



QUEENSLAND ALLIANCE FOR MENTAL HEALTH

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019

THE PEAK BODY FOR THE QUEENSLAND  
COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SECTOR.





# CONTENTS

Chair Report _____	<b>5</b>
CEO Message _____	<b>6</b>
Who We Are _____	<b>8</b>
Governance _____	<b>9</b>
Strategic Priorities _____	<b>14</b>
Committees, Groups & Forums _____	<b>15</b>
Industry Partners _____	<b>16</b>
Our Members _____	<b>17</b>
Regional Engagement _____	<b>18</b>
Submissions _____	<b>20</b>
Transitioning To The NDIS _____	<b>21</b>
Community Mental Health Australia _____	<b>22</b>
Highlights _____	<b>24</b>
QAMH In The Media _____	<b>26</b>
Financial Report _____	<b>28</b>



”

It is with great honour and appreciation of our members that QAMH celebrates its 20th year of incorporation in 2019.

**Mark Fenton**

## MARK FENTON



# CHAIR REPORT

It is with great honour and appreciation of our members that QAMH celebrates its 20th year of incorporation in 2019. This represents a collective effort of past and current staff, Board Members and members working together for significant reform and change. There is still much work to be done in the sector, with the past 12 months challenging stakeholders in the sector. However, the resounding

challenges for others who were left with uncertainty of operational viability going forward. Funding continues to represent hurdles for our sector, where service providers strive to produce quality services for consumers and the community in the current climate. We are thankful for the work of the entirety of the QAMH team for their communication to stakeholders regarding funding outcomes.

financial position, and this continues to be underpinned by sound strategic planning and governance. A special thanks must be given to Alison Fairleigh who resigned from the Board in February 2019, for her significant contribution to QAMH and being a clear and consistent voice for North Queensland since her appointment to QAMH State Council in November 2015. Clare Guilfoyle is also

**“However, the resounding message is that our sector is strong and the history of QAMH tells us that working together in collaboration for systemic change produces important outcomes, and we will continue to strive for this.”**

message is that our sector is strong and the history of QAMH tells us that working together in collaboration for systemic change produces important outcomes, and we will continue to strive for this.

The Annual Alliance Members Meeting for QAMH Members was held on 8 May 2019 in conjunction with a Strategic Planning Review Meeting. This provided opportunities for members to give invaluable feedback and to participate in strategic planning. As we move towards 2020, this planning will continue to elevate the strategic direction of QAMH and underpin the advocacy work.

There have been a number of ‘wins’ this year for our members. Some members have successfully continued their funding. However, this presented many

I would like to acknowledge the work of Kris Trott, former CEO of QAMH. Kris worked tirelessly during her tenure with QAMH, and we are appreciative of the foundation that she laid. QAMH is in a stronger position for Kris’ leadership. We are appreciative of all the work that Acting CEO, Jacklyn Whybrow, has done in leading QAMH with such strong knowledge of the sector. Jacklyn’s desire to improve outcomes for all members is to be applauded. QAMH has been fortunate to have the expertise and leadership of Jacklyn this year, and we are grateful she will continue as Director of Partnerships and Engagement with QAMH.

The work of our Board Members must also be acknowledged, as they strive to provide strategic leadership to QAMH. I am pleased that QAMH is in a healthy

acknowledged, after her resignation as Director in March 2019. Clare continues to make valuable contributions as a member of the Governance Sub-Committee. We are fortunate to have a Board made up of passionate individuals, and this will stand us in good stead for the challenges that the next year will represent.

It is with great pleasure that we have appointed Jennifer Black as CEO, commencing on 9 December 2019. Jennifer is an accomplished and transformational executive leader who draws on over 30 years’ experience working across the mental health system in Australia and the UK to lead lasting and positive change. We are looking forward to Jennifer’s leadership and strategic vision for the future of QAMH.

## JACKLYN WHYBROW

### CEO MESSAGE



”

Our vision remains clear that we are working towards strong, inclusive and resilient communities and this requires strong leadership.

