was responsible for WAAMH communications for nearly a decade and consistently demonstrated great commitment and responsibility for WAAMH's brand and brought ongoing creativity and new ideas to her work. We thank Brooke for her contribution to the organisation and our mission, and wish her well with her young family and her new professional endeavours.

I'd like to thank WAAMH staff for their hard work, dedication, and mutual support over the 2022-23 year. I also thank the Board for their support and guidance, and WAAMH members - for their ongoing engagement and collaboration.

Taryn Harvey — CEO

WAAMH BOARD 2022-23



Kerry Hawkins – Chairperson: Kerry is the President of WAAMH. She has had a professional career in the private and government sectors, including with the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and the WA Mental Health Commission (MHC). Her other directorships include Emerging Minds, Mental Health Carers Australia, Community Mental Health Australia, HelpingMinds and the Recovery College of WA. She is Deputy Co-chair of the National Mental Health Consumers and Carers Forum and a Commissioner with the National Mental Health Commission. A graduate of Boston University's Global Leadership Institute, Kerry draws on her lived experience as a family member significantly impacted by trauma and unsupported distress.

Carli Sheers – Board Director & Consumer Representative: Carli Sheers feels privileged to be a living example of recovery, and was elected as a WAAMH Lived Experience Board Director in 2020. In the same year, she was appointed by the WA Mental Health Commissioner as National Mental Health Consumer and Carer Forum WA Consumer Representative. In 2022, Carli was elected a 360 Health and Community Non-Executive Board Director, and appointed by Richmond Wellbeing as their Lived Experience Engagement Lead. She enjoys positive working relationships and an extensive mental health and disability network. Carli holds a Bachelor of Business degree from Edith Cowan University and five technical qualifications. She is currently studying an AICD Foundations of Directorship.

Deborah Childs – Board Director & CEO of HelpingMinds: With lived personal experience as a mental health carer, Debbie is a tireless advocate for the wellbeing of mental health carers and families. Debbie's commitment to driving change in our communities is unwavering, as she collaborates with the community's knowledge and skills to foster improvements. Debbie brings over 30 years of leadership experience in both large and small commercial and for purpose organisations. Debbie's skill set spans legal, financial, and communications domains. Debbie is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management and a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Lorrae Loud – Board Director & Lived Experience Representative: Lorrae held the helm as CEO for 20 years at Lamp, a community-based non-government organisation providing psychosocial support services to consumers and families across the South West. She is a graduate of Murdoch University with degrees in sociology, adult education and policy. Lorrae is a sitting member of the South West Regional District Health Advisory Council and has been a member of the Mental Health Tribunal for 13 years. She is also the Vice Chair of Radiance Post and Perinatal Support Services South West.

Shaun Mays – Board Director & Rise Director of Strategy and Growth: Shaun Mays is the Rise Network Director of Strategy and Growth and holds an additional Board position with the Sexuality Education Counselling and Consultancy Agency (SECCA). He has 26 years' experience in the human services sector and has held senior management positions for 16 years. Shaun has extensive experience working across child protection, youth, mental health, drug and health sectors; and is passionate about client-centered service delivery and empowering clients to meaningfully take part in service design. He holds qualifications in Business and Social Work (Hons) and has been a member of the Australian Association of Social Work since 2002.

Pamela Bubrzycki - Deputy Chairperson & Chief Services Officer, Hope Community Services: Pam is the Chief Services Officer and Chair of the Clinical Governance Committee at Hope Community Services. She has experience in youth and adult mental health, and is on the Youth Mental Health Sub-Network Committee at the Department of Health. Pam has specialist knowledge in First Episode Psychosis, and residential and community-based mental health services, psychology qualifications, and holds a board position for a large national volunteer organisation. Pam has been instrumental in the implementation of peer supports throughout her career. She understands the challenges and complexities of navigating systems and is a strong advocate for the provision of quality, sustainable services in metropolitan, remote and regional WA.

Nicole Jolly – Board Director & Director- Integrated Support, Neami National: Nicole is committed to the delivery and demonstration of robust quality, safety and governance principles, and provision of evidence-based practice. Nicole has a commitment to social justice principles and has worked for 30 years across specialist mental health and trauma services, high risk youth and early psychosis, the government and not-for-profit sectors. Nicole is a qualified social worker, has a Masters in Business Administration from Curtin Graduate School of Business, and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Nicole holds voluntary directorship roles as Chairperson of Hepatitis WA and is on the WAFC Integrity Steering Committee.

Leanne Strommen – Board Director & General Manager of Community Services, Centrecare Inc. Leanne is the General Manager of Community Services of Centrecare Inc. Leanne has a long history of service delivery in mental health. She has extensive knowledge and a comprehensive understanding of the local needs of the community and effective responses pertaining to metropolitan, rural and remote areas. She has more than 26 years of governance experience working within numerous community services governance frameworks at state and national levels. Leanne is a Director at the Western Australian Association for Mental Health, Director of Family and Relationship Services Australia, agency representative for WA to End Homelessness WA, Child and Family Alliance of WA and the Family Court of WA Reference group.

Tanya Steinbeck – Board Director & Lived Experience Representative: Tanya is the Chief Executive Officer of the Urban Development Institute of Australia in WA. She was previously Executive Director of Regional Services Reform and Transformation to improve the lives of Aboriginal people in regional and remote WA at the Department of Communities. Prior to that, Tanya led the successful implementation of the \$560 million Social Housing Investment Package (SHIP) which ensured the priority wait list for seniors and families with children more than halved and added another 1000 social homes. Tanya has extensive leadership and management experience working in industry associations. She has a high media profile and was featured in the WA Business News Power 500 list of Perth's most influential leaders. Her personal experiences fuel her passion for change in the mental health system.

