

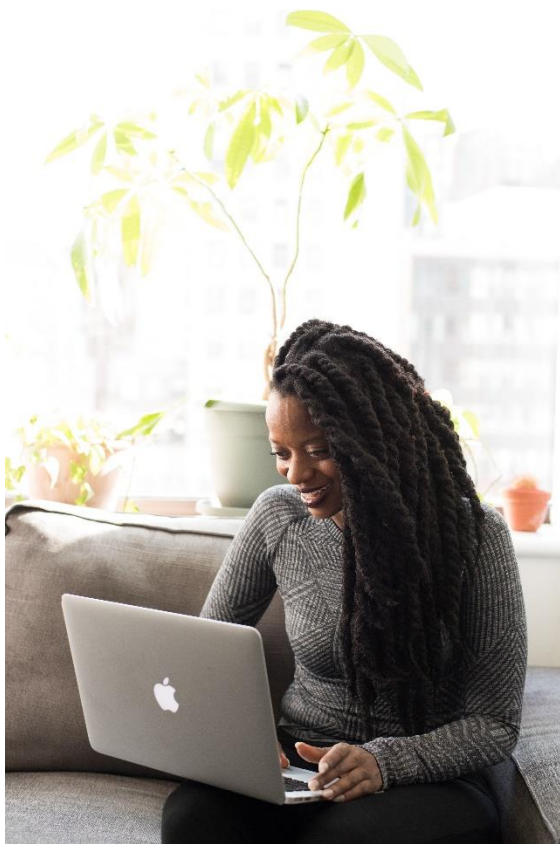
CMHDARN
Annual Member
Survey Report
2022/2023



CMHDARN
Community Mental Health, Drug & Alcohol
RESEARCH NETWORK



Purpose



The CMHDARN Annual Member Survey for 2022/2023 was conducted in April 2023 to inform end-year reporting requirements. Evaluation of the benefits and impact of the CMHDARN Network was sought through two email requests to CMHDARN members, social/web posts, included in the CMHDARN Connect Newsletter, as well as MHCC communications. While the number of respondents represent a small percentage of the CMHDARN membership, the results demonstrated that they spanned across many areas of the mental health and AOD sectors and were able to provide a rich range of responses

CMHDARN was established to broaden involvement of the community mental health and alcohol and other drugs sector in practice-based research, and to promote the value of research and the use of research evidence in practice

The Annual Member Survey evaluates CMHDARN's effectiveness in meeting its objectives. The overall aim of the Network is to:

- Improve the quality of service delivery and, correspondingly, the outcomes for consumers of community-managed services
- Promote increased awareness and understanding of co-existing mental health and alcohol and other drugs issues



CMHDARN activities & resources

The top 3 activities/resources that the respondents were most aware of are:

1. **CMHDARN Connect Newsletter**
2. **CMHDARN Webinars**
3. **CMHDARN Best Practice Guides**

The top activities/resources that respondents participated in were:

- **Read the CMHDARN Connect Newsletter**
- **Attended/viewed a CMHDARN webinar**
- **Accessed the CMHDARN Best Practice Guides**
- **Accessed/utilised the Co-production Kickstarter**



Measuring impact 1

CMHDARN aims to facilitate the development of a culture of research by providing opportunities and context for the exchange of ideas, the sharing of resources, support and collaboration among community organisations and between community organisations and research bodies, including universities and research institutes



'Using' – research confidence

In evaluating whether as a result of accessing CMHDARN activities /resources, respondents feel more confident in using research in their day-to-day work, the average rating was

6.8 out of 10



'Doing' – research confidence

In evaluating whether as a result of accessing CMHDARN activities /resources, respondents feel more confident in undertaking practice-led research, the average rating was

6.6 out of 10



Improved research capacity

In evaluating whether as a result of accessing CMHDARN activities /resources, respondent's research capacity has improved, the average rating was

6.5 out of 10



Understanding lived experience leadership

In evaluating whether as a result of accessing CMHDARN activities /resources, respondents have an increased understanding of the importance of lived experience collaboration and leadership in research, the average rating was

7.4 out of 10

Measuring impact 2

CMHDARN aims to facilitate the development of a culture of research by providing opportunities and context for the exchange of ideas, the sharing of resources, support and collaboration among community organisations and between community organisations and research bodies, including universities and research institutes



Promote understanding of mental health & AOD issues

In evaluating whether CMHDARN successfully promotes an understanding of co-existing mental health/AOD issues, the average rating was

4.2 out of 5



Supporting uptake of using research evidence

In evaluating whether CMHDARN supports members to use research evidence in their day-to-day practice, the average rating was

4 out of 5



Knowledge exchange

In evaluating whether CMHDARN builds the research capacity of individuals and organisations through research and knowledge exchange, the average rating was

