



Queensland Alliance for Mental Health

Annual REPORT 2022

qamh
leading community
mental wellbeing

Acknowledgement of Country

QAMH acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live, learn, and work and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures; and to Elders past, present and emerging.

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Core Commitments



Our Year

2021 - 2022 Highlights

124 Alliance Members

37 Committees and Networks

- 5 National Networks
- 4 QAMH Project Steering Groups
- 8 PHN Committees
- 16 Sector Representation
- 4 Other State Peak Meetings and Networks

21 Online Member Forums/Events

Our Member Forums continue to bring QAMH Members together from across Queensland, connecting peers, politicians and stakeholders. Queensland's Bilateral Agreement, COVID-19 and state parliament's *Inquiry into Opportunities to Improve Mental Health Outcomes for Queenslanders* were key topics of interest in the last year.

We continued to learn about initiatives, services and resources from Members, collaborated on submissions and advocacy work, and kept Members updated on QAMH projects and events, with particular focus on *Wellbeing First* and Lived Experience.

19 Submissions, Reports and Position Papers

8 Special Events for QAMH

- ❖ *Wellbeing First* Launch
- ❖ QAMH and QSport Official Collaboration
- ❖ FNQ Roundtable Event
- ❖ Annual Alliance Members Meeting
- ❖ Presenting at the State Mental Health Inquiry
- ❖ Inaugural QAMH Media Skills Workshop
- ❖ *Wellbeing First* Event: Cairns
- ❖ *Wellbeing First* Event: Townsville

SOCIALS STATS

Facebook



Page Reach
11.3K



Followers
3,455

Page Likes
2.8K



Posts
148 (3/week)

Linked In



Organic Reach
34,111



New Followers
405

Total Followers
1,631

WEBSITE STATS

12,513

Total Users

77,127

Page Views

16,738

Sessions

64.5%

of Users
are Female

QAMH have progressed Mental Health forward 10 years in the last two years. The engagements have been informative and content relevant, demonstrating an understanding of the needs of the sector and actioning them.

– QAMH Member Survey



Message from the Board Chair

Sharon Sarah



As I think back on this, my first full year as Chair of the Board of QAMH, it is gratifying to reflect on how much positive change the Alliance has undergone. These changes extend from the surface, front-facing look of QAMH, with a new brand launched, to much deeper, strategic shifts and organisational reform. As a result, QAMH has shown a reinvigorated approach to both its external relations and its engagement with Members. I am proud to have been a part of this work with the rest of the Board, and I congratulate our CEO Jennifer Black on her leadership which has enabled this notable change.

After more than 25 years of working in the health and community sector, primarily in mental health, I can confidently say that both the demand on our services, and conversely the opportunities for our sector, have never been greater. As CEO of Bridges Health and Community Care providing services in regional Queensland, I see the challenges every day. Having a strong voice for our sector has never been more important as we navigate through the pandemic and advocate in the wake of unprecedented investment in mental health in Queensland. I believe that the work of QAMH has never been more crucial.

This year's Members' Survey results have confirmed for me that QAMH has made the right changes to its structure and strategy. Almost double the number of Members responded to the survey, which points to a greater level of engagement. The good news is that the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with Members giving us an 8/10 rating on both engagement and the effectiveness of our advocacy. The Board and I read this as confirmation that our strategic direction over the past two years has been the right one.

Of course, the world does not stand still, and neither can we. QAMH and the sector must move forwards. Dedicating reserve funding to the

Wellbeing First project, launched with the QAMH report in July 2021, and followed through most recently with the establishment of an Innovation Hub, was a substantial decision of the Board, and shows our commitment to bringing fresh thinking to the sector. I, for one, cannot wait to see the innovation that stems from this.

This year, we have farewelled from the Board our Legal Skills Based Director, Sarah Stoddart, who served for more than three years, including as Chair of the Governance Sub-committee for much of that time. Claire Guilfoyle also left the QAMH Board, after three years' service, firstly as an elected director, and then subsequently a member of the Governance Sub-committee. As Chair, I wholeheartedly thank them for their dedicated contributions.

Karen Thomas has been re-elected as Elected Director in October 2021 and we have welcomed Venisha Kapadia, whose finance and business expertise was first displayed as Acting Business Manager at QAMH, and who has continued her work with QAMH as a member of our Finance Sub-committee since October 2021.

I thank all Board members, past and present, who have helped guide QAMH through a period of much change, into its current strong position. I also thank our CEO Jennifer Black who has skilfully led this change over the last two and a half years despite the challenges of the pandemic.

However, QAMH is nothing without its Members. Their expertise and passionate dedication to their communities is the bedrock of all that we do at QAMH. We look ahead to the next year with hope that the state government's response to the Select Committee Inquiry will bring positive transformation to our mental health service system in Queensland.

Sharon Sarah

Message from the CEO



Jennifer Black

After another year of disruption from the pandemic, we have emerged with a significant focus on mental health. First, we were pleased to see the spotlight shone on mental health by the state parliamentary Select Committee *Inquiry into the Opportunities to Improve Mental Health Outcomes for Queenslanders*. This was closely followed by a record investment in mental health in the state budget. To top it off, the new federal government has announced an intention to include a wellbeing measure in its budgets.

For QAMH we started the 2021-22 financial year with three defining tasks ahead of us. They were:

- To elevate the voice of our Members to influence reform with stakeholders and politicians
- To build on the work of *Wellbeing First* creating a compelling vision for the unique contribution the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Sector offers
- To create opportunities to build the future capacity of our sector

In response to feedback from our Members who asked us to place advocacy front and centre of our work, QAMH began with a new organisational structure in July 2021. Since then, we have divided our team into two distinct functions.

Our **Member Engagement and Policy** team has focused on developing policy and projects which strive to address the concerns of the sector. That has included working with other peak bodies on issues such as housing, NDIS reform, the state budget and indexation. We collaborated with Members to develop a comprehensive submission to the Mental Health Select Committee inquiry and presented that evidence in person. We were not only quoted in the report, but we could see our suggestions reflected in some of the key recommendations made in the Inquiry's final report.

Our **Advocacy and Communications** team has been actively listening to the concerns of organisations on the frontline of the nation's mental health crisis and has collaborated with Members to voice those concerns. We have been working with organisational CEOs to plan our advocacy, boosted by evidence to influence decision-making. Many letters have been written to a variety of politicians at state and federal level, and I am pleased to say, we now have a seat at the table with a number of MPs consulting us on mental health related issues. Under the team's guidance, I have been working hard to create a media presence to voice those concerns more clearly and have been involved in a number of ABC radio interviews to date. The team has also worked on a much more interactive website for QAMH, which will launch in the latter half of 2022. The website will include a new Members Hub, which we hope will become a valuable resource and reference point for our Members.

“We now have a seat at the table with a number of MPs consulting us on mental health related issues.”

