



ACT  
Mental Health  
Consumer Network

# Annual Report

## 2015-2016



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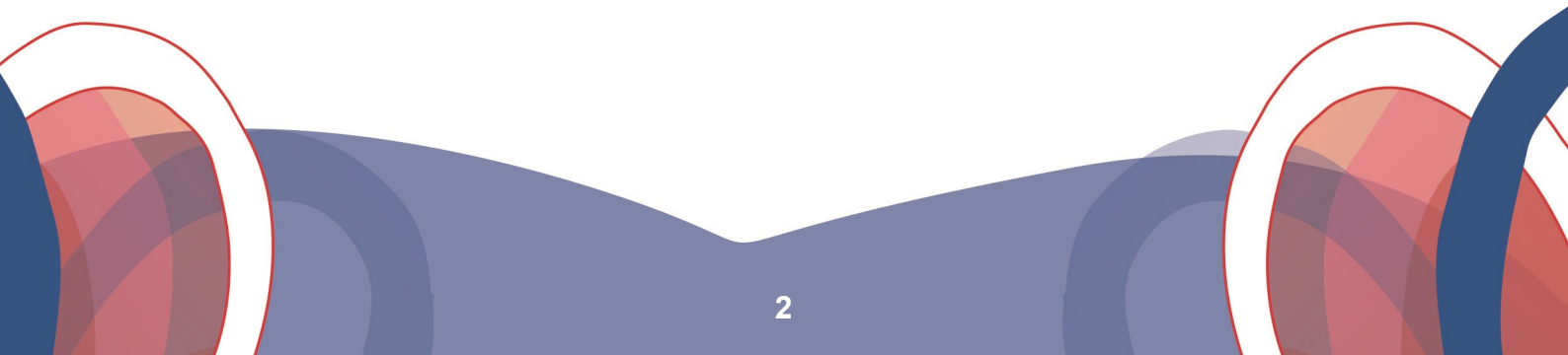
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## VISION

A mentally healthy community for all

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

To advocate all means to improve and enhance services, systems and practices for consumers in the ACT by:

- ♦ Discovering and promoting the collective voice;
- ♦ Facilitating and supporting consumer participation at all levels of decision-making; and
- ♦ Ensuring a commitment to consumer driven recovery

## VALUES

- ♦ Empowerment;
- ♦ Respect;
- ♦ Courage;
- ♦ Social justice; and
- ♦ Meaningful inclusion.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Our guiding principles reflect our values of empowerment, respect, courage, social justice and meaningful inclusion. They reflect what Board, members and staff expect of each other in their work together and how we work with others in our representative, advocacy and collaborative capacities.

**V**alue of lived experience

**O**pen dialogue and advocacy

**I**ncreased self-awareness

**C**onsumer-driven recovery

**E**nsure social justice and human rights are upheld

**S**ense of community

## BOARD 2014-15

<b>Terri Warner</b>	Chair
<b>Chris van Reyk</b>	Deputy Chair
<b>Matthew Martin</b>	Treasurer
<b>Dianna Smith</b>	Secretary
<b>Jennifer Adams</b>	Ordinary Member
<b>Chris Corcoran</b>	Ordinary Member
<b>Peter Dwyer</b>	Ordinary Member
<b>Kerry Fry</b>	Ordinary Member
<b>Michael Hausch</b>	Ordinary Member
<b>Phillip Green</b>	Ordinary Member

## STAFF

<b>Dalane Drexler</b>	Executive Officer
<b>Purity Goj</b>	Program Manager
<b>Jennifer Nixon</b>	Consumer Representative Program Coordinator
<b>Petra Kallay</b>	Community Education Coordinator
<b>Valan Phoenix</b>	Administration Officer
<b>Terri Warner</b>	Volunteer Training Co-facilitator
<b>Michael Freiberg</b>	Administrative Volunteer
<b>Dianne Perkins</b>	2015 Student on Placement
<b>Amanda Davies</b>	Consultant

## CHAIR'S REPORT

Much has happened in the mental health sector in the ACT this year, with the implementation of the new *Mental Health Act 2015* (ACT) and the full roll-out of the NDIS among other significant and ongoing changes to the systems that govern and shape our mental health services. We have yet to see the full impact of these reforms, but the consequences thus far have shown us that there is, and will continue to be, a need for advocacy and representation to ensure that nothing about us happens without us. For mental health to be adequately considered in policy and programs both locally and nationally, and for consumers to be able to fully participate in making decisions that affect them, we need strong advocates working together to drive positive systemic change.