Jacklyn Whybrow

**A**s I reflect on the past year I am humbled by the agility and resilience of the sector and the people who access services. Undoubtedly, the past year has seen a profound change in how we have traditionally delivered services and how these services are funded. QAMH has been at the forefront of advocacy in the representation of our members. Our vision remains clear that we are working towards strong, inclusive and resilient communities and this requires strong leadership.

Being an advocate during significant times of reform and being witness to the paradigm shift within the sector has required the team to be the trusted advocate, who is relevant and responsive. We have demonstrated courage in our representation of the community mental health sector in Queensland over the past year.

As a team, we remain laser-focused on the overall needs of the sector. We have provided leadership in advocating for better outcomes for our community at all levels of government both at state and federal level.

Our active engagement of members and representation of the challenges in the transition to NDIS across Queensland certainly assisted with federal transitional support funding to be rolled out through our Primary Health Networks. We would like to thank our members for continuing to support this work by providing data, taking our phone calls and meeting with us during times that, as a sector, we have been stretched for time and resources.

We continue to be active across the state with strong engagement with regional, rural and remote providers. Our focus on being present across the state allows for a unique perspective of the greater impacts of national reforms, policy and the introduction of quality and safety standards.

Our scoping and mapping of needs and trends continues to influence strategic objectives and the direction of QAMH. As always, our members remain at the centre of the organisation.

As an organisation, we remain solutions-focused and although advocacy requires a strong voice, we also remain committed

strong membership and strategic vision. Under this vision, Kris implemented strategic priorities that guided our work over the past 12 months. We have achieved great success in making strategy come to life in all areas of our work.

As Acting CEO over the past 8 months, I have had the opportunity to lead the team and finalise priorities of the strategic plan. As a deputy, I look forward to facilitating the transition to a new Chief Executive. I would also like to acknowledge our staff who have supported the organisation amidst its changes – I am grateful for their support and proud of their hard work to ensure that we represent a peak that is professional.

We have also seen changes with our Board with the resignation of Alison Fairleigh (Deputy Chair) and Clare Guilfoyle, however, both remain active leaders within the sector and we thank you for your dedication, commitment and leadership. We would like to congratulate Sharon Sarah who agreed to take on the role of Deputy Board Chair. We are looking forward to the development and

**“As a team, we remain laser-focused on the overall needs of the sector. We have provided leadership in advocating for better outcomes for our community at all levels of government both at state and federal level.”**

As we continue to observe and track the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), I am also reminded of the amazing resilience and hope that our sector promotes. This has also provided an opportunity for leadership on the key functions and scope of our community mental health workforce. We have responded to the needs of our members and provided an influential voice for the sector in strategic planning groups, in consultations with Ministers and decision makers, at NDIS strategic forums and in ongoing engagements with sector funding bodies, including Queensland Health and the Primary Health Networks.

to sector development and building the capacity. We have been privileged to work with strong partners including sector peaks and service-user leaders as we provide opportunities for the sector to remain committed to recovery. This has highlighted the importance of understanding systemic reform and how this plays out in service delivery.

The last year has seen significant change for QAMH and the sector. We have celebrated the achievements and leadership of our outgoing Chief Executive Officer, Kris Trott. It is abundantly clear that Kris successfully positioned the QAMH as a sustainable peak and under her leadership, we have celebrated

implementation of a new strategic plan in the coming year and the comeback of “Altering States” the QAMH state conference.

I would like to finish by thanking our members, their staff and the people who access services. Your passion and dedication have kept our vision and mission at the forefront of our work. Our service to the sector remains informed by the experiences and perspective of your work. We remain committed to be the voice of mental health communities in Queensland, creating connections, providing leadership and supporting better outcomes.

## WHO WE ARE

**Q**ueensland Alliance for Mental Health (QAMH) is the peak body for community mental health service providers.

We represent and support more than 130 services, groups and individuals in the community mental health sector.

We advocate for and support our community as they deliver quality mental health services in Queensland.

”

QAMH has been at the forefront of advocacy in the representation of our members.

Jacklyn Whybrow





# GOVERNANCE

**A**n electronic ballot for Alliance Board Elected Directors was held in October 2018.

QAMH has a Finance Sub-Committee and Governance Sub-Committee which is governed by a Board of Directors with accountability to the members of the company.