As a whole team, QAMH has pushed ahead with its plan to support innovation in our sector in line with the *Wellbeing First* report, launched in July 2021. Whilst the pandemic has slowed our roll out of *Wellbeing First*, we have been able to travel around the state to talk with Members and other stakeholders about the report's provenance. Stemming from long-held frustrations and the immediate impact of the pandemic, *Wellbeing First* is a call to fundamentally pivot the focus of the mental health system from managing illness to one which actively supports wellbeing. It places the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Sector at the forefront of delivering specialist wellbeing



services. To facilitate this and build our expertise, we have launched the QAMH *Wellbeing First* Innovation Hub, to guide select Members through a human-centred service redesign.

This program would not be possible without the foresight of the QAMH Board, which is committed to this project and has invested some of the organisation's reserve funding to ensure its success. I would like to thank Board Members for their support and give special recognition to the talented and committed staff at QAMH, who have worked tirelessly to ensure we are always operating in the best interests of our Members.

And lastly thank you to our Members. As we all know, community mental health and wellbeing organisations matter so much to the people who use them. Our organisations deserve more attention, more recognition and – quite frankly – more resources to do more of the incredibly valuable work they do. I look forward to working with the sector to build our capacity for the future throughout the coming year.

Jennifer Black



Member Mail

Kind words are always appreciated, and it's especially heartening to hear from your peers that your efforts are recognised. Thank you to everyone for your support.

"I was wanting to acknowledge the work you have both [QAMH CEO Jennifer Black and Director – Sector Engagement and Development Sarah Childs] been engaged in and the authentic voice you offer to the mental health sector.

I have been in the sector for 20+ years and there has been so much progress since you have been in your current role, Jennifer. Sarah, you have always been inclusive and supportive of the rural and remote initiatives which are so often forgotten. Both of you have really valued lived experience, thank you again."



Share Expertise

Our Members

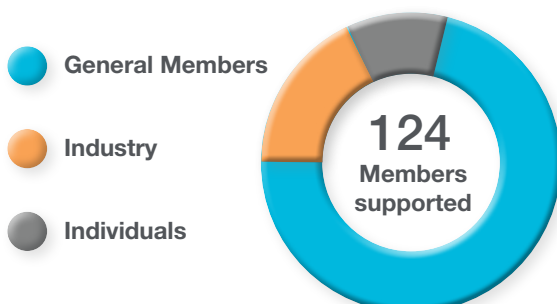
Member Experience

Online Member connection was once again embraced this year, as we continued to battle the waves of COVID-19. We managed some travel and in-person connection, visiting Cairns for a face-to-face roundtable event and a federal advocacy forum. A highlight was delivering a series of *Wellbeing First* workshops across the state (Townsville, Cairns, Toowoomba, Brisbane and online). During the year we continued to meet individually with our Members new and old, as the need for advocacy, connection and support arose. This year we have supported 86 General Member Organisations, 13 Associate Industry and 25 Associate Individual Members.

Our fortnightly online forums have attracted up to 75 attendances at each session, and our Housing and NDIS interest groups have generated discussions, papers, submissions, and projects for the future. Members have contributed to pivotal work through participation in several Project Advisory Committees related to the development of sector specific Micro-Credential Training, the Peer Work Mentoring Project, and the Systematic Analysis of the Community Mental Health Sector Project, being conducted in partnership with the Queensland Mental Health Commission and Griffith University.

Numerous conversations and relationships have been facilitated through our focus on social prescribing and community connection for wellbeing. Pilot programs promoting wellbeing through the Arts and Community Sport have engaged several services across the state.

Thank you for engaging with us this year – only together can we strengthen the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Sector.



Membership

As the saying goes, there is strength in numbers. Members of QAMH are part of our team - adding to a strong, unified voice within Queensland's Mental Health and Wellbeing Sector. This voice advocates on behalf of the sector to be heard, drive reform, and foster a deeper understanding of the vision and unique contribution the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Sector makes throughout Queensland.

Member Benefits

- ❖ **Influence national and state wide reform** – engage in mental wellbeing related projects and advocacy through QAMH, at times in conjunction with other peak bodies
- ❖ **A platform for your views to be represented** – issues that matter to your organisation can be presented at both local and national government level
- ❖ **Member training and event discounts** – enjoy access to training opportunities and discounts to events, resources, and ideas relating to the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Sector
- ❖ **Strategic Member support** – receive individual consultation with the QAMH CEO and management team for advice, high-level strategic thinking and expertise
- ❖ **Help shape the future of Queensland's mental health landscape** – participate in forums and events
- ❖ **Connection to other Members** – network and develop strategic partnership opportunities with like-minded service providers and organisations
- ❖ **Stay informed** – access the latest industry news and updates via QAMH weekly and monthly e-news
- ❖ **Raise the profile of your organisation in the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Sector** – promote Member organisation events and initiatives through QAMH communication channels
- ❖ **Have your voice heard** – General Members have voting rights and can nominate for Board positions in line with the Alliance rules

Share Expertise

Member Forums

QAMH continued to provide Members with the opportunity to participate in fortnightly forums and other learning opportunities. Topics for these sessions reflected contemporary issues, submissions, reports and identified sector training needs.

24 Member forums were facilitated over the course of the year. Some of the topics discussed are listed below:

- Draft National Safety and Quality Standards for CMOs
- Service delivery concerns during Queensland's COVID-19 wave
- Queensland Mental Health Select Committee – *Inquiry into the Opportunities to Improve Mental Health Outcomes for Queenslanders*
- The National Mental Health and Suicide Agreement and the Queensland Bilateral Agreement
- The *Inquiry into Social Isolation and Loneliness in Queensland*
- *Wellbeing First*
- Autism and Mental Health
- Digital Inclusion
- Political Campaigning and Influence
- Budget Advocacy and Summaries – Federal and State
- Media Skills Training
- Staff Wellbeing
- Cyber Bullying
- Culturally Responsive Practice in Mental Health

CEO Forums

In stepping up our advocacy for the sector, QAMH set out to engage directly with the CEOs of our Member organisations. We hoped this would ensure we were in lockstep on the issues that matter and could collaborate directly with organisations in our advocacy.

Our inaugural CEO meeting was held on 1 October 2021, and we have met each quarter since. The initial meeting focused on the [National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Agreement](#) and the issue of mandatory vaccination that many of our Members were having to manage. We agreed to write collectively to the Executive Director MHAOD Branch with a request to address the membership on the progress towards the National Agreement, a meeting which occurred some weeks later.

Our second meeting in February 2022 focused on the [QAMH Submission to the Queensland Parliamentary Select Committee Inquiry into the Opportunities to Improve Mental Health Outcomes for Queenslanders](#). That discussion guided our State Budget Submission.

Our third meeting in May 2022 focused on the [Federal Election Campaign and our Budget Asks](#) for the State Budget in June, which led to QAMH creating template letters that Members could use to write to local politicians to raise the profile of mental health as an election issue.

These meetings have been well attended with lively conversations and we plan to continue this format for the 2022-23 year as a key driver of our advocacy for the sector.