From a governance perspective this has been an exciting and productive year for the Network. In addition to the scheduled strategic planning review, the Network sought accreditation against the Australian Service Excellence Standards, a quality framework for non government organisations that evaluates every aspect of how an organisation's systems and structures function. In measuring ourselves against such a framework, the Network has confirmed what we do well, and has also been able to identify areas for quality improvement that will assist us to grow as an organisation and continue to achieve our strategic goals.

I would like to thank and congratulate Dalane and her team for their dedicated efforts this year. They have all worked to improve and expand our training programs, to strengthen the consumer representation program and to undertake a wide range of activities that support consumer participation in every aspect of mental health care.

I would also like to thank the members of the Board for their service. This year has seen their knowledge and expertise put to good use in terms of both organisational governance and strategic direction. It has been a privilege to work with them to support an organisation that has such a vital role in systemic advocacy in an area that is of great personal importance to each of us.

**Terri Warner**

Chair

## EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The 2015-16 year has been a great year for the Network with many great projects completed or underway at 30 June.

Terri Warner provided excellent leadership for the organisation as Chair for the year, and was supported in her role by Chris van Reyk as Deputy Chair along with all of the other Board members, employees and volunteers at the Network. Matthew Martin continued to provide his strong financial expertise throughout the year as Treasurer, and Dianna Smith was an excellent support to the Board and to me as Secretary. The executive members were joined by a great team of ordinary Board members – Jenny Adams; Chris Corcoran; Peter Dwyer; Kerry Fry; Phillip Green; and Michael Hausch. It has been a privilege working with each of you throughout the year and I look forward to working with you all over the coming year in your various roles at the Network.

As is the case every year, I would like to extend my great thanks to the staffing team at the Network who work hard to ensure the Network runs effectively for the benefit of consumers, despite facing some difficult times and us being such a very small team. At the very beginning of the financial year we said a sad farewell to Amanda Davies who took her well earned retirement from her role as Program Manager. She re-joined the team briefly in a consultancy role to assist us in our work toward accreditation. Following Amanda's retirement, Purity Goj stepped into the role of Program Manager, providing excellent support to the staffing team throughout the year as well as undertaking the Network's systemic policy work. Jen Nixon has been working throughout the year to improve systems and practices in the Consumer Representative Program as Volunteer Coordinator, and Petra Kallay has been doing the same in streamlining our training programs. Val Phoenix has continued to provide the team and the Network more broadly with strong administrative support and, last but not least, we were very pleased to have a student with us on project from August to November culminating in a final report: *Engaging with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in culturally responsive ways*. This report can be accessed both online and in hard copy at the Network's office.

The Network's Board and staffing team have worked towards achieving the goals set out in the 2013-16 strategic plan. The following are just some of the ways in which this has been achieved to date.

### **Video project, MIF funding**

In order to further improve our revamped training for consumers, we undertook a significant project to develop digital training resources both for promotional and training purposes. Many members and other stakeholders participated in this important project and we are very grateful for all of the time and expertise people contributed to make the resources a useful tool to use well into the future. In addition, The Network partnered with MI Fellowship to update and run our NDIS Mental Health Peer Worker training as well as to develop the brand new Consumer Co-facilitator training which has already led to several consumers co-facilitating our regular

training programs. Both of these courses will be included in our revised training schedule from 2017.

**The Network's membership** continued to grow with 339 members at the end of the financial year, predominantly primary members, representing a 10% increase in membership when compared to the previous financial year. We are always pleased to welcome new members throughout the year. A primary source of new members continues to be through the self-advocacy and consumer representation training courses, as well as via word of mouth.

