

Opportunity to attend a focus group on exploring person centred care and consumer directed care concepts in mental health services

VMIAC is partnering with the University of South Australia and the National Mental Health Commission to host two focus groups which explore consumer perspectives on person-centred care and consumer directed care concepts in mental health care provision.

There is an opportunity for up to 12 consumer representatives on the VMIAC Consumer Register to attend a consultation focus group.

The National Mental Health Commission has recently contracted the Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Research and Education Group at UniSA to undertake a select number of consultations with diverse consumer, community and clinical groups.

This focus group/ consultation process will become part of a report that aims to further improve mental health care in Australia and to assist care providers, consumer and carers groups to better understand the basis of both person-centred care and consumer directed care principles and practices. This report will be used to generate discussion at a national level.

It is expected that this report will focus on the similarities and differences between person-centred care and consumer directed care and understand stakeholders' preferences to mental health care planning and delivery. The research will also identify evidence relating to each care concept, and how this is linked to improved mental health outcomes as described in clinical and lived experience terms.

Consultation focus groups dates

Two 90 minute online focus group dates are offered

Tuesday 7th of December 12.30 -2.00pm

Or

Monday 13th December 1.00pm-2.30pm

You will need to be set up at home with internet and able to connect in to the zoom platform with a working microphone and preferably camera too.

The group discussions will involve up to 6 participants each and focus on the consumer perspective. The questions will cover the principles of person centred and person led/ directed care and how these are seen/ experienced in the context of publically funded mental health services. Questions also focus on what shifts are required so that each approach can be better achieved at the service level.

The notes from all focus groups will then be analysed to identify the range of content and ideas which is important to shape the drafting of the report.

Consent and privacy considerations

Your involvement in attending the online discussion group is voluntary and people can withdraw at any time. The information that members share in the focus group will be confidential to the consultation process and participants will not be identified in any reports and through the report itself. Notes about each focus group will be stored securely at the University and will be destroyed upon completion of the project.

Payment for participation

Participation in the focus group will be recognised by a payment from the National Mental Health Commission. After completion of the group, participants will be emailed a NMHC participation form to complete. You will then need to email your completed form to the NMHC contact person. Payment for participating in the session is according to the NMHC paid participation policy and will be \$125 for the focus group.

Results of the consultation

The themes generated from the consultation will go directly into a coproduction process for identifying the content and format of the written report. The coproduction work will include a number of lived experience, community and clinical advisors. This group will be convened in early 2022. The Commission aims to release the report in late 2022.

Becoming involved

If you are interested in this opportunity, please discuss with Robin Litvins- Salter at VMIAC.

There are limited spaces for attending one of the focus groups, if you would like to attend, please follow this link to Eventbrite (TBA), and book your place for the group. We will ask for an email address so we can forward the meeting details and zoom link to you.

There is some further background information available including a plain language summary of the project and a discussion paper. People attending are encouraged to read these. (to be linked in)