Beacon Strategies

Workshop Series

This year we also partnered with Beacon Strategies in the development and delivery of a free Workshop Series for our Members. Four workshops delivered between October 2021 and March 2022 were available exclusively to QAMH Members and covered the following topics:

- **Getting evaluation ready** – how to plan a lean and effective program evaluation
- **Designing for impact** – how to develop a program model to meet people's needs
- **Planning the journey** – how to strengthen your next strategic planning process
- **Making it stick** – how to lead change in your organisation

Share Expertise

Submissions and Reports

Breaking Down the Details

QAMH developed policy submissions for a range of state and federal consultation processes. Submissions were informed by broad consultation with our membership base, discussions with peak community mental health policy officers from other states and territories, and our extensive knowledge of the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Sector. In each submission, QAMH has advocated for systemic mental health reform, including a fairer, more equitable and inclusive mental health system which breaks down barriers to accessing services, recognises lived experience, and provides wellbeing supports throughout the mental health continuum.



Key Submissions

- *Inquiry into Social Isolation and Loneliness in Queensland*
- Draft National Mental Health Workforce Strategy
- Queensland Women's Strategy
- Proposed NDIS Legislative Improvements and the Participant Service Guarantee
- *Inquiry into Current Scheme Implementation and Forecasting for the NDIS*
- National Disability Insurance Agency's Annual Pricing Review 2021-22
- Draft National Safety and Quality Mental Health Standards for Community Managed Organisations
- *Inquiry into the Opportunities to Improve Mental Health Outcomes for Queenslanders*
- Anti-Discrimination Act Review
- 2021-22 Queensland Budget
- Queensland Correctional Services Discussion Paper

The Policy and Project team also routinely summarise important reports and reviews that we feel are of direct relevance to our Members. These are disseminated in our newsletters, published on our website and presented at Member forums, and aim to keep our busy Members up to date.

Reports and Reviews

- Queensland's Mental Health Select Committee's Report
- National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Agreement
- Mental Health Community Support Services Evaluation Report
- Evaluation of National Psychosocial Support Programs
- Joint Standing Committee on the NDIS Final Report
- House of Representatives Select Committee on Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Final Report

Share Expertise

National Communications and Advocacy Network

Working Together across Australia

Each state and territory has its own peak body for the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Sector, with its own priorities and challenges. However, many of these are shared, so in the past year, QAMH has co-founded (with our NSW sister-peak the Mental Health Coordinating Council) the National Communications and Advocacy Network. The network consists of communications and advocacy professionals from each peak body (not including Victoria) and has primarily discussed advocacy approaches and communications tactics.

Ideas and information have been freely shared and have bolstered arguments across the nation for more support for the sector. Across the country in 2021-22, community mental health services have been fighting for:

Better recognition

More funding

Longer funding cycles

Higher indexation

These issues remain of concern, particularly as we end this year with rising inflation and staff wage increases, pushing services to make hard choices about the work they can do.

The other organisations involved:



mental health
community coalition ACT

The Mental Health
Community Coalition ACT



The Mental Health
Coordinating Council NSW



Mental Health
Council
OF TASMANIA

The Mental Health
Council of Tasmania



NORTHERN TERRITORY
MENTAL HEALTH
COALITION

The Northern Territory Mental
Health Coalition



WAAMH

Western Australian Association
for Mental Health

The Western Australian
Association for Mental Health



The Mental Health Coalition
of South Australia



Our First Media Skills Workshop

Ready for Your Close-up?

This year QAMH held its inaugural Media Skills Workshop, led by our Director – Advocacy and Communications, Emma Griffiths, an ex-ABC television and radio reporter. The workshop was an insightful venture, as participating Members learnt much about what goes on behind the scenes of the media sector, including how to best present your story and preparation tips and tricks before the journalists and cameras roll in. Going by the valuable feedback, the only downside was it wasn't long enough!

Given the positive response we are looking to offer more workshops for interested Members across the State, and navigate a session that will suit Members remotely without compromising the experience.

Facilitate Connection

Breaking Out of Lockdown

When COVID-19 restrictions lifted and Queensland started to move again, QAMH was keen to get out and about and meet with our Members.

The last year has been a start-stop-rewind journey but we have been excited to get back into the community and even take the opportunity to catch up with some Members in North and Far North Queensland – what a treat to experience air travel again.



Member Roundtable

Cairns Collaboration

As part of our regional engagement strategy, we hosted a Member roundtable event in Cairns on Wednesday 27 October 2021. This meeting was an opportunity to explore the concepts of *Wellbeing First* in more detail with Members, seek advice regarding regional issues and plan specific local advocacy with Members. Thirteen people from ten different Member organisations participated in the half day event.

Attendees indicated that the QAMH presentations led to a better understanding of the work we do and indicated they would welcome future roundtable events to support advocacy and actions in the areas identified. Unfortunately, our plans to host roundtable events in other regions were interrupted by the pandemic, however our first session created a successful template for regional engagement and we look forward to coordinating regular regional roundtable events soon.

Facilitate Connection

QAMH Annual Alliance Members Meeting

Overcoming Adversity

Having been on pandemic high alert for so long, the theme of our 6th Annual Alliance Members Meeting, *Overcoming Adversity*, was the perfect topic to reflect the spirit of the sector. On Friday 19 November we were joined by keynote speaker, Olympic swimming champion, Cate Campbell. The four-time Olympian spoke candidly about her own adversities, including the highs and lows of being an elite athlete, being under the media spotlight and facing intense public scrutiny. She told Alliance Members her mantra, 'Be Brave' acknowledges the struggle, because bravery isn't called on when things are going well.

With almost 60 Member representatives and stakeholders registering for the in-person and live-streamed event, attendees were moved by stories of lived experience and creative writings from Andrew Greentree and Tina Teivitu from Upbeat Arts, in addition to hearing from the organisation's state operations manager, Susan Gilmartin.

The Meeting highlighted QAMH's restructure, efforts and achievements of the year, confirmed the organisation's positive financial position and reinforced our *Wellbeing First* campaign, with a strong supportive address from Queensland Mental Health Commissioner, Ivan Frkovic.



Queensland Mental Health Week Expo 2021

Members of the QAMH team escaped the office during Queensland Mental Health Week to check out the Expo and chat with some of the QAMH Members in attendance. It was a lovely to meet everyone and talk about their services and the sector.



Facilitate Connection

QSport

Community Sport Program

Last year QAMH partnered with QSport, Queensland's peak body for sporting associations. The partnership aimed to support mental wellbeing through connecting people supported by our Member organisations to local sporting clubs and their communities.