**MARK FENTON**  
**BOARD CHAIR**  
**SKILLS-BASED DIRECTOR**  
**CHAIR OF FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE (2018)**  
**CHAIR OF GOVERNANCE SUB-COMMITTEE (2019)**

Mark Fenton has over 17 years of experience as a company director and has served on the Boards of Queensland Ballet Company and John Paul College Limited.

He chaired the Arts Investment Advisory Board that provided strategic and funding advice to the Queensland Government, and is currently a director of Community Mental Health Australia Inc and Common Ground Queensland Ltd.

Mark is a finance executive with over 25 years of experience, is a fellow with CPA Australia and the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He has also worked for businesses in the disability, professional services, manufacturing, retirement living, retail, and membership services sectors.



**SHARON SARAH**  
**DEPUTY BOARD CHAIR**  
**SKILLS-BASED DIRECTOR**

Sharon Sarah has worked in the health and community sector for 25 years, primarily in the mental health sector and is currently the CEO for Bridges Health and Community Care in the Wide Bay and Central Queensland regions.

She manages a diverse multi-disciplinary workforce including people with a lived experience of mental illness and addictions. Sharon is passionate about system reform and collaborative practice to enhance consumer and carer outcomes, building a professional sustainable mental health and Alcohol and Other Drug Workforce and strong clinical governance, particularly program fidelity and evidence-based practice.

She is committed to lifelong learning, sourced through both the health and business sector. She is a registered Psychologist with a Bachelor of Science (Honours) Psychology and Masters in Mental Health Practice.

Sharon was the Branch Chair of the Australian Psychological Society for many years, now a committee member and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management (FAIM).



**CRAIG STANLEY-JONES**  
**NFP ELECTED DIRECTOR**  
**MEMBER OF FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE**  
**CHAIR OF GOVERNANCE SUB-COMMITTEE (2018)**

Over the past two decades, Craig Stanley-Jones has worked in various government and community roles within the mental health sector, including management and allied health roles within public and private clinical settings. The past eight of these years has been spent working in senior management roles in the community mental health sector.

Craig has led and assisted in the development and implementation of a range of community mental health programs across Queensland, including projects focusing on consumer participation and leadership. He brings a strong history of establishing strong effective partnerships and collaborations on a range of community and clinically-based programs and projects.



**JESSICA GIBSON**  
**SKILLS-BASED DIRECTOR**  
**CHAIR OF FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE (2019)**

Currently an Associate Director in the People and Change team at KPMG, Jessica is a highly experienced management and organisational change professional, who has built a career helping organisations navigate through strategic, operational, technological, and cultural change.

She brings a wealth of experience in solving complex business problems across a number of sectors, including government, finance, banking, infrastructure, and information technology. However, at the core of her work is a desire to help businesses adapt in order to best deliver on their core values.

Jessica has a passion for supporting the not-for-profit sector and a personal commitment to driving improved outcomes for mental health in Australia.



**VIVIANNE KISSANE**  
**ELECTED DIRECTOR**  
**MEMBER OF FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE**

Viv Kissane is Founder and CEO of Brisbane-based charity, Peach Tree Perinatal Wellness (Peach Tree), a community based perinatal and infant mental health service. Founded in 2011, Peach Tree is a Peer-Led organisation, which offers support, education and social inclusion activities aimed at improving parental and infant mental health and wellbeing.

As a passionate mental health advocate, Viv has extensive experience as a Peer Worker and is an active Consumer Representative. As CEO of Peach Tree, Viv is dedicated to developing and supporting a Lived Experience workforce.



**KAREN THOMAS**  
**NFP ELECTED DIRECTOR**  
**MEMBER OF FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE**

Karen has over 20 years of experience within the community sector, predominately in leadership roles in Mental Health Community Service Organisations; throughout Tasmania, Victoria and for the past 12 years across Queensland.

Karen considers that responsible sector leadership is based on creating robust, supportive, respectful and trusted working relationships. Karen is an advocate in engaging with diverse sectors and all stakeholders to actively work on developing partnerships that will improve outcomes for individuals and the community. Karen appreciates the collegiality across organisations, and the learning and sharing that ensues when working together on an issue of mutual concern. Karen believes that with the implementation of a number of state and federal reforms, more than ever there will be a need for the sector to work collaboratively.