**The 2016 Consumer Survey** was conducted in March 2016 and we unfortunately had significantly less responses when compared to the 2014 survey. The types of response however were very helpful and these responses formed the foundation of the 2016-19 Strategic Plan. A summary and analysis of the results of this survey is available at the Network.

There were many other activities undertaken, several of which are outlined in the program reports to follow from page 9.

Finally, I would like to thank my professional supervisor, Cathi Moore, who supports me in my role as executive officer, as well as Strategic Psychology and Men of Integrity for their ongoing professional supervision for the staffing team.

It has been my pleasure to be with the Network for another year and I look forward to my work with the Board, staff and members in 2016-17.

**Dalane Drexler**

Executive Officer



# TREASURER'S REPORT

## SUMMARY

### Balance sheet

#### **Assets**

The financial position of the ACT Mental Health Consumer Network for the year 2015/2016 reports a reduction in total assets. This reduction may be explained due to increased depreciation, or the wear and tear of property and equipment.

#### **Liabilities**

Total liabilities from 2015/2016 have increased due to an increase in trade creditors, sundry creditors, accrued expenses and leave entitlements.

#### **Member's funds at the end of the year**

The Network ended the financial year with a surplus in funds of \$8,667 up from a deficit of \$3,767 for the year end 2014/2015. Member's funds have increased from \$74,435 to \$83,102.

### Statement of financial performance

#### **Operational revenue**

The financial performance of the Network for the year 2015/2016 reflects an increase in the Operational Grant from ACT Health from \$330,084 to \$345,814. The Network has also received additional funding in the form of a Project Grant (MIF) to the value of \$22,727. The Networks training division has increased revenue from \$6,880 to \$6,924 with interest income decreasing to \$1,541 from \$2,869. Total operational revenue for the period increased from \$339,833 to \$377,007, an increase of \$37,174.

#### **Operational expenses**

Overall the Networks expenses have increased from \$343,600 to \$368,340 a variance of \$24,740. Network expenses in relation to salaries and related cost has increased from, \$255,825 to \$275,966 a variance of \$20,141. Office support expenses have decreased from \$37,898 to \$36,375 a variance of \$1,523. Administration expenses have increased from \$29,421 to \$36,220 a variance of \$6,799. Program and Consumer support expenses have decreased from \$20,457 to \$19,779 a variance of \$678.

**Matthew Martin**

Treasurer



# COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAM REPORT

It's been an exciting twelve months for the Community Education Program!

## Advocacy and Representation Training

The Network facilitated four Self-Advocacy and three Consumer Representation courses throughout the year and these courses continue to be a strong source of new membership as well as providing excellent skills and support for consumers who participate. This included a term in a new venue – the Belconnen Community Health Centre. This course was co-facilitated by Terri Warner. Terri also provided much needed support by facilitating these programs whilst I was heavily focussed on the digital resources project, as well as her supporting that project as well!

*Some feedback from the course:*

*The content of the course was very well planned and full of knowledge, and the facilitator was fantastic.*

*Excellent advocacy training. Excellent representative training. Excellent reps speaking.*

*Thank you.*

*Interesting mix of skills learned*

## Video Training Resources

A fun but challenging project has been the development of the Advocacy and Representation video training resources to be used in training and for promotion on YouTube. This project was made possible with the expertise of Brianna O'Donohue from Cinemaiden.

We spent a great deal of time working with members and other stakeholders, and editing and revising video content– we never realised how much work it actually takes to go through the footage and select what will be used! There is so much great information on the recordings from our members and other interviewees, that it was very hard to choose what to use and still stay under the time limit.

And who knew how hard it is to select the best background music to go with the clips!?

Two of the videos have been added to YouTube and hyperlinked to our website and Facebook page to promote the Self-Advocacy Training and the Consumer Representation Program. These have been finished and were launched to an appreciative audience and positive feedback at the 2015 Annual General Meeting. The four training videos have been successfully embedded into Consumer Representation training and will continue to be great resources into the future. It's fascinating to hear and see the finished product and to receive such positive feedback about the resources.