Despite experiencing multiple setbacks due to COVID-19 waves, flooding and lack of funding opportunities, we are in the process of coordinating a pilot program in Brisbane. Stepping Stone Clubhouse and Footprints Community are working with the Metropolitan Districts and Pine Rivers Netball Associations to discuss joining teams and the upcoming social netball competition. Grant funding obtained from the Confident Girls Foundation will support club registration fees and pay for Mental Health First Aid Training to be provided to both netball clubs. The clubs are also keen to support new volunteers in their communities and will have some come and try events across the clubs. An evaluation framework has been developed, and we hope that the positive wellbeing outcomes achieved by the program will be demonstrated. Discussions with the Deputy Director General, Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport, Andrew Sly have enhanced the project through connection to Regional Service Delivery Teams. We will continue to update the department on partnership progress.



Alongside this pilot, QAMH has also linked staff from the Bike Shed run by selectability in Mackay to local cycling, BMX and mountain bike clubs to discuss opportunities for cooperation and mutual benefits.

In July 2022 we were invited to present our initiative at a QSport Conference held at the Queensland Cricketers' Club. Following the presentation, we have had interest expressed from Touch Football, Lawn Bowls, Gymnastics Queensland and Federation University to become involved in partnership activities. We look forward to working further with more clubs and providing greater opportunities for people to connect for wellbeing.

NDIS Special Interest Group

NDIS Advocacy

QAMH meets every six weeks with a group of Members interested in advocating for change within the NDIS. The number of attendees is slowly growing and, in addition to being a networking and information-sharing forum, it has also informed our NDIS submissions and led to the development of some key projects to take forward. Priority areas of concern include the flawed assumptions underpinning the pricing arrangements, thin markets

in rural and remote areas, workforce shortages and the suitability of the NDIS model for psychosocial disability.

In response to the Advocacy Group's concerns, QAMH coordinated a session delivered by Human Resources firm, Employment Innovations, to provide information on the implications of recent changes to the SCHADS Award. We look forward to continuing to work with this committed group to create positive change in the NDIS space.

Facilitate Connection

Systematic Analysis of the Community Mental Health Sector

Landmark Project Analysing the Sector

Griffith University, in partnership with the Queensland Institute of Medical Research (QIMR) Berghofer, was awarded the contract to complete this important body of work.

The Project is funded through the Queensland Mental Health Commission, with joint oversight from QAMH. A Project Reference Network which includes eight community mental health Member organisations, Lived Experience advisors, representatives from federal and state funding bodies and other community peaks was established to support the work. QAMH Members were offered the opportunity to participate in the reference network through an expression of interest process.

To complete the analysis of the sector and recommend success imperatives to grow and strengthen the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Sector across Queensland, the Project Team has completed the following project phases:

- Established three focus groups to support all project phases
 1. Quantitative data – rapid appraisal
 2. Qualitative data – lived experience perspectives
 3. Qualitative data – engaging service provider perspectives
- Conducted a Rapid Scoping Review of contemporary data and literature including a thematic analysis of service provider and Lived Experience submissions to the Queensland Parliamentary Mental Health Select Committee *Inquiry into Opportunities to Improve Mental Health Outcomes for Queenslanders*
- Co-developed and distributed a state-wide survey for people accessing community mental health services and service providers

A Reference Network Meeting to discuss the draft findings and Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis was coordinated in September, with the final report due to be released by the end of 2022.



Australia Council for the Arts

Connecting the Arts and Mental Wellbeing

QAMH has held several meetings with the Australia Council for the Arts, Brisbane South Primary Health Network, Wesley Mission Queensland and Upbeat Arts to create opportunities for Arts to be better recognised as a critical component of fostering mental wellbeing. This aligns with the *Wellbeing First* philosophy that by focusing on wellbeing rather than illness, community organisations can support people experiencing mental health difficulties before they reach crisis point, early in the trajectory of their distress. QAMH also participated in the Arts, Creativity and Mental Wellbeing Policy Development Program, organised by the Australia Council for the Arts, which aimed to better embed arts and creativity in government programs to support mental health and wellbeing. We aim to expand these relationships and formalise a social prescribing pilot program, demonstrating the positive impact art and creativity can have on mental health.



Queensland
Mental Health
Commission



QIMR Berghofer
Medical Research Institute

Foster Innovation

An Update on *Wellbeing First*

Making Traction Towards Action

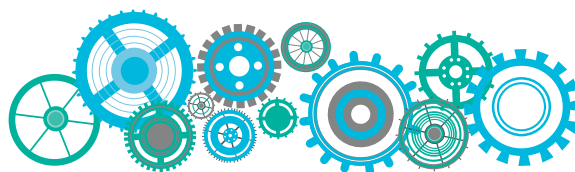
This year there were indications of an Australian first in relation to the new federal government's plan to use a wellbeing measure in its budget process. This was pleasing, given a whole of government approach to the mental wealth of the nation was a key ask from our *Wellbeing First* report.

Wellbeing First is a call to fundamentally pivot the focus of the mental health system from simply managing illness to actively supporting wellbeing, where the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Sector is at the forefront of delivering specialist wellbeing services.

QAMH launched this report in July 2021, at the State Library of Queensland. We had approximately 50 people in attendance, either in-person or via livestream. Dr Sebastian Rosenberg, from the University of Sydney's Brain and Mind Centre, delivered the Keynote Address in which he provided a historical oversight of the level of investment in the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Sector in Queensland and Australia as a whole. The event included a panel of speakers including Ivan Frkovic, Queensland's Mental Health Commissioner, Helen Glover from Enlightened Consultants, Jose Ramos from Action Foresight and Jennifer Black QAMH CEO.

After a delay due to COVID, in June 2022 we began a series of events around Queensland, to explain the concepts of *Wellbeing First* and consider what this means for the people who access our services. The first two events were in Cairns and Townsville where we explored principles and considered how we could use these to stretch our thinking and change our approach.

WELLBEING FIRST *Innovation Hub*



An Exciting Chapter Ahead

This year we also launched the *Wellbeing First* Innovation Hub, which provides an opportunity to develop design thinking expertise within the sector and develop a suite of innovations. QAMH has secured design thinking expert Stephan Hitchins to deliver a 10 month human-centred design thinking program tailored to our sector. The program will take place throughout 2022-23 and will involve an eight-week training program followed by eight months of mentoring to design and test innovation in service delivery aligned to *Wellbeing First* principles, within the organisations who participate in the program. The innovations created throughout this process will be shared with the sector, funders and other stakeholders.

The QAMH Board is so committed to promoting the unique value of our sector and bringing *Wellbeing First* concepts to life, it has invested some of QAMH's own reserve funding to this process. We hope to show by example that wellbeing is much more than a buzzword.