Karen has an adaptive and transformational leadership style resulting in an ability to work in uncertainty and ambiguity to discover new ways forward, which lends itself to the current environment of change and reform. Karen is committed to supporting the ongoing work of the QAMH across the mental health sector in Queensland, not only in navigating these new reforms but in thriving in the new environment.



**CHRIS SKELTON**  
**SKILLS-BASED DIRECTOR**  
**MEMBER OF FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE**

Chris Skelton has over 37 years of experience in professional services encompassing the provision of advisory, accounting and audit services to a diverse range of industries covering private business and public companies.

In his 25 years of experience as an Audit Partner at major accounting firm BDO, Chris has assisted in the improvement of a wide variety of financial reporting and governance systems. He works closely with directors and management to help in their understanding of financial reporting information and enjoys unlocking the myths associated with accounting and making the numbers understandable and useful.

He has undergraduate qualifications in Business, in addition to an array of roles and memberships outside of his daily practice as Director of NFP Accountants Pty Ltd, including, but not limited to, Fellowships with Governance Institute of Australia, Queensland and Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand.



**SARAH STODDART**  
**SKILLS-BASED DIRECTOR**  
**MEMBER OF GOVERNANCE SUB-COMMITTEE**

Sarah Stoddart is an experienced lawyer who practises primarily in commercial, healthcare and employment law. She is a Director of Stoddart Legal Pty Ltd and holds undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications in law and legal practice as well as admissions to both the Supreme Court of Queensland and High Court of Australia.

Sarah regularly advises on business transactions and regulatory compliance issues and prepares detailed submissions to government departments. She also works with employers and employees on industrial relations and human resource matters concerning all stages of an employment relationship. She is a personable and trusted advisor who is committed to high quality legal advice, practical options and business solutions.



**CLARE GUILFOYLE**  
**MEMBER OF GOVERNANCE SUB-COMMITTEE**

Clare brings to the Queensland Alliance Board a valuable mix of experience in clinical care, community care, women's services, policy development, research, consultancy, management, governance and strategy.

Clare is currently the CEO of PACT, a new position for Clare working in the court and justice system. Prior to this, Clare was CEO at Grow, a position she held for over eight years. Grow provides a unique program of peer support and mutual help, designed and led by recovering members. Clare brings her experience of working closely with Grow participants, both at the local and state level and at the national level with Grow's national consumer team and the Grow Board. She has also been instrumental in the development of Grow's anti stigma campaign, Odd Socks Day, because anyone can have an odd day.

Clare has experience as a researcher with the Centre for Online Health with the University of Queensland, and has had several peer reviewed papers published in the Journal of Telemedicine and Telecare. Clare has worked in senior and executive positions with Ozcare and Blue Care both among the largest providers of community care in Queensland. Clare was also appointed an Honorary Fellow at the Queensland University of Technology through her involvement in post graduate education and curriculum development for nursing in Aged Care.

Clare has extensive board and committee experience. She served on the boards for Mental Health Australia and QAMH for six years and five years respectively.



**ALISON FAIRLEIGH**  
**MEMBER OF GOVERNANCE SUB-COMMITTEE**  
**(UNTIL MARCH 2019)**

Alison has extensive experience working in community mental health and primary health care, with expertise in rural and remote mental health, and suicide prevention. Based in Townsville, Alison passionately represents the interests of north Queensland and was a Senior Program Officer with the Northern Queensland Primary Health Network (NQ PHN)

Alison resigned from the QAMH Board in March 2019 as a skills-based director and took a position at the Townsville Hospital and Health Service in their Emergency Preparedness and Continuity Management Division. During her time as a board member, Alison shared her expertise in community capacity-building, stakeholder engagement and sustainability planning. She was been instrumental in developing networks and partnerships across regional Queensland, and a dedicated advocate for the voice of lived experience – using consumer and community engagement as the primary source to drive and implement mental health reform.