## Co-Facilitation Training

This training was funded through MI Fellowship. The purpose of this training is to assist experienced consumer representatives to develop co-facilitation and adult training skills, so that they can contribute their experience as co-facilitators for our Self-Advocacy and Representation training.

The pilot course was facilitated over three Thursdays in June 2016 with 9 participants attending, seven of whom completed the practical component.

*Co-facilitation Training includes:*

- Strategies to co-facilitate a fun and informative training session
- Tips for being an effective communicator
- Practice in facilitating group activities from the 'Self-Advocacy and Consumer Representation' Training

Participants who met the competency requirements of this training will participate as co-facilitators in the upcoming Self-Advocacy and Consumer Rep training. Most of the participants commented that they in particular enjoyed the opportunity to practice facilitation through the practical activities, and would have enjoyed having greater opportunity to do this. Running the pilot offered the opportunity to take the suggestions from the participants and incorporate them into the training outline for the next time the course is scheduled.

*Some of the suggested revisions were*

- Greater opportunity for facilitating practical activities (create opportunities to do this interspersed with the training right from the first day)
- Greater interactions by the participants (opportunities to participate in activities such as time-keeping, white-boarding, and facilitation throughout the course)
- Stricter control of time/staying on task (assigning participants to assist with timekeeping, 'tighter' training outline to help group discussion stay on task, strategies to assist participants to arrive on time to start the training)
- Clearer understanding of what would be expected of co-facilitators regarding evaluation and participation, and the process of recruitment/implementation of the co-facilitation program from the start

## **Understanding the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) for Peer Workers Training**

Revision and delivery of this training was funded through MI Fellowship. The workshop was delivered on two occasions with a total of 13 participants.

A practical component of the training was having Margo Lilley from the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) come along as a guest speaker to talk about the scheme, to discuss recent changes to the scheme in Canberra, and which strategies and supports are being implemented to support participants with psycho-social disability to access the scheme.

*The topics discussed in the workshop include:*

- What is the NDIS
- Permanence vs Recovery
- Supporting Decision Making
- Assessment and Eligibility
- Pre-planning and Planning
- Managing Money

*Feedback from the training:*

*The facilitator was extremely knowledgeable, content very comprehensive and easy to comprehend*

*Delivery was clear and animated suited this workshop*

*Handouts were very professionally presented and user friendly as a great assistance tool to help others joining the NDIS*

*Could not be improved, very comprehensive , well put together and high standard of delivery*

*Excellent training, well worth my while both personally and as a peer worker*

**Mentoring Training**

Work to develop this training with consumers commenced this year. The training is scheduled for pilot in early in 2017.

**Petra Kallay**

Community Education Coordinator

## POLICY AND PROJECTS PROGRAM REPORT

The Network continues to provide a strong Consumer voice on policy issues through the participation of Consumer Representatives on committees, working with community sector partners and providing input to inquiries and consultative processes at the ACT and national levels. We work formally and informally to ensure that Consumers are a valued part of the design and implementation of mental health policy and services.

Throughout the reporting year we have strengthened relationships with other community sector organisations, including ACTCOSS, HCCA, MHCCACT and Carers ACT, working collaboratively on policy issues, where appropriate, to maximise our influence.

During the 2015/2016 reporting period, the Network made formal submissions on key policy areas including:

### **July 2015: Response to the National Disability Employment Framework Issues Paper**

The Federal Government launched an issues paper and details of a national public consultation program to help in the development of a new Disability Employment Framework. The Issues Paper was released to encourage discussion about the current approach and the best ways to support people with disability to find long-term, meaningful employment. We held a forum to collate members' views and experiences and wrote a submission capturing these. Some of the key issues that we highlighted in the submission were that mental health consumers accessing Disability Support Services need to be treated with respect and their thoughts and choices actively listened to for them to achieve their employment goals. We also highlighted that more consideration needs to be given to provide more flexible working arrangements to consumers.