Foster Innovation

Wellbeing First on the Road

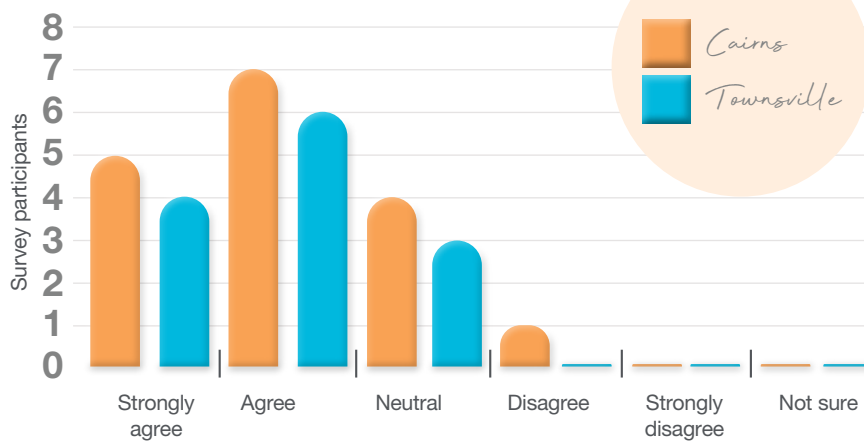
Cairns



What are the **Wellbeing First** ideas that you have heard today that excite you most?

Survey Question

Adopting a **Wellbeing First** approach will solve some of the problems that people experience about the current mental health system



- “Invigorating creative ideas of wellbeing”
- “Focusing on flourishing as opposed to symptoms”
- “Person truly directing their assistance – service following direction”

Townsville



Lead and Influence

QAMH Advocacy Update

Our Efforts this Year

Giving the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Sector a voice – and ensuring that voice is heard – has been a defining task for QAMH in 2021-22.

QAMH has directly engaged with Members, to pinpoint the messages that need to be taken to decision-makers. As a result, many letters have been written to politicians at state and federal levels and QAMH has attended meetings with several MPs across the political spectrum.

As opportunities arose, QAMH has also contributed more formally to the political process, lodging submissions to state parliamentary inquiries and to the Queensland State Budget in June. We have

appeared at inquiries as a result and in mainstream media, expressing the arguments of our sector.

Despite a record investment in mental health services in the Queensland budget and a legislated Mental Health Levy, the key challenges we've heard from our Members remain the key challenges we face: Stable funding models, realistic indexation and building and keeping a skilled workforce.

This work is now embedded in QAMH and will continue apace. However, after these 12 months the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Sector not only has a voice, it has a seat at the table. Our services, and the people who use them, deserve no less.

Meeting the MPs

Having Our Voice Heard

Building and maintaining relationships with decision-makers at state and federal government levels is key to advocating on behalf of our Members.

In the past year, QAMH has met with several Queensland-based MPs from the ALP, LNP and Greens, at both state and federal levels, expressing Members' concerns and working to influence funding and reform of the mental health sector.

Importantly, QAMH has also met with new federal Assistant Minister for Mental Health Emma McBride, following the May federal election. Issues discussed included the National Agreement on Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, workforce challenges and funding cycles and indexation.

Among the state government frontbenchers that QAMH has met are Queensland Assistant Treasurer Charis Mullen, Queensland Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development Di Farmer, and the Assistant Minister for Health Julianne Gilbert.

QAMH continues to seek high-level meetings at every opportunity to represent and advocate for its Members and the people who use our Member organisations.



Stepping Stone CEO and QAMH Board Member Melanie Sennett, Mr Joe Kelly MP, Member for Greenslopes, QAMH CEO Jennifer Black and QAMH Director – Sector Engagement and Development Sarah Childs



Assistant Minister for Mental Health Emma McBride

Lead and Influence

A CEO's Perspective

Jennifer's Viewpoint Opinion Pieces

As a leader in Queensland's mental health ecosystem, QAMH Chief Executive Officer Jennifer Black has an important role to play in representing the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Sector and pushing for reform. In the past year, Jennifer has used stand-alone Opinion Pieces to express her hopes and frustrations with developments in the sector. This has included challenging Queensland Parliament to ensure reform is delivered as a result of its *Inquiry into the Opportunities to Improve Mental Health Outcomes for Queenslanders*, and not simply discussed. Jennifer's hopes and frustrations stemming from the Inquiry have also been expressed in an

Opinion Piece, calling for increased funding from the Mental Health Levy to flow to community-managed mental health services, and not just more of the same.

International Women's Day was marked with Jennifer's Viewpoint, questioning whether women and those who identify as female, truly experience gender-sensitive practices and trauma-informed care, when they interact with the mental health system.

Jennifer's Viewpoint articles are directly emailed to Member organisations, and published on social media and the QAMH website.

QAMH in the Media

Putting the Spotlight on Mental Health and Housing

QAMH has cut through the noise and had some traction in the media, with *The Guardian* supporting our Housing and Mental Health Position Statement with Q Shelter, and CEO Jennifer Black quoted in newspapers and interviewed multiple times on ABC Radio in the past year.



Lead and Influence

State Mental Health Inquiry

Inquiry into the Opportunities to Improve Mental Health Outcomes for Queenslanders



The Queensland Parliamentary Mental Health Select Committee was established in December 2021 to hold an *Inquiry into the Opportunities to Improve Mental Health Outcomes for Queenslanders*. QAMH prepared a lengthy, thorough submission, which was lodged in February and was called to appear at the Inquiry in March. The Committee's report was handed down in June, and quickly paved the way for the Queensland Government to legislate a dedicated Mental Health Levy to boost funding by \$1.6 billion over the next five years.

Many of the reforms QAMH called for on behalf of Members in its submission were taken into account by the Committee, leaving QAMH cautiously optimistic that true mental health reform in Queensland could become a reality. Among its recommendations were a standard five-year funding

cycle, a review of existing community-based services, with a view to expanding these services and that the Queensland Government “embed” people with lived experience in planning, delivery and reviews of mental healthcare.

QAMH is grateful to Committee members, chaired by the Member for Greenslopes Joe Kelly, who listened and responded generously throughout the hearings. QAMH is waiting to examine the formal State Government response to the Inquiry, due in the new financial year.

“Tweaking around the edges of a fundamentally flawed system or injecting more money into the same traditional models of care will not bring the systemic changes required.”

— QAMH Submission to the Qld Mental Health Inquiry Select Committee

Housing and Mental Health

Advocating for Change

Mental health has inextricable links to housing, with homelessness both a cause and result of mental health challenges. In an acknowledgement of these links, QAMH has formed a partnership with housing and homelessness peak body Q Shelter to develop a joint position paper to address challenges shared by both sectors. QAMH opened discussions with its Members to share information and ideas about potential solutions and developed a working group, including 10 Members, to further clarify the sector's stance.

This resulted in the Mental Health and Housing Position Statement, which was released in October 2021. It detailed specific solutions that are already delivering positive results in the community and advocated for their expansion. It posited that more social housing with mental health supports was required, to mirror the link in the incidence of mental health challenges and housing difficulties. Importantly, it also called on the state government to better coordinate the activities of the Department of Health and the Department of Housing, to support this collaboration.

The position statement was sent directly to relevant state ministers and other stakeholders, and, working with the relevant Members, QAMH facilitated media coverage in *The Guardian*.