Claire Timmel – Deputy Chairperson & Lived Experience Representative: Claire is a Manager in the Strategy and Transactions division of EY. She works predominantly with health and human services government clients, specialising in service design, service redesign, gaps analysis and service evaluation, and is studying a postgraduate degree in Predictive Analytics at Curtin University. She has previously worked in the mental health sector with HelpingMinds and WAAMH. She is the Lived Experience Consumer Representative for the WA Joint Services Planning and Governance Committee to oversee the implementation of the mental health and suicide prevention initiatives under the Bilateral Schedule. Claire has living experience of mental illness and is passionate about advocating for change in mental health.

Arthur Papakotsias: Resigned before first meeting after 2022 Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Ruth Charles: Appointed to fill casual vacancy in March 2023 and resigned in August 2023.

BOARD COMMITTEES 2022-23



To support sound governance and lived experience participation and collaboration, WAAMH's Board was supported by the following committees during 2022-23.

Board Executive Committee

Members: Kerry Hawkins, Shaun Mays, Claire Timmel, Debbie Childs, Pamela Bubrzycki

The Board Executive Committee is made up of the Board chairperson, deputy chairpersons and the chairs of the Finance Committee and the Governance, Risk, Remuneration and Nomination Committee. The Board Executive Committee supports the Board in fulfilling its strategic direction and Board operations. The chief executive officer attends committee meetings in an ex officio capacity.

Finance Committee

Members: Debbie Childs (chair), Claire Timmel, Nicole Jolly, Pamela Bubrzycki

The Finance Committee provides advice to the WAAMH Board concerning the financial strategy and compliance of the association, including financial controls, accountability, financial reporting and policies. The CEO and corporate services manager attend committee meetings in an ex officio capacity. Rod Lillis attended meetings to provide independent accountancy consultation to the committee. Directors may attend meetings as observers on a regular basis. In 2022-23 Chairperson Kerry Hawkins attended meetings regularly. In 2022-23 the Finance Committee reviewed monthly financial reports, supported the preparation of the annual budget and oversaw further improvements to WAAMH's financial controls and accountability.

Governance, Risk, Remuneration and Nomination (GRRN) Committee

Members: Shaun Mays (chair), Lorrae Loud, Carli Sheers, Leanne Strommen, Tanya Steinbeck

The GRRN Committee supports the Board in fulfilling its statutory, fiduciary and regulatory obligations, assists with Board performance, Board governance, director nomination, succession and development, oversees CEO performance and WAAMH's strategic management. The CEO attends committee meetings in an ex officio capacity. Directors may attend meetings as observers on a regular basis. In 2022-23 Chairperson Kerry Hawkins attended committee meetings as an observer.

Lived Experience Partnership Committee

In 2021-22 the Lived Experience Partnership Committee decided to freeze the meetings as it is considered that at this point, the WAAMH Board has integrated best practice of lived and living experience within the way it works. It remains ready for action should the need arise in the future.

WAAMH 2022-23 Board

Kerry Hawkins – Chairperson (WAAMH), Carer representative

Carli Sheers - Consumer representative

Deborah Childs – CEO HelpingMinds

Lorrae Loud – Carer representative

Shaun Mays – Director of Strategy and Growth, Rise

Pamela Bubrzycki – Deputy Chairperson (WAAMH), Chief Services Officer, Hope Community Services

Nicole Jolly – Director of Integrated Support, Neami National

Leanne Strommen – General Manager of Community Services, Centrecare Inc

Tanya Steinbeck – Carer Representative

Claire Timmel – Deputy Chairperson (WAAMH), Consumer Representative

Arthur Papakotsias – resigned before first meeting after 2022 Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Ruth Charles – appointed to fill casual vacancy in March 2023 and resigned in August 2023

Directors Board Meeting Attendance 2022-2023

NAME	MEETINGS ATTENDED	MEETINGS POSSIBLE
Kerry Hawkins	6	6
Carli Sheers	4	6
Debbie Childs	4	6
Lorrae Loud	4	6
Shaun Mays	6	6
Tanya Steinbeck	4	5
Arthur Papakotsias	2	4
Pamela Bubrzycki	3	3
Nicole Jolly	3	3
Leanne Strommen	2	3
Claire Timmel	3	3
Ruth Charles	2	2
Monique Williamson	3	3
Lorna MacGregor	3	3
Shannon Calvert	1	3
Nicole Lockwood	0	3