### **August 2015: Response to the Inquiry into the Guardianship and Management of Property Act 1991 (ACT)**

The ACT Attorney General, Simon Corbell MLA, requested the ACT Law Reform Advisory Council (LRAC) to undertake an inquiry into the terms and operation of the Guardianship and Management of Property Act 1991, to ensure that the Act reflects best practice in guardianship law relating to adults.

We collated members' views and experiences and used the information to write a submission. Overall we were pleased with the approach taken by the ACT Law Reform Advisory Council and of the move towards greater consistency in legislation concerning people with impaired decision-making ability. We were also happy to see that there is a strong move towards supporting all adults to exercise their right to make decisions that affect their lives and to have those decisions respected.

We emphasised that changing from substitute decision-making to supported decision-making has wide implications for the law in many areas other than guardianship. However, we felt that a cultural change is vital and requires a whole of community approach including government and non-government organisations to ensure that people with impaired decision-making ability

are given the necessary supports to participate in and contribute to all aspects of life.

### **February 2016: Response to the Inquiry into the *Mental Health (Facilities) Bill 2016 (ACT)***

At the end January 2016 the Network was informed that new legislation had been drafted to apply to all mental health facilities. We were given a very short opportunity to give verbal and written feedback to the ACT Health Directorate. In our submission, the Network strongly expressed concern that the legislation drafted would apply to all mental health facilities, but not other health facilities. We accepted that legislation is required to govern the operation of the Secure Mental Health Unit (SMHU), particularly in relation to consumers who had contact with the criminal justice system. However, we did not accept that all mental health facilities require legislation that is not required for other health facilities.

The Network believed that the exposure draft was inherently discriminatory and had taken an unnecessarily restrictive and punitive approach to mental health facilities. We argued that if these powers were necessary for the safety and good order of mental health facilities, then they were also necessary for the safety and good order of all health facilities.

A number of organisations advocated alongside us. On Thursday 18 February, 2016 we were informed that the minister had repealed the *Mental (Facilities) Bill 2016 (ACT)*. The Network would like to thank all the members who participated in the discussions .

### **February 2016: Response to the Models of Care for the Mental Health Short Stay Unit**

The Mental Health Short Stay Unit (MHSSU) opened its doors on Wednesday 27 January 2016 taking over the function of what used to be the Mental Health Assessment Unit. The short stay unit is a standalone six bed unit adjacent to the emergency department. The unit is providing opportunities for extended clinical observation, crisis stabilisation, mental health assessment and intervention for consumers for up to a 48 hour period. Consumers who require admittance to the Adult Mental Health Unit will go there directly. One of the concerns we highlighted in our response was regarding waiting times at the emergency department. Secondly, some members felt that there is inherent risk that the new short stay unit could become a waiting area for admission to the inpatient unit when no beds are available.

### **Celebrating the new *Mental Health Act 2015 (ACT)***

March 2016 saw the long awaited release of the new *Mental Health Act 2015 (ACT)* (the Act), a culmination of many hours of consumer representation time over a period exceeding 10 years. Those consumers most active in the development of the Act over this time were awarded a small silver clock to thank them for their due diligence, time and commitment. The recipients were Bradley Foxlewin, Patricia Green, David Lovegrove, Julie McMahon and Ben Matthews. The consumer voice continues to be involved in reviewing and evaluating the Act, as well as feeding into many of the projects and programs governed by the Act.





### **Information Forums**

The Network also held a number of information forums including one about the new Act. The ACT's new Mental Health Act will come into effect in March 2016. There are major changes to the Act, aimed at making the Act more consistent with the ACT's *Human Rights Act 2004*, and giving full recognition to consumers' rights to make their own decisions wherever possible. We also held an information session about the proposed amendments to the *Powers of Attorney Act 2006*. These amendments are being proposed to remove impediments that currently prevent people with impaired decision making capacity from being able to participate in medical research that is beneficial to them.

### **Health Infrastructure Program**

Throughout the reporting period, the Network continued participating in various meetings and workshops related to the design of a number of infrastructure projects and activities under way. These include the University of Canberra Public Hospital (UCPH), Secure Mental Health Unit and Mental Health Short Stay Unit.