Lead and Influence

Social Isolation and Loneliness Inquiry

Pushing to Improve Social Connection

QAMH's submission to the Queensland Parliament's Community Support and Services Committee *Inquiry into Social Isolation and Loneliness in Queensland* was based on consultations with Members in the previous financial year and a review of academic literature. It explored the causal links between mental health challenges and loneliness and posited the idea that the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Sector was well-positioned to improve social connectedness by providing both practical and early intervention approaches tailored to local community needs.

The Committee held several weeks of hearings and in September 2021, QAMH attended a hearing in Toowoomba and facilitated a Committee visit and lunch with QAMH Member organisation, Momentum Mental Health.

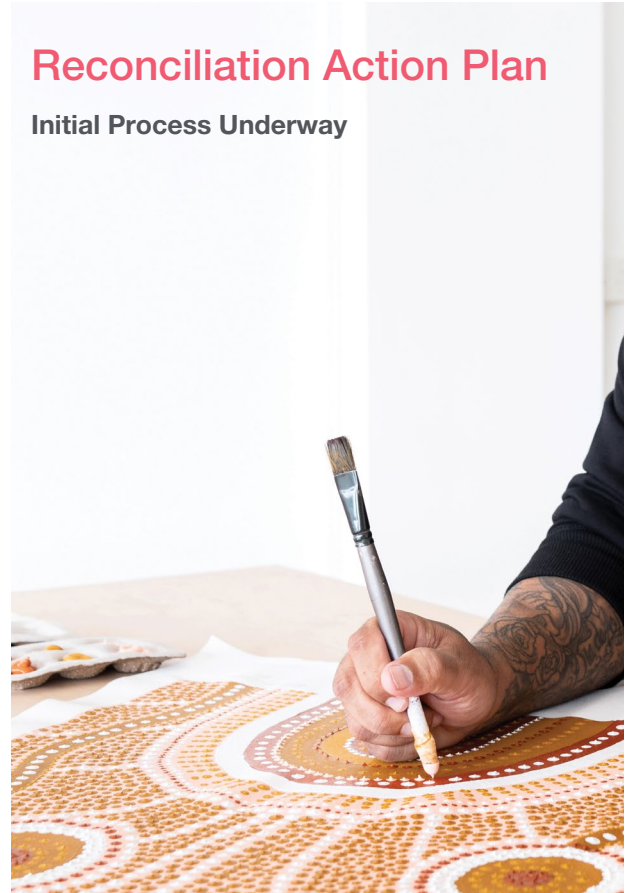
The Committee's Report was tabled in December and, among its 14 recommendations, was a call for the state government to develop a 10-year state-wide strategy to address social isolation and loneliness and to more broadly trial social prescribing. Its recommendations were supported by the Queensland Government.

QAMH is grateful to committee members, chaired by the Member for Mansfield Corrine McMillan.



Reconciliation Action Plan

Initial Process Underway



QAMH has embarked upon the reconciliation process by developing a Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). While still in the draft stages and awaiting final approval from Reconciliation Australia, our aim is to launch the RAP by early 2023.

This process has resonated strongly with our sense of social justice and working towards a fair and equal society, as well as our deep respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture which despite so many adversities has continued to be a source of strength for its people. We hope that initiating this RAP journey will contribute to Queensland's long overdue path to reconciliation.



Lead and Influence



Peer Workforce Projects

Lived Experience

QAMH is committed to supporting the growth and sustainability of the Lived Experience (Peer) Workforce in Queensland. Prompted by broader sector concern, QAMH and the Queensland Lived Experience Workforce Network (QLEWN) discussed workforce training challenges and the Certificate IV in Mental Health Peer Work. We held a series of meetings to discuss the issues and identify potential solutions.

Our first task was to develop a state wide Peer Workforce Survey to gather more data from peer workers and organisations in regards to demographics, existing roles and anticipated growth and training and professional development needs. Conducted jointly by partnering organisations QAMH, QLEWN, and the Brisbane North Peer Participation in Mental Health Services Network, two surveys targeting Individual Peer Workers and Organisations were widely distributed across Queensland. A total of 70 peer workers and 19 organisations completed the survey. The November 2021 summary report can be found at <https://bit.ly/PeerWorkforceSurveyReport>

The survey results were used to identify several improvement projects including:

- Peer Mentoring Lived Experience support for students studying the Certificate IV in Mental Health Peer Work
- Increasing the accessibility of the Mental Health Peer Work Skill Set
- Scholarships/financial support for Peer Workers to complete their formal training
- Reviewing the content of training materials and resources used to deliver the Certificate IV in Mental Health Peer Work to ensure they are contemporary
- Improving the quality and availability of Peer Work placement opportunities for students

- Supporting organisations to implement the QLD Lived Experience Workforce Framework

Key stakeholders were brought into the discussions as we sought opportunities to fund improvement initiatives in the areas identified. Collaborating with Workability Qld (through CSIA) and TAFE Queensland we secured project funding through the National Disability Insurance Scheme Training and Skills Support Strategy (NTSSS), an initiative of Workability Qld in March 2022.

Lived Experience Peer Work Student Mentoring Project

Following notification of our successful grant application, we formalised a Project Advisory Committee, which included membership from the four partners QAMH, QLEWN, TAFE Queensland and Workability Qld.

Project staff recruitment began with the part time Lived Experience Project Coordinator position, filled by Amanda Habermann. Amanda led the recruitment of two Peer Mentors – Simon Clough and Michael Mawson, based 2 days a week on the Gold Coast and in Mooloolaba respectively. Hitting the ground running they completed induction and orientation at QAMH and their TAFE campus workplaces. Building working relationships with teachers and connecting with students and enrolling them in the Peer Workforce Mentoring Project, they began offering individual and online group mentoring sessions to students with positive feedback.

The Key Performance Indicators of this project are recruitment of the project team and delivery of individual and group peer mentoring sessions to a total of 30 students. Monthly progress reports and a full evaluation report with recommendations will be completed one month after the service concludes, in December 2022.

Lead and Influence

Psychosocial Disability Workforce Micro-Credential

Streamlining Support Work Across the State

Priority skill gaps and training needs were identified by the sector as part of the Community Mental Health Workforce Project. Despite the high percentage of staff holding formal vocational and university qualifications, service managers indicated that these qualifications did not always adequately train and prepare the workforce. They identified specific workforce knowledge gaps in entry level skills, specifically mental illness, recovery practice, professional boundaries and the provision of psychosocial supports within the NDIS.

To address these knowledge gaps, QAMH collaborated with Workability Qld (through CSIA) and TAFE Queensland to apply for funding to develop and deliver a specific training package. Project funding was secured through the National Disability Insurance Scheme Training and Skills Support Strategy (NTSSS), an initiative of Workability QLD in September 2021.

A micro-credential is a standardised industry-supported non-accredited training package that is delivered online. TAFE Queensland had recent experience in developing this training type, and it was agreed by the group that a micro-credential would be most applicable for the project, due to its accessibility (free and online, state-wide access) and the feasibility of staff being able to complete it as part of a broader service specific induction program.