WAAMH STAFF

From 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023



Taryn Harvey

Chief Executive Officer

Nigel Barrett

Manager, Corporate Services

Cassandra MacDonald

Sector Development Manager

Vanessa Cullen

Training Manager

Lorna Lobo

Training & Corporate Services Officer

Christine Hastie

Finance & Corporate Support Officer

Cindy Cox

IPS Support & Evaluation Officer

Corey Dwyer

IPS Support & Evaluation Officer

Diane Moe

IPS Support & Evaluation Officer

Kenneth Dinsdale

IPS Support & Evaluation Officer

Roshani Shrestha

IPS Project Lead

Colin Penter

Policy and Research Officer

Eimear Boland

CARE Hub Coordinator

Kathy Greenwood

Lived Experience Engagement Coordinator

Roslyn Bowyer

Project Lead - NDIS QSC Sector Readiness Project

Kylie Grove

NDIS Project Officer / IPS Admin Support Officer

Michele Burnlar

Project Training Officer Sector Readiness NDIS QSC

Nicole Harry

NDIS Project Officer

Robyn Brendenkamp

Training and Membership Officer

Shendelle Oliver

Marketing and Events Manager

Wilma Edwards

CARE Hub Facilitator



DEPARTURES

During 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023

Abraham Pattiselanno

CARE Hub Coordinator

Amanda Paterson

WAAMH Trainer

Brooke Johns

Manager, Public Relations

Charlotte Hogg

Administration Support Officer for Events

Clare McCarthy

IPS and CARE Hub Admin Support Officer

Deborah Geddes

Project Officer - NDIS QSC Sector Readiness Project

Martine French

Administration Support Officer – Training

Mawghan Elverd

Administration Support Officer (IPS, Sector Development & Advocacy)

Mollie Tracey

Communication and Events Officer

Nicole Fitch

Project Lead - NDIS QSC Sector Readiness Project

Ryan Emery

Digital Communications and Media Advisor

Shan Williams

Administration Support Officer – CARE Hub

Swati Gupta

Project Officer – NDIS QSC Sector Readiness Project

MEMBERSHIP 2022-23



**TOTAL
MEMBERS
208**

Full Organisational	60
Full Individual Lived Experience	103
Associate Organisational	24
Associate Individual	16
Honorary	5

Full Organisational Members

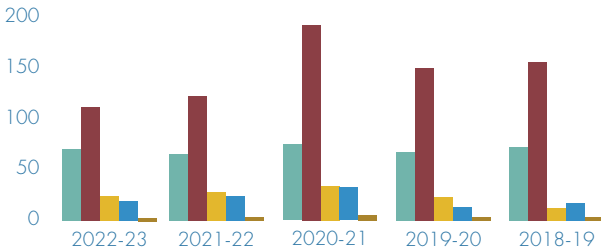
Allergy Support Hub
 Anglicare WA (Inc)
 Avenues Australia
 Avivo Live Life
 Big Emotions Academy
 Bros Global
 Calvary Youth Services Mandurah Inc
 Casson Homes Inc
 Centrecare Inc
 Collective Hope Community Services Ltd
 Collie Family Centre Inc
 Domestic Abuse Resource and Training Group
 Empowering Abilities Together
 Financial Counsellors Association of WA
 Fusion Australia
 Good Turn Services
 Grow - Western Australia Branch
 Hedland Well Womens Centre
 HelpingMinds
 Holyoake
 Homeless Healthcare
 Hope Community Services Ltd
 Ishar Multicultural Women's Health Services
 Kidsafe WA
 Lamp Inc
 Lifeline WA (Living Stone Foundation Inc)
 Lifeworks Occupational Therapy
 Mental Illness Fellowship of WA (MIFWA)
 Mercy Community Services Limited
 Mind Australia
 Mission Australia
 Multicultural Futures
 My Choice Supports
 My Way Community Alliance
 Neami National
 Northern Compassion Inc (Tenacious House)
 Pathways SouthWest Inc
 Peel Youth Services Inc. T/A Choyces
 PeelConnect Incorporated
 Purple Patch Therapy
 RCS Goldfields
 Relationships Australia Western Australia
 Richmond Wellbeing Inc.
 Rise Network
 Ruah Community Services
 SafeHaven Mental Health Services
 Southern Cross Care (WA) Inc.
 St Bartholomew's House
 St John of God Social Outreach Services
 Tender Care
 The Grief Centre of WA
 The Inner Ninja Foundation
 The Salvation Army Western Australia
 Tuley
 UnitingWA
 Wanslea Limited
 Women's Health & Family Services (WHFS)
 Youth Affairs Council of WA
 Youth Focus
 Youth Futures

Associate Organisational Members

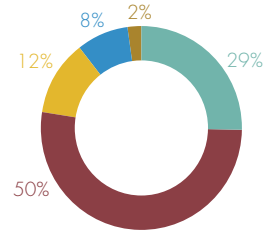
ATI-Mirage Training & Business Solutions
 BGSR Pty Ltd
 Blooming Minds
 Brightwater Care Group
 Cancer Council WA
 Chayah Independent NDIS Consultant & Services
 City of Stirling
 Communicare Academy
 ConnectGroups Support Groups
 Fresh Start Recovery Programme
 Goldfields Community Legal Centre Inc.
 GP Down South
 Legal Aid WA

Life Education WA Inc
 Lifeskills Australia
 Mental Health Journey Australia
 My Place WA Ltd
 North Metropolitan Tafe
 One2One
 Palmerston Association Inc
 SMR Learning t/a Train Smart Australia
 Tuart Place
 WA Country Health Services - South West
 Mental Health
 Zero2Hero

Membership: Five-year comparison

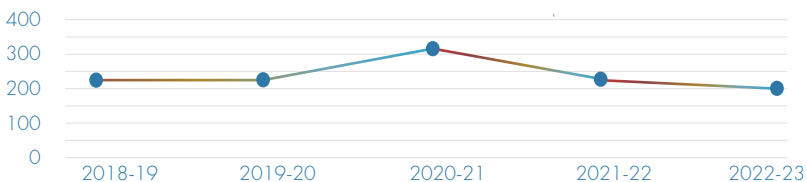


2022-23 Membership by category



■ Full Organisational
 ■ Full Individual
 ■ Associate Organisational
 ■ Associate Individual
 ■ Honorary

Total member growth: Five-year comparison



ADVOCACY

Advocacy, Representation, and Collaboration

During 2022-23 WAAMH continued to be proactive in advocating for an increased focus on mental health prevention and the social determinants of mental ill health and promoting a greater role for investment and community based, recovery-oriented supports to improve mental health outcomes for Western Australians and address system sustainability challenges. In addition to these important advocacy priorities, WAAMH also represented our members and sector on a number of different advisory bodies.