Following a design workshop regarding UCPH, and after discussions with Carers ACT, both Carers ACT and the Network wrote to ACT Health seeking a forum so that consumers and carers could provide direct input on the design principles. This was agreed to and the forum participants discussed issues relating to access, placement of services in the building, distance from parking.

I would like to express my gratitude to our members who give so generously of their time and experiences. I am honoured to listen your stories, perspectives and ideas.

**Purity Goj**

Program Manager

## CONSUMER REPRESENTATIVE PROGRAM REPORT

Over the 2015-16 financial year, the Network has continued to support Consumer Representatives developing systemic advocacy by taking part in government and non-government committees and other opportunities. We seek to ensure consumer views are a central part of policy proposals, implementation and development as we work towards achieving our aim of bringing about a higher standard of health care in the mental health sector.

In October 2015, consumer representatives who have been volunteering with the Network for five or more years were presented with an inaugural award congratulating them on this achievement. Tina Bracher, Executive Director, Mental Health, Justice Health, Alcohol and Drug Services attended to present the awards, and the recipients were Peter Dwyer, Kerry Fry, Jane Grace Patricia Green, Adele Lewin and David Lovegrove. Congratulations once again!



Our consumer representatives have been actively working with the MHJHADS Health Directorate to ensure that the consumer voice has been included in the two major builds that affect mental health consumers – the Dhulwa Mental Health Unit (the Secure Mental Health Unit) and the University of Canberra Public Hospital as well as the development of the Mental Health Short Stay Unit. Representatives have been on Committees directly relating to these projects, including infrastructure design (of structure, landscaping and gardens, bedrooms and kitchens), wayfaring (signage), privacy and recreation - including multi-faith and sensory rooms.

The Network is very fortunate to have such a multi-skilled pool of members who are able to give their time to our Representative program. In total, we had 17 consumer representatives actively involved in 46 committees, with three newly graduated consumer representatives starting representational duties. This equates to around 400 hours of representative time, for which the Network thanks each and every consumer representative.

We are looking forward to a kicker of a 2017 – with lots of new opportunities, consumer representatives and everything else a new year brings!



## **2015-2016 CONSUMER REPRESENTATIVES**

Jenny Adams	Chris Corcoran
Peter Dwyer	Kerry Fry
Jane Grace	Patricia Green
Michael Hausch	Jenny Hodgson
Adele Lewin	David Lovegrove
Matthew Martin	Ralph Nelson
Mariana Oppermann	Robert Pedlow
Evalyn Smith	Thi-Nha Tran
Terri Warner	

## **2015-2016 COMMITTEES**

ACACIA (ACT Consumer and Carer Research Unit) Advisory Group  
Adult Mental Health Services Collaborative Engagement Forum  
Adult Model of Care Steering Committee  
Charter of Health Rights  
Clinical Effectiveness Committee  
Clinical Governance Forum (reports to Safety, Quality and Risk Reduction Committee)  
Clinical System Advisory Group  
Community Advisory Committee  
Community Smoke Free Environments Working Group  
Consumer and Carer Feedback and Quality Committee  
Consumer and Carer Participation Framework Review Working Group  
Consumer Handouts Committee  
Detention Exit Community Mental Health Outreach Program Partnership Committee  
Emergency Department & Mental Health Short Stay Unit Model of Care Project team  
GP Return to Work Case Conferencing Working Group  
Health Care Rights Working Group (reports to Partnering with Consumers)  
HIP Secure Mental Health Unit Project Control Group (HIP SMHU PCG)  
Housing and Support Initiative Advisory Committee (HASI Advisory Group)  
Mental Health Week  
Mindscapes Working Group (sub-committee to MH Week Committee)  
MHJHADS Electronic Clinical Records Advisory Committee  
MHJHADS Executive Strategy and Business Planning Committee  
MHJHADS Policy Procedure and Guideline Development and Review Committee  
MHJHADS Publications Advisory Committee  
MHJHADS Safety, Quality and Risk Reduction Committee  
MHJHADS Workforce Strategy, Planning, Development and Implementation Group  
Mindscapes Working Group (sub-committee to MH Week Committee)  
National Mental Health Consumer and Carer Forum  
NDIS Implementation Steering Group

