

RESEARCH FORUM:

'NOTHING ABOUT US, WITHOUT US' : 'WE ARE THE EVIDENCE'

Consumer Representation and Participation in Research.

The What, Why, Where, When and How!

community mental health drug and alcohol
RESEARCH NETWORK



Thursday 16th AUGUST

Program

8.30am	Registration
9.10-9.30am	Welcome and Introduction
9.30-10.40am	Valuing Lived Experience - Journey to my current life Reflections on what is best practice regarding consumer representation and what services should know Dr Meg Smith - Adjunct Professor University of Western Sydney Councillor Irene Doutney - Sydney City Council
10.40-11.00am	Morning tea
11.00-12.00pm	Examples of consumer representation in research What is happening at the Seclusion Review that makes a difference: A consumer led research study Bradley Foxlewin - Consultant and MHCC Trainer Consumer participation in research Dr Carla Treloar - Professor, University of New South Wales Sione Crawford - Director, Programs and Services, NUAA
12.00-12.45pm	Panel Discussion: Current research challenges and barriers to change
12.45-1.30pm	Lunch
1.30-3.15pm	Workshop: Putting the consumer voice into your research proposals Dr Meg Smith - Adjunct Professor University of Western Sydney
3.15-3.30pm	Conclusion and final remarks



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Featuring interesting and experienced speakers, this CMHDARN Forum will be a chance for workers to understand better the ways in which you can involve consumers and service users in the work you do.

Taking into serious consideration the well-known slogans used by consumers all over the world, 'Nothing about us, without us' and 'We are the evidence', this forum will:

- Provide an opportunity for those attending to become better informed about what is meant by consumer representation and participation, why it will benefit your service, and how it has been undertaken in some research projects.
- Offer a workshop to further develop your skills in involving the voices of your consumers when writing your research proposals and projects.

Speakers

Dr Meg Smith - Adjunct Professor University of Western Sydney

Meg will talk generally about reflections on her life's journey, her involvement as a consumer representative and her views on key lessons for service providers. Meg will also present a workshop in the afternoon, on Putting the consumer voice into your proposals.

Ms Irene Doutney - Sydney City Councillor.

Irene will talk generally about reflections on her life's journey, her role as advocate in relation to various aspects of her life, including what lessons there are for service providers.

Mr Bradley Foxlewin - Consultant and MHCC Trainer.

Bradley was the Chief Consumer Researcher for the report, What is happening at the Seclusion Review that makes a difference? A consumer led research study. Bradley will present on this study undertaken in Canberra Hospital; the differences that consumers led research made on the actual change in Seclusion rates, as well as the responses by other staff involved.

Dr Carla Treloar - Professor and Deputy Director, National Centre in HIV Social Research, University of New South Wales. Carla will talk about work she has been involved in regarding Consumer participation in research, including the structure of the National Centre.

Mr Sione Crawford - Director, Programs and Services, NSW Users & AIDS Association (NUAA) who will talk about work he has been involved in regarding Consumer participation in research.

Additional Panelists

Ms Tina Smith - Senior Policy Officer, Workforce Development.

Tina is involved in establishing community mental health workforce development and learning services for NGO staff and volunteers both in NSW and nationally on behalf of Community Mental Health Australia. Tina is the CMHA representative for the national Mental Health Workforce Development Advisory Council (MHWAC). She has a particular interest in people with complex and diverse health and social problems.

Mr Robert Stirling - Program Manager, NADA.

Robert joined NADA in 2008. He is responsible for the management of a number of capacity building projects relating to mental health, family and carer support, and research. He is also a member of the NADA Health Promotion Sub Committee.



More information on the project contact:

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