Reports, Submissions, and Contributions

WAAMH produced a number of formal reports and submissions in 2022-23, as well as targeted advice and contributions on specific priority topics, including:

- Going the Distance research project on regional community mental health needs with the Centre for Social Impact;
- Response to Independent Governance Review recommendations and participation in the following process;
- "Justice Delayed is Justice Denied – A report to strengthen the CLMI Act in WA" (jointly with the WA Justice Association);
- "An Individual Placement and Support (IPS) Model of the Criminal Justice System" (jointly with the WA Justice Association);
- WA Legislative Assembly Education and Health Standing Committee – Inquiry into the Esther Foundation and Unregulated Private Health Facilities (jointly with WANADA);
- WA Parliament Estimates and Financial Operations Standing Committee – Inquiry into the Financial Administration of Homelessness Funding in WA;
- WA Department of Communities Review of the WA Disability legislation;
- Australian Senate Inquiry into Poverty;
- Australian Parliament House Select Committee on Workforce Australia Employment Services;
- Western Australia State Commissioning Strategy and MHC Agency Commissioning Plan;
- Proposed introduction of the new Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Healthcare mental health standards for WA community managed organisations;
- MHC Mental Health and Wellbeing Framework;
- MHC Review of peaks;
- MHC YES Survey CMO Pilot;
- Briefing paper to MHC on hoarding and mental health issues and the current role of the NGO sector in responding to hoarding;
- TKI Youth Safe Haven Project;

Representation

WAAMH represented our members and the broader sector in multiple forums in 2022-23, including:

- Community MH and AOD Council (CMC) and associated sub-committees;
- WA Joint Service Planning and Governance Committee and associated sub-committees;
- Evaluation of Step-Up Step-Down services; and
- Aftercare Model Working Group.

Partnerships and Collaborations:

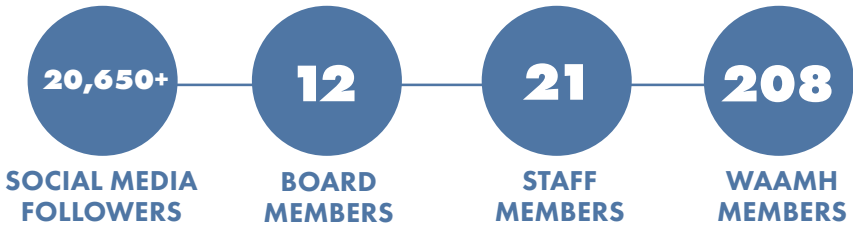
WAAMH worked with a number of stakeholders across 2022-23 to deliver a diverse range of initiatives, including:

- Research and advocacy collaboration with the WA Justice Association on various matters relating to mental health and the criminal justice system;
- Co-researcher in Healthways funded ECU research project on youth mental health and climate changes; and
- Supported Sportswest in operationalising its mental health and wellbeing guide for sporting associations and community sporting clubs.





OPERATIONS



SUBMISSIONS

- Submission to the Office of Disability in the Department of Communities in response to the Consultation Paper on Reforming WA's Disability Legislation.
- Submission to the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care on the National Safety and Quality Mental Health Standards for Community Managed Organisations.
- Submission titled Tackling the Connections between Poverty and Mental Health to the Australian Senate Community Affairs Reference Committee inquiry into Poverty in Australia.
- Submission titled Connections between employment and mental health within the Workforce Australia system to the House of Representatives Select Committee on Workforce Employment Services.
- Submission to the Parliament of WA, Estimates and Financial Operations Standing Committee Inquiry into the Financial Administration of Homelessness Funding in WA.
- Joint submission by WANADA and WAAMH to the Education and Health Standing Committee Inquiry into the Esther Foundation and unregulated health facilities.

PROJECTS

- NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Sector Readiness (psychosocial providers)
- Quality standards for community managed mental health organisations
- Co-occurring Alcohol and Other Drugs and Mental Health
- Individual Placement Support (IPS) in criminal justice system
- Mental health in regional and remote WA
- Poverty and mental health
- Climate change and youth mental health
- Improving regulation for unregistered providers
- Community sport and mental health
- Disability and mental health
- Housing and homelessness



TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT



WAAMH continued to deliver a suite of courses relevant to the needs of a range of organisations and workforces across the community sector, government and the private sector. Training remains a significant area of activity in helping to build the workforce of both our sector and other workforces who may be supporting people experiencing mental health issues or distress.

WAAMH welcomed a steady increase in demand for training courses after the impacts of COVID-19 over the past two years. The resurgence in demand also indicated a preference for face-to-face learning experiences, with online training still servicing regional need.

