

# MEETING OUTCOMES

27 MARCH 2018

## Project Management Group – optimal psychosocial support services in the NDIS

The Project Management Group met by teleconference on 27 March 2018.

### Attendees:

Liz Crowther, Wellways (Chair)  
Arthur Papakotsias, Neami National (Deputy Chair)  
Kerry Hawkins, Carer representative  
Debbie Hamilton, Consumer representative - from 3.30pm  
Dr Sarah Pollock, Mind Australia  
Tony Stevenson, MiFA  
Mark Orr, Flourish Australia  
Judi Higgin, New Horizons - until 4.35pm  
Damian Ferrie, Star Health  
David McGrath, McGrath Consulting  
Josh Fear, Mental Health Australia  
Belinda Highmore, Mental Health Australia

### Apologies

Andrew Young, Aftercare  
Debbie Kaplan, McGrath Consulting

### Outcomes

#### Project progress report

##### *Data*

- David McGrath explained the difficulty in pinning down definitions for data extractions.
- Following resolution of definitions, five project partners have provided data with one more to do so shortly. It was noted that MiFA members will have to be excluded as they would have to enter data manually, but there is the possibility of reserving specific questions for some of those providers, to enrich the project.

##### *Update on first meeting of Project Expert Group*

- The meeting heard about the discussions at the Project Expert Group meeting the day before. David McGrath is clear on where the members of the group stand and the range of issues discussed. The meeting agreed to be provided with a copy of the papers prepared for the Project Expert Group.



- In particular, the literature review may stimulate ideas about other information and smaller data sets to be provided to David for analysis.

### **Lived Experience Expertise proposal**

- The meeting considered the proposal and agreed to proceed, noting that convening lived experience expertise will add robustness and legitimacy to the project. Members are to provide nominations for the lived experience expertise group to Mental Health Australia by Tuesday, 10 April 2018.

### **Potential new project partner**

- The meeting discussed the possibility of the Red Cross providing a financial contribution to the project, which could support additional lived experience expertise.
- It was suggested that Carers Australia and/or Mental Health Carers Australia be approached to fund a carer piece for the project. However, the meeting agreed that potential new partners should not be brought in exclusively to fund specific activities, without agreement by the Project Management Group, but that engagement activities could be sponsored by interested organisations.

### **NDIA engagement strategy**

- It was noted that a meeting between Liz Crowther and Gerry Naughtin had not yet been arranged. Once a date for the meeting is set, members of the Project Management Group will be invited to attend in person or by teleconference.

### **Sector engagement strategy**

*Update from MHA Members Policy Forum 20 March 2018*

- The meeting was advised that Liz Crowther made a presentation to MHA members and that the project was well received.
- Mental Health Australia will prepare a proposal for post-project activities to engage the mental health sector in advocacy for the outcomes of the project.
- It was agreed that the engagement strategy needed to be broadened to the whole mental health sector, not just providers. Mental Health Australia will prepare a communique about the project by 6 April, for clearance by the Project Management Group. Further communications material about the project should be drafted to circulate to the sector.
- The sector engagement strategy should be drafted and costed by Mental Health Australia. It should describe how organisations will be invited to be 'engagement partners' and allow them to nominate how they will assist, such as hosting events. The state peaks should have a role in sector engagement.

### **NDIS pricing discussion**

- The meeting was provided with information about the choices made by Neami Australia in relation to its NDIS activities in Victoria, and recognised that there will be different views about those choices.



The next meeting of the Project Management Group will be held by teleconference on Tuesday, 24 April 2018.

