



Mental Health
Australia
Media release

Mental Health Australia commences search for new CEO

13 October 2022 | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

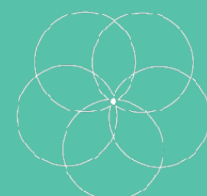
Mental Health Australia CEO Dr Leanne Beagley has today announced she will be resigning from her position with the peak body.

In her three years as CEO of Mental Health Australia, Dr Leanne Beagley has been a champion for mental health sector reform. Leanne has led the organisation's advocacy for investment in social prescribing, pushed for increased lived-experience leadership in the development and delivery of mental health services and led the sector to encourage all Australians to 'vote with mental health in mind' as part of the 2022 election platform 'Every Election Issue is a Mental Health Issue'.

Mental Health Australia Chairman Matt Berriman said Dr Beagley had done an outstanding job, despite the challenges of the global pandemic, to bring the mental health sector together to advocate for real reform.

"Leanne has demonstrated true leadership and has continued to strengthen Mental Health Australia's position as the peak, independent representative body for the sector. Of course, we are sad to see Leanne go but we wish her the very best as she embarks on an important new role. I would like to personally extend my thanks – especially for Leanne's support and counsel in my early days as Chair – and I speak for the Board and the Mental Health Australia team when I say she will be greatly missed," said Mr Berriman.

The announcement comes at a time when the country's mental health ecosystem is unified and championing systemic change emerging from the pandemic with renewed vigour and purpose.



Dr Leanne Beagley said the opportunity to work alongside the organisation's dedicated team and its members has been the greatest highlight.

"I haven't arrived at this decision lightly and there are mixed feelings, but I know I leave Mental Health Australia at time when there is so much opportunity to achieve a mentally well Australia. My time as CEO has been exciting and filled with learning, growth, and immensely positive progress. It has been a great privilege to lead the organisation through the pandemic years and into this exciting post-pandemic re-build," said Dr Beagley.

Dr Beagley will finish with Mental Health Australia on Friday 25 November, commencing a new national role thereafter. The search for a new Mental Health Australia CEO is now underway through executive recruitment firm, People for Purpose.

"It is a fantastic time to be working in the mental health with an ambitious government reform agenda and a more cohesive sector ready to work together to make a difference to all Australians," said Mr Berriman.

{ends}

Media Contact: Nikki Hogan – 0402 528 022