WAAMH has noted that the greatest level of growth in demand for training is for our customised contract training that allows us to work with organisations to help them identify their workforce's specific, learning and development needs and any particular contextual factors and to tailor our training and resources to meet those needs. Over the past year, WAAMH continued to strengthen relationships with Uniting WA, Department of Justice, North Metropolitan TAFE, WA Country Health Service (WACHS) and Wanslea, who contracted WAAMH to deliver multiple training courses throughout the year.

An example of the benefit to organisations of a customised approach was recently seen in our successful delivery of training to two regional Aboriginal organisations, where a new training model was collaboratively developed. The premise was for the WAAMH trainer to be supported by the Cultural Awareness Officer or Committee of Elders of the organisation. This provided an effective and necessary interpretation of training content, using a specific cultural lens, to create meaningful learning experiences for staff that were bespoke to their land, people and service delivery.

In addition to adapting our mode of delivery of training, WAAMH has also continued to develop new content in response to emerging needs and to continuously improve existing products and resources. For example, in response to feedback from member organisations Anglicare WA and Uniting WA, WAAMH developed a new training course, 'Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drugs – Recovery Toolkit'. Our colleagues at WANADA reviewed the content, and WAAMH also referred to WANADA's Co-occurring Tool.

In response to the increasing public awareness of mental health and the workforce and an increase in requests for training on this topic, WAAMH reviewed and updated the Mental Health in the Workplace course, which was successfully launched in June 2023.

As part of the completion of a recent workforce project for the MHC, WAAMH launched the online component of the Mental Health Commission's Pre-employment Training Program in October 2022.

Given the increasing focus on lived experience workforces across various services and systems, WAAMH is pleased to be able to continue to offer opportunities to increase access by people with a lived experience to the WAAMH Scholarship Program, which increases access to WAAMH training to consumers or carers who face financial difficulty. During the 2022-23 financial year, over 80 people benefited from the program.

KEY STATISTICS

105

MENTAL HEALTH
TRAINING COURSES
DELIVERED

41

SEMESTER COURSES
DELIVERED

64

CONTRACT COURSES
DELIVERED

9

CONTRACT COURSES
DELIVERED IN FIVE
REGIONAL AREAS

82

SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED
For people with lived experience

92%

RATED TRAINING AS
'EXCELLENT/VERY
GOOD'



2357 PEOPLE TRAINED



LIVED EXPERIENCE ENGAGEMENT



WAAMH has a long history of partnering with lived experience stakeholders and established a position for a Lived Experience Engagement Coordinator in 2022.

The Lived Experience Engagement Coordinator has been a successful addition to the WAAMH team, with networks and opportunities growing steadily in response to demand from the sector. The role was designed as a point of contact for people in Western Australia seeking to engage from a lived experience perspective; support capacity building of WAAMH members who are working to utilise lived experience expertise; and ensure WAAMH is connected to National and State Lived Experience Workforce developments, initiatives and learning opportunities.

Training: Lived Experience Speaker Training has been popular with individuals who want to share their lived or living experience, either as part of advocacy/peer work or as part of the sense making process for themselves. To date, 60 people have participated in the five session course, and there is a waitlist for 2024. Feedback has been positive, and those individuals are now regularly in contact with WAAMH about upcoming events. In addition, during the first half of this year the Youth Affairs Council of WA (YACWA) booked the Lived Experience Speaker Training course for their Youth Homeless Advisory Council, and St Pats requested an in-house course for staff.

There has been a lived experience component written into the new training course Mental Health in the Workplace with the goal to review several other training courses to feature more lived experience content.

Lived Experience Speakers: For some time, WAAMH has featured a Lived Experience Presenter in training courses, offering a unique perspective to the course material. Ten new speakers have been onboarded to present their lived experience during training, adding diverse, real-life stories, which also gives the speakers an opportunity to develop their presentation skills and confidence. Speakers are supported by the Lived Experience Engagement Coordinator who works closely with the Training team and the Wellness Responders to ensure quality and safety.

Relationship Building: The Lived Experience Engagement Coordinator regularly represents WAAMH at functions, events, meetings, and webinars. The Coordinator supports the growth of the Lived Experience Workforce by promoting engagement opportunities, providing introductions and guidance, collecting testimonials for submissions, answering queries from individuals and organisations, and providing regular updates.

A workshop called Engaging Lived Experience was developed and has since been delivered to WA Justice Association (WAJA), and WA Primary Health Alliance (WAPHA). The workshop is also part of a lived experience workshop project at Curtin University.



COLLABORATIVE AND RESPONSIVE ENGAGEMENT (CARE) HUB



CARE Hub had a very successful year with Lotterywest funding. WAAMH has seen a spike in hub engagement to more than 1900 members and continues to grow.

The CARE Hub serves as a practice-focussed space for community members to come together, communicate, and collaborate on sector development issues. The success of mental health communities like the CARE Hub relies on the active engagement of its members, who play a crucial role in sharing their experiences, knowledge, and resources including through Communities of Practice. Through their participation, they shape perceptions of mental health and recovery, build expertise and authority, and stimulate conversations and feedback among forum participants. Members who are active in these communities play a role in framing perceptions of mental health and recovery, building expertise and authority, and stimulate conversations and feedback among participants.

Leadership is a key topic of interest on the CARE Hub facilitated co-learning sessions with deep dive into how we show up in leading ourselves and then others, and different types of leadership styles. The team continue to deliver training and facilitate co-learning sessions to build capacity in community on all areas relating to community mental health, including special topic discussions led by Vee Wilson (Lived Experience Consultant), along with a new spotlight series featuring video interviews.

