

NATIONAL MULTICULTURAL MENTAL HEALTH PROJECT

Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Mental Health Consumer and Carer Group

Frequently Asked Questions

What is this project about?

The purpose of the National Multicultural Mental Health Project is to facilitate a national focus on mental health and suicide prevention for people from CALD backgrounds. The project aims to improve the accessibility and quality of mental health services for people from CALD backgrounds by supporting mental health service providers to improve cultural responsiveness and accessibility of mental health services.

How will the CALD Mental Health Consumer and Carer Group contribute to the project?

The group will be a key source of advice:

- in relation to providing multicultural mental health expertise, particularly the views and interests of CALD mental health consumers and carers
- to assist in project implementation and ensuring meaningful project outcomes
- to support distribution of national approaches
- to provide links to local multicultural communities

A consumer and carer representative of the consumer and carer group will also participate as members of the National Multicultural Mental Health Project Alliance, which provides high level oversight and decision-making for the project.

What is the project duration?

The CALD Mental Health Consumer and Carer Group will continue for the funded period of the National Multicultural Mental Health Project, with project activities

ending on 31 December 2020. Mental Health Australia will initially appoint members to the CALD Mental Health Consumer and Carer Group for one year. Membership will be renewed annually.

I think that I am interested, how do I apply?

If you are interested in applying for this role, please click [here](#) and fill out the application form. Instructions on how to fill out the application are provided in the document. If you have any queries during the application process, you can also contact Pauline Gwairisa at the FECCA office on (02) 6282 5755.

Do I need any special qualifications/experience to join the group?

No special qualifications are needed, however, you should have personal experience of living with mental health issues either as a consumer or a carer. The project is also looking for people who are able to represent the views and interests of mental health consumers or carers beyond their personal experience, for example through links to community.

I have some great ideas about how we can improve mental health concerns, will I be able to contribute my ideas to the project?

The project encourages the CALD Mental Health Consumer and Carer Group to share their solutions and strategies for improving the outcomes for all people who are living with mental health issues and their carers. The advice of the Group will be considered by the project oversight body (the Alliance) when they are making decisions about the project's direction and activities.

When will the group be meeting?

It is anticipated that the first group meeting will be held in Canberra early to mid-September 2018.

There will be two face-to-face meetings and two teleconferences in the first year of the project. During the second and third years of the project there will be one face-to-face meeting and three teleconferences.

What if I decide to leave?

If a member leaves before the end of the project, Mental Health Australia will appoint a new member from the relevant state or territory, following a transparent merit-based selection process.

Should the National Multicultural Mental Health Project be extended, CALD Mental Health Consumer and Carer Group members will not automatically be reappointed. Depending on the extension (if any), a transparent merit-based selection process may occur.

Do I get paid?

Members will be offered sitting fees for their participation in CALD Mental Health Consumer and Carer Group face-to-face and teleconference meetings, and (where applicable) for their participation in meetings of the National Multicultural Mental Health Project Alliance.

All travel and accommodation expenses associated with attending CALD Mental Health Consumer and Carer Group face-to-face meetings, including taxis and parking, will be arranged and paid for by Mental Health Australia.

Where can I find more information about the project and the group?

For more information on applying for the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Mental Health Consumer and Carer Group please click on the following links below:

Click [here](#) to read the Draft Terms of Reference for the CALD Mental Health Consumer and Carer Group.

For more information about the National Multicultural Mental Health Project, please click on the following link: <https://mhaustralia.org/national-multicultural-mental-health-project>

Whom can I contact about the project?

Mental Health Consumer and Carer Group applicants can contact Pauline Gwatirisa at FECCA office on (02) 6282 5755.

For any other queries about the National Multicultural Mental Health Project contact Mental Health Australia's office on (02) 6285 3100.