

We invite you to join one of our committees or reference groups...

As a peak body, the Western Australian Association for Mental Health (WAAMH) is as strong as our members and your ongoing input is crucial to the success of our initiatives. We are currently establishing three new groups so that we can work more collaboratively with our key stakeholders and ensure that our work responds to member priorities.

In recent months, WAAMH has completed an organisational restructure that provides greater capacity to represent its members in a more cohesive and integrated way. This has included creating a new and dedicated Practice and Sector Development role to bring an operational focus to supporting sector development. We have launched a new Strategic Plan that clearly sets out our change priorities and actions for the next four years. Click here to view the WAAMH Strategic Plan: <https://waamh.org.au/assets/waamh-strategic-plan-2024.jpg>

We have sought our members' feedback regarding how we can best support our members. Having listened to you, we are delighted to respond with some key initiatives.

We invite you to consider the following Sector Committees or Sector Reference Groups and if you meet the requirements for the representative roles, to express your interest in being involved.

Workforce Development Sector Steering Committee: The purpose of this Committee is to ensure a responsive approach by WAAMH to sector training and workforce development needs, to draw on the practice wisdom of practitioners who work in the Community Mental Health sector and to integrate a lived experience perspective into WAAMH's training and workforce development responses. The Committee will initially meet every month. We are looking for:

- Up to eight senior member organisation representatives in the mental health community sector organisations that are members of WAAMH, ideally from across rural, remote and metropolitan areas and from providers that range from small to large organisations
- Two people with lived experience of mental health challenges. Representatives may include consumers, carers or family members.

Role requirements

Member organisation representatives who nominate need to:

- Represent an organisation that is a member of WAAMH
- Be available to participate in monthly Committee meetings
- Have capacity to undertake some out-of-session work, including pre-reading papers and researching workforce development issues
- Have authority to make comment and decisions regarding workforce development on behalf of their organisation
- Be able and willing to share their own organisation's experiences of what works well and less well regarding training and workforce development.

People with lived experience need to:

- Be able and willing to share a lived experience perspective to inform the Committee's work
- Be available to participate in monthly Committee meetings
- Have capacity to undertake some out-of-session work, including pre-reading papers.

People with lived experience will be paid for their participation in this Committee in accordance with WAAMH's Lived Experience Participation Policy.

Contact WAAMH Practice and Sector Development Lead Colette Wrynn at cwrynn@waamh.org.au or phone 08 6246 3000 for more information.

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Sector Reference Group: Influencing the implementation of the NDIS, including sector development and capacity building, advocacy and a focus on families and carers is one of the key strategic change outcomes WAAMH is working on. The purpose of this Sector Reference Group is to inform WAAMH's activities in regard to the NDIS for people with psychosocial disabilities across sector development, training, projects and systemic advocacy; to enable stakeholders to support and inform each other; and to develop opportunities for collective learning and action. Sector Reference Group meetings will occur bi-monthly.

We are looking for:

- Approximately 8 representatives from service providers who are members of WAAMH across rural, remote and metropolitan areas, large and small providers, mental health specific and broader (generalist) providers and state and federally funded organisations.
- Approximately 4 people with lived experience of mental health challenges and the NDIS. Representatives may include consumers, carers or family members.

Member organisation representatives who nominate need to:

- Represent an organisation that is a member of WAAMH
- Have a genuine interest in NDIS issues, particularly regarding psychosocial disabilities
- The authority to contribute on behalf of their organisation including endorsement of Sector Reference Group activities
- Be available to participate in bi-monthly meetings and to undertake some out-of-session related work to support the aims of the Sector Reference Group
- Be able and willing to share their own organisation's learnings regarding NDIS implementation and challenges.

People with lived experience need to:

- Have a genuine interest in NDIS issues, particularly regarding psychosocial disabilities
- Be able and willing to share a lived experience perspective to inform the Sector Reference Group's work
- Be available to participate in bi-monthly meetings
- Have capacity to undertake some out-of-session work, including pre-reading papers

People with lived experience will be paid for their participation in this Sector Reference Group in accordance with WAAMH's Lived Experience Participation Policy.

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Accreditation Sector Reference Group: The Community Mental Health sector has a long history of meeting the needs of people who face mental health challenges. There are many examples of excellent practice in the sector. However, the sector is currently adjusting to contractual requirements to be formally accredited against the National Mental Health Standards. This means that organisations need to be able to clearly articulate and demonstrate the ways in which working

practices meet the Standards. The purpose of this Sector Reference Group is to give organisations an opportunity to collaboratively discuss key accreditation issues and to inform how WAAMH can provide ongoing support to organisations and the sector as a whole in real and meaningful ways regarding the accreditation process. The Sector Reference Group meetings will take place bi-monthly.

We are looking for:

- Approximately 8 representatives from service providers who are members of WAAMH from across rural, remote and metropolitan areas who come from a range of small, medium and large organisations
- Up to 4 people with lived experience of mental health challenges. Representatives may include consumers, carers or family members.

Member organisation representatives need to:

- Represent an organisation that is a member of WAAMH
- Have a role within their organisation that has responsibility for accreditation and/or continuous quality improvement
- The authority to contribute on behalf of their organisation including endorsement of Sector Reference Group activities
- Be available to participate in bi-monthly meetings and to undertake some out-of-session related work to support the aims of the Sector Reference Group
- Be able and willing to share their own organisation's learnings regarding accreditation and its challenges.

People with lived experience need to:

- Have a passion for working collaboratively towards continuous quality improvement
- Have experience of accessing community mental health services for themselves or others and be able and willing to share their experiences
- Be available to participate in bi-monthly meetings
- Have capacity to undertake some out-of-session work, including pre-reading papers

People with lived experience will be paid for their participation in this Sector Reference Group in accordance with WAAMH's Lived Experience Participation Policy.

Contact Colette Wrynn, Practice and Sector Development Lead at cwrynn@waamh.org.au or phone 08 6246 3000 for more information.

Written (emailed) Expressions of Interest (EOI) for participation in any of these groups are invited. Please submit your EOI to Colette Wrynn by Friday 25th October. Selection of participants will commence after that date.