The CARE Hub team participated in a range of engagement opportunities including conferences (Men's conference, WACOSS conference), sector events e.g., Neami National, NAIDOC events, and met with new mental health services. The team also raised awareness of the CARE Hub and determined emerging needs.

When assessing how the CARE Hub can engage and share knowledge, it is essential to understand the factors that can positively encourage people to share. WAAMH engaged UWA students from the School of Population and Global Health to explore how mental health platforms can enhance capacity and engage audiences. The research found a collaborative approach can contribute to the implementation of national mental health policy, and strengthen local networks by establishing new networks with consumers - findings which support CARE Hub's vision and operations.

The CARE Hub Lotterywest funding concludes in December 2023 and the team have been working with UWA Centre for Social Impact to carry out an evaluation of the Hub since it commenced in 2020. WAAMH is now working on incorporating the Hub into ongoing operations.



KEY STATISTICS

38

TRAINING COURSES RAN

53

TOPIC THREADS OPEN FOR DISCUSSION

1900+

CARE HUB MEMBERS



NDIS QUALITY AND SAFEGUARDING SECTOR READINESS PROJECT (PSYCHOSOCIAL PROVIDERS) PHASE THREE

Funded by the Department of Communities, Phase Three of the project continued to build the capacity of registered NDIS psychosocial providers to operate in compliance with the NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Commission requirements, with a focus on the design and delivery of accessible resources.

Highlights of Phase Three included:

Newsletter Redesign: A redesigned monthly newsletter to increase interactivity and accessibility to ensure a more engaging design, including embedded links to instructional videos to explain how to use the project resources. The new design was well received, with more people connecting in and utilising resources.

Customised Training: Training was customised to meet the specific needs of subsets of the sector. For example, by distinguishing support workers, support coordinators and managers, the team theorised it would allow for the sharing of more relevant information and enable more freedom in discussion, which was proven in practice.

Project Flowchart: To better explain the nature and reach of the project, the team conceptualised and developed an interactive Project Flowchart. Feedback indicated the Flowchart was useful in both reminding providers and highlighting the broad range of ways in which the project is of benefit.

KEY STATISTICS 2022-23

26

**NDIS TRAINING
COURSES
DELIVERED**

150

**LINKEDIN REQUESTS
APPROVED:
WAAMH NDIS
PROJECT**

10

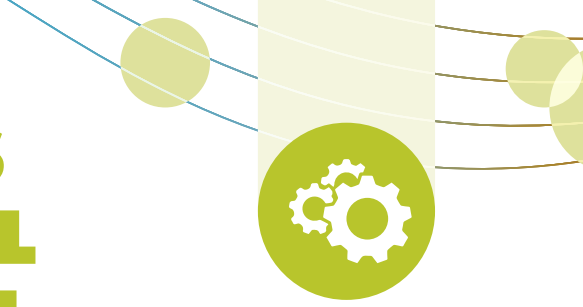
**NEW NDIS
SECTOR TOOLS
AND RESOURCES
CREATED**

175 VISITS

**TO WAAMH NDIS
WEBPAGES**



IPS WORKS INDIVIDUAL PLACEMENT & SUPPORT



WAAMH's work to strengthen the IPS employment model continues to be an excellent model of sector and workforce support and development of contemporary practice and models of care that deliver tangible recovery outcomes in the community.

The IPS WORKS team continued to support 50 headspace sites across Australia to deliver the IPS Program funded by the Department of Social Services (DSS). The work involved providing ongoing mentoring and support to the headspace sites and conducting fidelity reviews.

DSS expanded the IPS Program to Community Adult Mental Health Services commencing a trial at two Head to Health sites, one in Midland, WA and one in Darwin, Northern Territory. WAAMH was contracted to deliver technical support and fidelity reviews for the trial.

IPS WORKS was commissioned to pilot the IPS program with a community managed mental health service provider. Expressions of interest from community managed mental health service providers were called. Ruah Community Services was the successful provider and the IPS trial began.

IPS WORKS was also contracted to conduct five fidelity reviews and fidelity review training by Community Bridging Services (CBS) in South Australia. A fidelity review and the training were completed in June 2023. Two fidelity reviews have been completed in July 2023. Two reviews are yet to be scheduled.

WAAMH was represented at the International Learning Community Annual General Meeting held in Detroit, USA, in May 2022. The meeting had been cancelled for the past two years due to COVID. Representatives from England, Iceland, Norway, France, Spain, Holland, and across the USA attended. The meeting provided an opportunity to build relationships with international peers. Research updates on current IPS studies and trials were also presented during the event.



headspace sites

- IPS WORKS Locations
- Head to Health sites
- Youth Focus site
- Community Bridging Services
- RUAH

New South Wales

Ashfield
Bankstown
Bega
Dubbo
Gosford
Grafton
Newcastle
Nowra
Penrith
Tamworth
Wagga Wagga
Wollongong

Victoria

Ballarat
Bendigo
Dandenong
Frankston
Geelong
Knox
Melton
Shepparton
Sunshine
Warrnambool
Werribee

Queensland

Caboolture
Cairns
Hervey Bay
Inala
Ipswich
Mackay
Meadowbrook
Mount Isa
Rockhampton
Townsville

Western Australia

Albany
Broome
Bunbury
Fremantle
Geraldton
Joondalup
Kalgoorlie
Midland

South Australia

Edinburgh North
Murray Bridge
Onkaparinga
Port Augusta
Port Lincoln

Northern Territory

Alice Springs
Darwin

Tasmania

Devonport
Hobart

Australian Capital Territory

Tuggeranong



MENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION



Over the last financial year, the Mental Health Promotions team focused on delivering its major annual campaigns, WA Mental Health Week, and the WA Mental Health Awards, as well as delivering the biennial Western Australian Mental Health Conference and other activities including Member events, while playing a supporting role in other national awareness campaigns.