NDIS Participant Capacity Building Reference Group  
NDIS Participant Reference Group  
Partnering with Consumers Standard Group Meeting  
Partners in Recovery Consortium  
Primary Mental Health Strategic Reform Group  
Promotion, Prevention and Early Intervention Implementation and Evaluation Group  
Seclusion Restraint Review Meeting  
Seclusion Restraint Review Meeting: Co-Chair  
Secure Mental Health Unit Commissioning Steering Committee  
SMHU HIP User Group  
SMHU Mental Health Legislation Working Group  
Suicide Prevention Implementation and Evaluation Working Group  
TheMHS Conference 2015 Organising Committee  
Transition to Recovery Advisory Group  
University of Canberra Public Hospital (UCPH) Communications and Stakeholder  
Engagement Working Group  
UCPH Project Control Group  
UCPH Operational Commissioning Steering Committee

**Jen Nixon**

CRP Coordinator

## ADMINISTRATION AND INFORMATION REPORT

During the year, I completed the Certificate IV Work, Health and Safety through the National Safety Council of Australia. The purpose for this study was for me to update and formalise the Network's Health and Safety policies and procedures in line with current legislation and standards. Completion of this study was finalised in April 2016, and I successfully passed.

The Network was pleased to engage Christopher Thomson, a graphic design student from the University of Canberra, to rebrand our publications and promotional items. The process took a long time, resulting in a collection of materials and designs to formalise our documentation and lift the profile of the organisation. The rebranded materials began to be put into circulation from November 2015 in the form of letterheads, reports, business cards, PowerPoint presentations and newsletters. More releases of the rebranded materials is continuing as items are finalised.

For Mental Health Week 2015 the Network organised an art workshop called 'Mind the Art'. This event was a huge success with many people with mental illness, carers and supporters in attendance! The Network engaged Bella Insch from Ink Brush Art Therapy to facilitate this workshop in order to help bring out the creativity in participants and assist them in visualising what they wanted to express.

The purpose of this event was for participants to each create a panel that represented either how they connected to the Network, their supports and community or their journey of recovery from mental illness. The panels that every participant created was envisioned to be compiled to create one piece of artwork for display.

A special thank you to Bella for facilitating the workshop and to Ray Simpson from Canberra Supervision and Counselling Service for being on hand when things got a little overwhelming for participants.



**Valan Phoenix**

Administration Officer

## **PARTNERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES**

### **PARTNERSHIPS**

- ♦ Quarterly Consumer, Carer, and Community Forums with MHCC ACT, Carers ACT and ACT Health;
- ♦ Mental Health Week committee partnership;
- ♦ Human Rights Forum with Carers ACT; and
- ♦ ART – Self-Advocacy course is partly funded by ADACAS by mutual arrangement to run four times per annum;
- ♦ Participating service on the Youth Coalition's Comorbidity Bus Tour;
- ♦ Quarterly MIEACT Opening Minds radio show.;
- ♦ Hosting CDNet Working Group meetings;
- ♦ Memorandum of Understanding and strong working relationship with Carers ACT; and
- ♦ Regular joint meetings of staff with HCCA, and a joint consumer survey .

### **ACTIVITIES**

- ♦ Communications on the Review of the Mental Health Act;
- ♦ Grace Groom Memorial Oration;
- ♦ Ongoing discussions relating to the Secure Mental Health Unit;
- ♦ University of Canberra Public Hospital committees, user groups, workshops and site visit;
- ♦ NDIS Partnership Group, Sector Development Workshop, and Workforce Project Workshop;
- ♦ The Mental Health Services Conference 2015 Organising Committee;
- ♦ ACACIA Advisory Committee;
- ♦ Community Development Network Steering Committee;
- ♦ Mental Health Community Coalition of the ACT Board and Budget Committee;
- ♦ Selection panels for ACT Health recruitment;
- ♦ Selection panel for Mental Illness Education ACT recruitment;
- ♦ ACT Council of Social Service Nominations Sub-Committee;