An advisory group of stakeholders was convened to guide the development and delivery of a micro-credential pilot. The Project Advisory Committee (PAC) included the following QAMH Member organisations: Bridges Health and Community Care, Centacare (Anam Cara), Centacare FNQ, Community Focus, Flourish Australia, Independent Living Support Association, Karakan, North West Remote Health, Richmond Fellowship Queensland, Royal Flying Doctors Service and Wesley Mission Queensland.



Development of the micro-credential included an environmental scan of existing training available and detailed discussion on specific content for inclusion by the PAC. The design of content, resources and video clips that specifically targeted agreed critical areas was led by the TAFE team. Cultural diversity was considered and reflected throughout the training.

Once the training was completed, it was trialled by over 100 workers identified through the PAC and QAMH membership earlier this year. Feedback received from workers completing the pilot has been included in the final product.

The micro-credential is now available for free on the TAFE Queensland learning platform. This training will be a valuable addition to induction of new staff entering the community mental health workforce, but also to other stakeholders supporting people experiencing mental health and wellbeing challenges.

We are grateful for the opportunity to partner with TAFE Queensland and Workability Queensland for this opportunity. Thank you to our Members who invested their time and contributed their expertise to this project.



Micro-credential training can be found at:
<https://coursegateway.tafeqld.edu.au/product?catalog=MCC00051>

**MAKE
GREAT
HAPPEN**



Lead and Influence

Committee Representation

Speaking on Behalf of the Sector

A significant role of QAMH is to represent the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Sector through a range of committees and networks to influence change and reform both locally and nationally.

At a national level we have collaborated with Community Mental Health Australia, Mental Illness Fellowship Australia, Mental Health Australia and the National Mental Health Commission on a range of key issues. We have expanded our national reach through participation of a national policy officer's network and a newly created national advocacy network with key staff in other state-wide peaks across Australia.

Locally we participate in a range of committees and networks to raise the profile and represent the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Sector. The QAMH CEO has regular meetings with the Queensland Health Mental Health Alcohol and Other Drugs Branch and the Queensland Mental Health Commissioner. The CEO has also developed a network of members of state parliament and other politicians whom she regularly communicates with in relation to issues relevant to the sector.



QAMH CEO Jennifer Black with respective peak body CEOs Connie Digolis (TAS) and Bec Cody (ACT)

List of committees

Queensland Health Quarterly Sector Meeting
Systematic Analysis of the Mental Health Non-Government Community Mental Health Services Sector Governing Partnership and Reference Network
ACDC Steering and Research and Evaluation Committees
Mind-Life Evaluation Committee
National Psychosocial Support Advocacy Campaign Stakeholder Meeting
Mental Health Week Reference and Planning Groups
QSport partnership meetings
COVID-19 Impact on Mental Health Stakeholder Forums
PHN regional planning across multiple PHNs in the state
CMHA Executive Leaders Group (state peaks)
Development of Mental Health Election Policy Manifesto 2022 Working Group
Social Services Category Industry Reference Group
Queensland Community Peaks Network and CEO Network
Queensland Disability Alliance Network
Mental Health Community Support Services Evaluation Steering Committee
Crisis System Reform Implementation Steering Committee
Multicultural Mental Health Working Group
Far North Queensland Alliance Meeting
Make Renting Fair Alliance
Public Trustee Customer Reference Group
Health Industry Skills Advisory Committee
North West Queensland Mental Health Network Meeting
Peer Mentoring Project Advisory Group
Peer Participation in Mental Health Services Network
QUT Enhanced Head of School Advisory Committee
Workability Queensland
NDIS Psychosocial Disability Workforce Micro-Credential Project Steering Committee
Community Services Gateway to Industry Project: QLD Advisor
NDIS Special Interest Group

Community Mental Health Australia



Bill Gye, OAM

CEO, Community Mental Health Australia



The Queensland Alliance for Mental Health (QAMH) is one of the founding members of Community Mental Health Australia (CMHA), along with the other state and territory mental health peaks. Their collective membership is made up of several hundred Community-Managed Organisations (CMOs) who not only provide a range of mental health services across Australia but who also share a vision for better mental health, wellbeing and social equity in Australia.

Over this past year CMHA's advocacy has been particularly focused on seeking and proposing solutions to several key issues such as:

- The current "NDIS business model" needs significant revision. In its present form it is not sustainable for providers who wish to provide quality service to achieve measurable recovery outcomes. Under the current business model it is not possible to obtain, train and retain workers who are equipped to focus on achieving recovery outcomes such as increased economic participation or the capacity for all participants to live a full "contributing life"
- The scale and capacity of "social and emotional wellbeing" services and supports outside the NDIS is, in most places across Australia, woefully inadequate. CMHA, in partnership with other organisations in the "Advocacy Alliance", has been advocating for the implementation of Recommendation 17 of the Productivity Commission *Inquiry into Mental Health Services in Australia* for a Psychosocial Support Program outside the NDIS. This needs to be of a quality and scale sufficient to support and achieve recovery outcomes for approximately 150,000 people
- The need for greater focus on the impact of social determinants on social and emotional wellbeing has prompted our involvement in several policy areas, including the national housing policy, ACOSS's Raise the Rate

campaign, climate change and its impact on mental health, the Closing the Gap campaign and our call for Australia to adopt its own Wellbeing Economy Model¹

CMHA is an active member of many national committees, working groups and task forces that are organised by the Commonwealth Department of Health, Commonwealth Department of Social Services, National Disability Insurance Agency, National Mental Health Commission and other entities. Our Submissions and Joint Submissions are available on our website www.cmha.org.au.

“The current ‘NDIS business model’ needs significant revision. In its present form it is not sustainable for providers who wish to provide quality service to achieve measurable recovery outcomes.”

A key focus for CMHA is our Assisting Communities through Direct Connection (ACDC) Project. We want to acknowledge the great work of our local ACDC Delivery Partners in Queensland, Momentum Mental Health, Mareeba Community Services and Stride, and to also thank Jennifer Black for her role in the national Steering Committee for this project. The ACDC Project is funded by the Department of Social Services and has run in more than 20 sites in every State and Territory across Australia and will be releasing its findings later this year. See www.acdc.org.au.

¹ https://ssir.org/articles/entry/the_vision_of_a_well_being_economy#:~:text=A%20well%2Dbeing%20economy%20recognizes,individual%20policies%20of%20several%20countries.

QAMH Board & Sub-Committees

The QAMH Board meets quarterly to assess the overall direction, strategy and financial performance of the organisation. Many of our Board Directors are leaders in the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Sector, holding unique and experienced perspectives that shape our governance framework.