4.2 out of 5



Promote importance of lived experience leadership

In evaluating whether CMHDARN promotes the importance of collaboration and participation of people with lived experience in research, the average rating was

4.4 out of 5

Member priorities

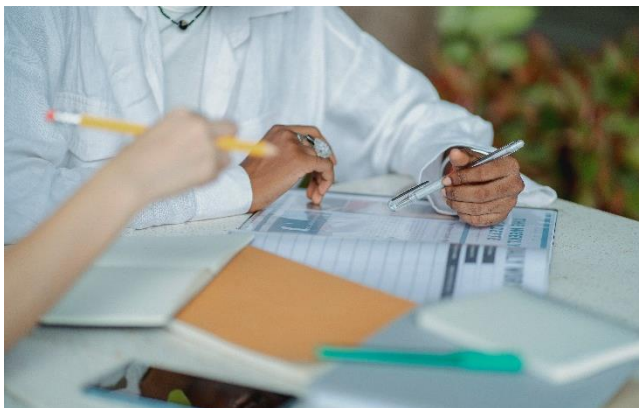
We asked our members what they see are the top priorities for CMHDARN in 2023/2024, and they said:



Priority 1

Online webinars & workshops

88.5% of respondents ranked this as CMHDARN's top priority



Priority 2

Capacity-building resources

69.2% of respondents ranked this as a top priority for CMHDARN



Priority 3

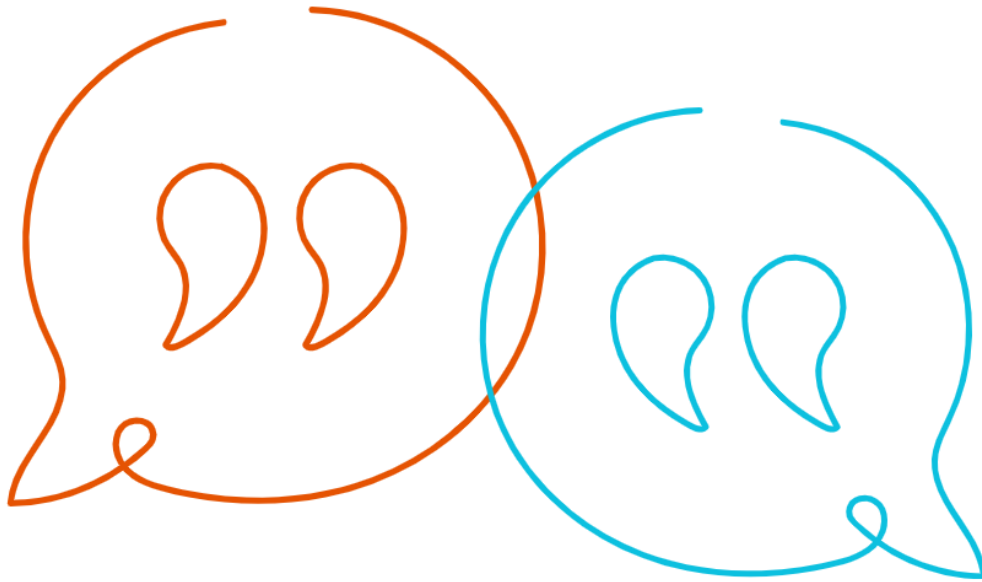
Innovation & Evaluation Grants

46.2% of respondents ranked this as a top priority for CMHDARN

“Thanks for your considered and meaningful contribution to the sector”

respondent

We asked: what could we do better?



We asked our members how they thought CMHDARN can better support practice-based research in the mental health and AOD sectors:

- “showcase more international research”
- “increase awareness and membership
- “expand options for lived experience engagement and development”
- “perhaps running workshops at CMOs on how to start a research project”
- “greater connection to members, especially rural/regional members”
- “help more people from the AOD sector to be involved in CMHDARN activities”
- “focus on building partnerships; research opportunities/grants for advocacy and policy spaces in MH and AOD sectors”
- “expand on the offerings”
- “reiteration of the purpose of CMHDARN”
- “provide more accessible training to workers and the community”

The primary themes of the feedback were:

- Grow engagement with members
- More training and workshop opportunities
- Further promotion of opportunities for people with lived experience to engage in research



What you said:

“Thanks for your considered and meaningful contribution to the sector”

“CMHDARN provides great resources for the AOD and mental health sector and how to engage people with lived experience”

“Good work!”

“Fantastic webinars [CMHDARN Coordinator] is just amazing providing education and interesting courses”

“A thoroughly important, engaging and innovative mission and experience”

“Thank you for this valuable resource”

CMHDARN thanks members for their continued contribution to the Network and its sustainability