WA Mental Health Conference: The biennial WA Mental Health Conference welcomed more than 700 delegates to learn and engage in the theme 'Working together: a shared purpose' held at Optus Stadium in November 2022. The conference featured lived experience speaker Grace Tame, Australian of the Year in 2021 who gave the keynote address. There were presentations from the CEO of Maar Koodjal; Haseeb Riaz and Gareth Shanthikumar; Julian Pace from Happiness Co., and Dr Mat Coleman. There were also presentations by people with lived experience, clinicians, and those with corporate experience. Throughout the two-day conference guests were encouraged to participate in activities such as creative workshops and drumming.

Events and campaigns the Mental Health Promotions team supported during 2022-23:

- WA Mental Health Week Opening and Closing Ceremonies
- Member's event with WAAMH's CEO and the Acting Mental Health Commissioner in May 2022
- Support for NAIDOC, Reconciliation, Schizophrenia Awareness, Carers, and Homelessness Weeks.



WA MENTAL HEALTH WEEK



The theme for WA Mental Health Week in 2022 was 'Mind, Body, and Environment: Where we live, how we live, what we've lived'. The Week brought awareness to the concept that mental wellbeing is linked to thoughts, physical bodies, and the environment.

The theme recognised how a person's mental health is a result of many intersecting factors. The campaign was successful in creating and sharing resources, factsheets, videos, tips, supports and strategies to promote positive outcomes across all age groups. The online resources proved popular with partners and community groups. The campaign website had thousands of visits and social media had strong engagement.

Mental Health Week also fostered the curation of community events around Western Australia via WAAMH's long-standing Community Grants Program, with 80 grants delivered to organisations to host their own events, purchase equipment, or access a WAAMH education scholarship. There were hundreds of community events held around Western Australia during the Week.

Community members also helped promote positive mental health by wearing a green awareness ribbon or by purchasing a branded pen. 17,000 ribbons and 1,500 pens were purchased in the lead up to Mental Health Week.

WAAMH's partnership with The Jungle Body continued for a fourth year, with lively choreography and music to get people moving and having fun at Rottnest Island.



MENTAL HEALTH AWARDS



The WA Mental Health Awards recognise individuals and organisations from a diverse range of sectors and the broader WA community.

WAAMH celebrated the winners of the 2022 WA Mental Health Awards on 25 November at the Pan Pacific in Perth. The annual Awards are presented with support from the WA Mental Health Commission (MHC) to celebrate individuals and organisations that made an outstanding contribution to mental health in the previous calendar year through excellence, innovation and initiative.

The Awards Ceremony and Celebration event has continued to be a highlight in the mental health sector, acknowledging organisations and individuals doing incredible work to keep Western Australians mentally well. In 2022, 300 attendees including delegates from government, the mental health sector and representatives from organisations and communities who have a passion for mental health joined the celebrations.

WAAMH received 168 nominations across nine categories, judged by a panel that included mental health sector employees, mental health lived experience consumers and carers, and MHC representatives. The number of nominations across the categories outside mainstream or traditional mental health settings signaled the universal message that mental health awareness and supports are important across all areas.



2022 FINALISTS AND WINNERS

Minister's Award

WINNER: Lorraine Powell, Lived Experience Australia

FINALISTS

- Adam Przytula, Armed for Life
- Anne Mackay, Radiance Network South West
- Steve Batson, South Metropolitan Health Service

Diversity Award - Roshana Care Group

WINNER: Strong and Resilient Program, HelpingMinds

FINALISTS

- Act Belong Commit, Mentally Healthy WA
- Yorgum Healing Services

Mental Health Employee or Volunteer Excellence Award - Act Belong Commit

WINNER: Ann McGuire, Mental Health Matters 2

FINALISTS

- Kelson Mudd, Men's Recovery Community
- Regina Cruickshank, Yogazeit
- Zac Cawdron, Youth at Risk Network

Mentally Healthy Education Award - Commissioner for Children and Young People of WA

WINNER: Westfield Park Primary School

FINALISTS

- Fiona Perrella
- Makybe Rise Primary School
- The Living Room, Student Life, UWA

Lived Experience Impact and Inspiration Award - WA Mental Health Commission

WINNER: Anna Richards, Consumers of Mental Health WA

FINALISTS

- Chris Johnson, Ruah Community Services
- Jacqueline de Grussa, The Recovery Collective
- William Turner, South West Aboriginal Medical Services

Innovation for Change Award - Youth Focus

WINNER: Care and Protection Service, Ruah Legal Services

FINALISTS

- Carers WA
- Richmond Wellbeing
- Peel, Rockingham and Kwinana (PaRK) Suicide Postvention Collective

Prevention or Promotion Award - Lifeline WA

WINNER: The Living Room, Student life, UWA

FINALISTS

- Inspire Peer Support at Fiona Stanley Hospital, Ruah Community Services and Palmerston
- Shooting Stars
- Therapeutic Crisis Intervention for Families program, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service

Mentally Healthy Workplace Award - Chamber of Minerals and Energy of WA

WINNER: Roy Hill

FINALISTS

- AMCAP
- PageGroup
- Strong Minds, Strong Mines

News Media Award - Western Australian Association for Mental Health

WINNER: Joined Up Films, SBS

FINALISTS

- Greg Hire
- Rae Fallon
- Rhiannon Shine

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

WAAMH continues to operate within its approved budgets and a tight control on its financial performance.