Sharon Sarah

Skills-Based Director
Chair of Board since March 2021
Previously Deputy Chair from
May 2019 – February 2021
Joined Board in November 2012
Member of Governance
Sub-Committee



Nicci Dickson

Elected Director
Deputy Chair of the Board
since May 2021
Joined the Board in
October 2019
Member of Finance
Sub-Committee



Chris Skelton

Skills-Based Director
Joined Board in October 2018
Chair of Finance
Sub-Committee since
February 2020



Karen Thomas

NFP Elected Director
Joined the Board in
October 2018
Re-elected October 2021
Member of the Finance
Sub-Committee



Melanie Sennett

Elected Director
Joined the Board in
October 2019
Member of the Governance
Sub-Committee



Cathy O'Toole

Skills-Based Director
Joined the Board
in August 2020
Member of the Governance
Sub-Committee

Full biographies available at www.qamh.org.au

QAMH Board & Sub-Committees



Jeremy Audas

Elected Director
Joined the Board in
October 2020
Chair of the Governance
Sub-Committee



Rochelle Caron

Company Secretary
Joined the Board in
September 2021



Venisha Kapadia

Member of the Finance
Sub-Committee
Joined in
November 2021

**Thank you to
the following for
their service:**



Sarah Stoddart

Skills-Based Director
Joined the Board in
October 2018
Chair of Governance
Sub-Committee since
March 2020



Clare Guilfoyle

Member of the Governance
Sub-Committee
Previously Elected Director
October 2018 - February 2019

QAMH Team

This year our team expanded with the development of the Peer Workforce Project, and for the first time we had staff from the Gold Coast up to Cairns. We continue to tailor our positions and skills to strengthen our ability to support our Members, in line with our strategic plan and purpose.



Jennifer Black
Chief Executive Officer



Sarah Childs
Director - Sector
Engagement
and Development



Emma Griffiths
Director - Advocacy
and Communications



Marie Halloran
Business Manager



Claire Stewart
Executive Assistant



Simon Clough
Lived Experience
Peer Mentor



Kristyn Culpepper
Membership,
Communications & Design
Advisor



Lisa Greenaway
Project Lead -
Brand and
Communications



Amanda Habermann
Peer Workforce
Project Coordinator



Michael Mawson
Lived Experience
Peer Mentor



Sally McLeod
Project and Policy Officer

Financial Report

Statement of Income and Expenditure for the Year Ended 30 June 2022

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
INCOME		
Cash flow boost income	12,500	40,504
Donations	584	-
Events and training income	545	8,191
Grant income	1,275,544	1,758,477
Interest income	4,702	9,936
Management fee	5,133	-
Member subscriptions	76,181	73,946
TOTAL INCOME	1,375,190	1,891,054
EXPENDITURE		
Advertising	9,060	38,743
Amortisation	5,601	-
Board expenses	36,303	24,728
Computer, telephone and internet	30,522	59,130
Conferences and training	17,255	17,341
Consulting and professional fees	77,212	93,343
Employee benefits expense	1,014,805	1,185,576
Events	11,885	-
Insurance	8,717	5,140
IT support	26,194	-
Legal fees	32,521	8,933
Meetings expenses	4,161	4,386
Membership fees	13,473	-
Office supplies	6,919	-
Printing and stationery	5,644	14,113
Project expenses	5,253	243,572
Rent expense	73,053	77,066
Sponsorship	3,300	3,000
Staff amenities	1,374	20,581
Subscription fees	2,100	14,756
Sundry expenses	902	446
Travel and accommodation	23,110	19,633
Website expenses	15,543	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,424,908	1,830,485
TOTAL SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	(49,718)	60,569

Financial Report

Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2022

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,458,296	1,565,007
Trade and other receivables	78,643	74,078
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	1,536,939	1,639,085
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Trade and other receivables	19,058	18,040
Right-of-use assets	134,421	-
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	153,479	18,040
TOTAL ASSETS	1,690,418	1,657,125
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	96,878	264,711
Lease liabilities	62,215	-
Employee benefits	48,686	24,881
Other liabilities	168,477	75,935
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	376,256	365,527
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Lease liabilities	72,282	-
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	72,282	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	448,538	365,527
NET ASSETS	1,241,880	1,291,598
EQUITY		
Accumulated surplus	1,241,880	1,291,598
TOTAL EQUITY	1,241,880	1,291,598

Financial Report

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 30 June 2022

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Receipts from customers	1,400,389	1,604,299
Payments to suppliers and employees	(1,506,277)	(1,654,792)
Interest received	4,702	9,936
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	(101,186)	(40,557)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Net movement in right of use assets and lease liabilities	(5,525)	-
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	(5,525)	-
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held	(106,711)	(40,557)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	1,565,007	1,605,564
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	1,458,296	1,565,007

These financial statements have been derived from Queensland Alliance for Mental Health Ltd.'s annual financial report. The financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Australian Accounting Standards. Reading the financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial report of Queensland Alliance for Mental Health Ltd. Queensland Alliance for Mental Health Ltd.'s annual financial report is available on the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits (ACNC) Charity Register.

Audit Statement

Audit & Assurance srjww.com.au



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Directors of Queensland Alliance for Mental Health Limited.

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Queensland Alliance for Mental Health Limited, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2022, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statement, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion the financial report of Queensland Alliance for Mental Health Limited has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (ACNC Act) and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Company's financial reporting responsibilities under the ACNC Act. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Other Information

The directors are responsible for other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Director's Report for the year ended 30 June 2022, but does not include the financial report or our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the Director's Report and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the Director's Report and, in doing so, consider whether the Director's Report is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the ACNC Act and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Company's financial reporting process.


Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by Company.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and based, on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.


Jason Croston
SRJ Walker Wayland
Director

Date: 15 September 2022

Address: Unit 3, 27 South Pine Road, BRENDALE QLD 4500

phone 61 7 3490 9988 office Unit 3, 27 South Pine Road, Brendale Q 4500 post PO Box 418, Strathpine Q 4500

SRJ Walker Wayland Audit Pty Ltd abn 80 150 080 569

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A woman with light brown hair, wearing a white cable-knit sweater, is shown in profile from the chest up. She is looking out a window with a view of a bright, hazy outdoor scene. Her hand is resting under her chin, and she has a thoughtful expression.

Recognition of Lived Experience

QAMH staff recognise that if it wasn't for people with Lived Experience of mental distress and adversity, and their families, carers and support people, we would not be here.

For many years people with lived experience have been advocating for changes and improvements to mental health services, and we are grateful for their work and generosity in using their individual and collective expertise. We acknowledge the bravery and courage it takes to speak up and call for change and the valuable knowledge they bring to our work.

In honouring their work and the emerging Peer Workforce in Queensland, we commit to continuing to work with and alongside people with Lived Experience in all we do.



The Queensland Alliance for Mental Health (QAMH) leads a united contemporary voice for the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Sector in Queensland. Our purpose is to foster sector excellence through leadership, collaboration and influence with our Members and strategic partners.

Queensland Alliance for Mental Health Limited

ABN: 23 216 177 453
ACN: 615 817 251

Telephone: 07 3394 8480
Email: admin@qamh.org.au

433 Logan Road,
Stones Corner QLD 4120

Visit us at www.qamh.org.au



@QueenslandAllianceforMentalHealth



@the-queensland-alliance



@qldalliance



@qldallianceformentalhealth



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