The two Australian Accounting Standards, AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers, and AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities continue to influence WAAMH's financial position. Multiyear projects with funding classified AASB 1058 and already received and receipted in the year received has created the 2022-23 deficit. This standard will continue to influence the rolling surplus and deficits across the life of these types of projects.

Revenue

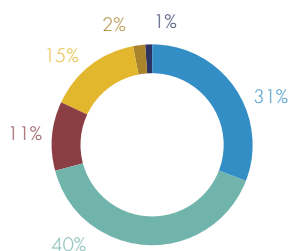
WAAMH's overall revenue reported in 2022-23 did reduce from 2021-22. The largest revenue reduction from 2021-22 was in Grants income. In 2021-22 WAAMH received \$844,569 of grant funding due for expense in 2022-23. Being classified as AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities, it could not be carried forward to 2022-23.

The MHC funding reduction was connected to the IPS funding moved out of the Core MHC funding service agreement to a new standalone IPS pilot project halfway through last financial year and now showing 100% in Grants Income. WAAMH's core MHC service agreement has been rolled over again, being 12 years under the same agreement. Without a funding review against new service delivery output, and pressure of increased resourcing costs the MHC service agreement is putting pressure on WAAMH's bottom line.

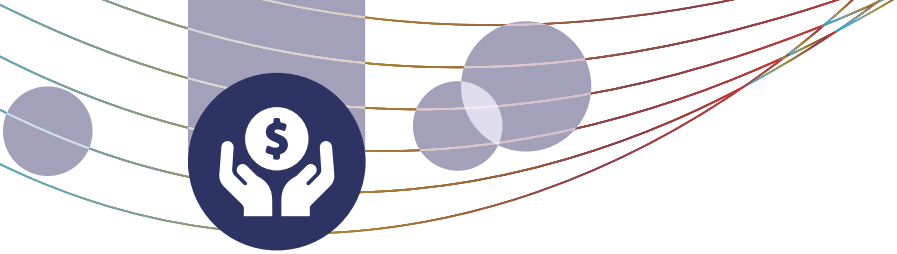
Events & Activities income was strong on the back of a successful Mental Health Conference, Mental Health Awards, and sponsorship for Mental Health Week activities. Membership income was higher than last year even though annual membership fees were held.

Revenue 2022-2023

- Service Agreements
- Grants
- Training & Program Fees
- Events & Activities
- Membership Fees
- Other revenue



INCOME	2022-2023	2021-2022
Service Agreements	838,608	946,594
Grants	1,086,185	1,926,829
Training & Program Fees	304,590	239,416
Events & Activities	409,642	72,360
Membership Fees	74,830	65,380
Other revenue	13,725	5,126
Total revenue	\$2,727,580	\$3,255,705



Expenditure

WAAMH's expenditure in 2022-23 has increased from 2021-22 across three of the five activity areas. There was a reduction in Systemic Advocacy expenditure associated with staffing levels. Sector capacity building increased, partly associated with the Mental Health Conference, the continuation of IPS and the NDIS Sector Readiness Project.

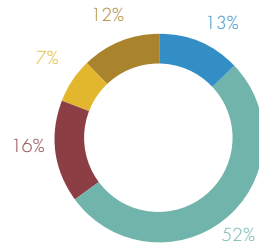
Workforce Development & Training also increased with expanded work on the CARE Hub project while Training attendance was steady.

Mental Health Promotion expenditure has reduced again and as per last year the reduction is connected to reduced additional funding for specific projects. The Mental Health Commission's service agreement expenditure during this time has remained consistent.

While General Operations & Governance expenditure increased in 2022-23 it remained the same 12% of expenditure as per 2021-22, while overall expenditure increased. WAAMH is focussed on minimising administrative expenditure while maintaining efficient operations with robust governance.

Expenditure by Activity 2022-2023

- Systemic Advocacy
- Sector Capacity Building
- Workforce Development & Training
- Mental Health Promotion
- General Operations & Governance



EXPENDITURE BY ACTIVITY	2022-2023	2021-2022
Systemic Advocacy	429,114	488,456
Sector Capacity Building	1,724,531	1,485,332
Workforce Development & Training	535,950	453,653
Mental Health Promotion	206,645	244,131
General Operations & Governance	421,954	393,323
Total expenditure	\$3,318,194	\$3,064,895

Strong and thriving mental health community

At the Western Australian Association for Mental Health (WAAMH) we work to support and enable recovery in people affected by mental health concerns, through the development and representation of community mental health service providers, and by our direct engagement in understanding the experiences of people living with mental health challenges in WA.

We work to influence policy and funding decisions that will help create a strong and sustainable range of community mental health services, to provide contemporary, individualised and responsive support for people across the breadth of our state.



WAAMH

Western Australian Association
for Mental Health



Membership

Join a network that influences mental health priorities and community attitudes



Service directory

Find a community mental health service in your area



Support us

Corporate partnerships, sponsorship, donations, bequests and volunteering

 @WAMentalHealth

 @TheWAAMH

 @MentalHealthWeekWA

 @TheWAAMH

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