**JACKLYN WHYBROW**  
**ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
**BA, BSW, MSW, MASTER OF HEALTH**  
**SERVICES MANAGEMENT**

Jacklyn has worked across public, private and non-government sector in critical care, palliative care, trauma and mental health. She brings clinical expertise and an advanced scope of practice in clinical social work in early intervention, adult, acute care, early psychosis and older person's mental health.

Jacklyn is passionate about clinical governance and leadership in healthcare settings and is actively engaged in the Australia Association of Social Work as former Vice President of Queensland Branch, Branch Management Member and is a foundation member of the Australian College of Social Work Clinical Division.

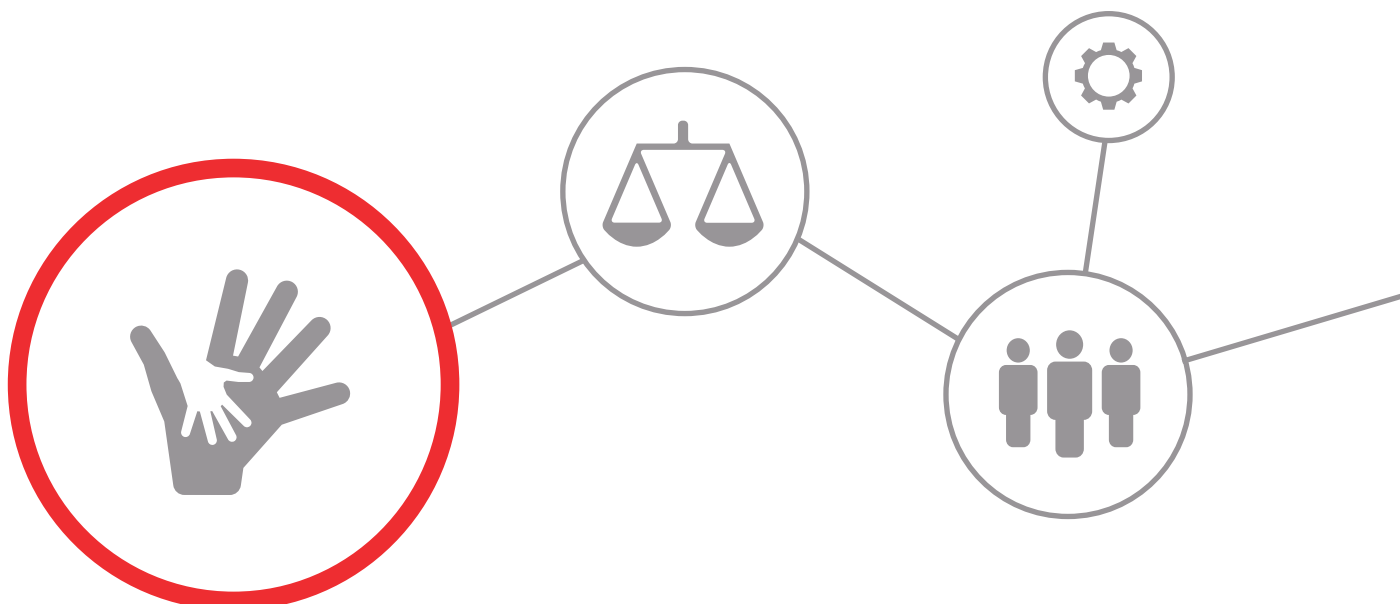


**JULIA RIORDAN**  
**COMPANY SECRETARY**

Julia Riordan brings extensive international and Australian experience in executive assistant roles in corporate, government and non-government organisations to her role as QAMH's Executive Officer, where she works closely with the CEO, supporting her across the everyday running of the business.

She has completed her Certificate in Governance Practice and undertakes the role of Company Secretary for QAMH. Julia is also the secretariat for the Queensland Transition to NDIS for Mental Health Strategic Forum.

Julia worked for the Department of the Premier and Cabinet in Policy and Governance Divisions for 12 years before joining QAMH, initially as Executive Assistant to the CEO, in 2012. She has contributed to all aspects of the business, including office management, communications, finance, membership management, event organisation and Secretary of QAMH State Council. She is passionate and committed to her role in community mental health and the broad contribution it makes to the community.



# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



1

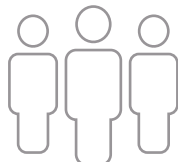
## COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SECTOR ADVOCACY



- QAMH will be the trusted source for advice and engagement on community mental health sector issues in Queensland.
- QAMH will continue to influence decision makers and advocate on behalf of its members and the community mental health sector in Queensland.

2

## MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT



- QAMH will continually develop and enhance its value proposition for QAMH members, to attract and retain a broad membership base in the Queensland community mental health sector.

3

## STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT & NETWORKING



- QAMH creates new and enhances existing networks to ensure strong engagement with all stakeholders across Queensland.

4

## SUSTAINABLE PEAK BODY



- QAMH is the lead for sector support to the Queensland community mental health sector. QAMH has best practice governance, a secure financial position and robust corporate structures to ensure we are responsive to opportunities and resilient to challenges.



# COMMITTEES, GROUPS & FORUMS

**Q**AMH represents members and remains connected with the health sector by participating in a wide range of committee meetings, networking events and workshops. Some of these include:



- All Abilities Alliance
- Bayside Mental Health Network
- Brisbane/Metro MHAOD Strategic Coordination Group
- CMHA Board Meeting
- CMHA Executive Leadership Group
- Collaboration in Mind (Brisbane North PHN)
- Darling Downs Mental Health Community collaborative
- DDWMPHN Joint regional mental health plan
- Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction Advisory Committee
- Far North Queensland Alliance
- Logan Mental Health Network
- Mackay Regional Mental Health Network
- Metro North Hospital and Health Services Community Board Advisory Group (CBAG)
- Metro South Integrated Planning Meeting
- National ILC Advisory Group
- New Paradigm Journal Editorial Group
- North Burnett MHOAD Hub
- North Queensland Mental Health Network
- Peer Participation Network in Mental Health - BNPN (PPIMS)
- QLD Peak Body Collaboration
- QMHC Consumer, Family and Carers Project Reference Group
- QMHC Live Well Action Working Group
- QMHC Mental Health Week Working Group
- Queensland Health MHAODB - Regular meetings
- Queensland Mental Health Commission - Physical Health Project
- Queensland Mental Health Week Reference Group
- RANZP Qld - Mental Health Stakeholder Network
- Referring for a Community Support Activity Project
- Rockhampton Mental Strategic Collaborative
- Stretch2Engage Committee
- Suicide Prevention Taskforce - Understanding & Enhancing First Response to Suicide Crisis Structure
- Tablelands Mental Health Alliance
- West Moreton Mental Health Collaborative
- West Moreton MH Strategic Group

# INDUSTRY PARTNERS



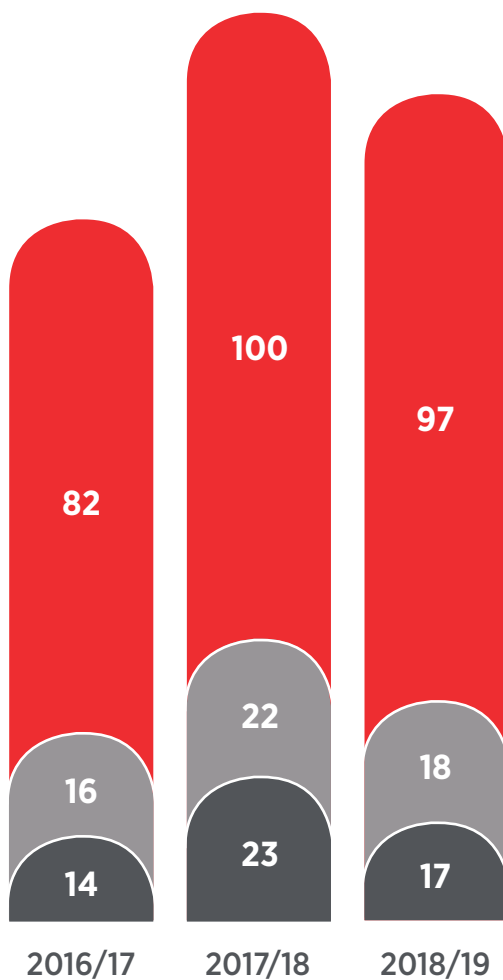
**QAMH appreciates the support of the following 2019 industry partners:**





# OUR MEMBERS

## MEMBERSHIPS



- GENERAL MEMBER
- ASSOCIATE INDUSTRY
- ASSOCIATE INDIVIDUAL

**T**ogether with our members we seek to promote the value of community mental health services and support innovation and best practice in service design and delivery. Our members provide unique services across the state of Queensland to individuals at all stages of their lives.



# REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT



## REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH NETWORKS

<b>BUNDABERG</b>	All Abilities Alliance
<b>CAIRNS</b>	Far North Queensland Mental Health Alliance
<b>GAYNDAH</b>	North Burnett Mental Health, Alcohol and Other Drugs Hub
<b>IPSWICH</b>	West Moreton Mental Health Collaborative Network
<b>MACKAY</b>	Mackay Regional Mental Health Network
<b>MOUNT ISA</b>	North West Mental Health Network
<b>ATHERTON</b>	Tablelands Mental Health Alliance
<b>TOOWOOMBA</b>	Toowoomba Mental Health Community Network and Toowoomba Mental Health Collaborative
<b>TOWNSVILLE</b>	North Queensland Alliance for Mental Health
<b>SUNSHINE COAST</b>	Sunshine Coast Mental Health Network



”

“selectability values the advocacy and support undertaken by the Alliance as we all work together to foster better outcomes for people with mental health issues.”

**Debra Burden,**  
Chief Executive Officer, selectability

## REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT MEETINGS 2018/19

Quarter 1 25

Quarter 2 19

Quarter 3 16

Quarter 4 18

**Q**AMH's regional engagement ensures we are able to champion the Queensland in community mental health sector as a whole. Our regional members face unique challenges and create innovative solutions. Their experiences and insights inform QAMH's advocacy, research and representation. In the 2018-2019 financial year, QAMH facilitated and supported 10 regional mental health networks.

”

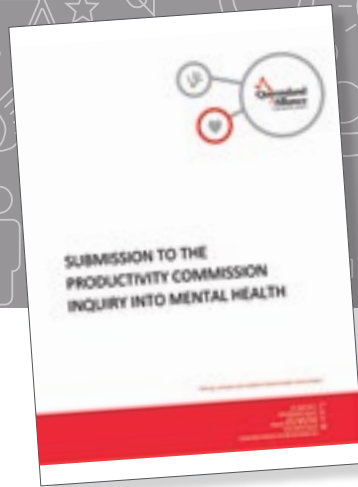
“The Townsville Intercultural Centre has enjoyed a long-standing friendship and partnership with Queensland Mental Health Alliance and have welcomed many visits to our office from Siofra Cunningham and Jacklyn Whybrow, who have provided support for our agency and our events, including our cross cultural training and recent Unity in Diversity National Conference. As the peak body, the QAMH team can be relied upon to provide up to date information about what is happening in the sector, including the recent Queensland mental health week's suite of events.”

**Maureen Heron, Operations Manager**  
Townsville Intercultural Centre



# SUBMISSIONS

**Q**AMH submissions to enquiries and reviews highlight important issues for our sector and provide a basis for building advocacy and engagement strategies. In 2018 QAMH represented members interests and views through a range of submissions including:



- Submission to the Productivity Commission Inquiry into Mental Health
- Inquiry into Aged Care, End-of-Life and Palliative Care and Voluntary Assisted Dying
- Queensland Productivity Commission Imprisonment Inquiry
- Disability Services Act Review
- NDIS Thin Markets Consultation





# TRANSITIONING TO THE NDIS

## QTN FORUM



**Q**AMH hosted the Queensland Transition to NDIS for Mental health Strategic Form (QTN Forum) at the Queensland Cricketers' Club in March, with 60 attendees.

The forum provided a mechanism to discuss the specific issues for people who live with a mental illness, mental health service providers, representative bodies, National Disability Insurance Agency and state and commonwealth governments in the roll-out of the NDIS in Queensland.



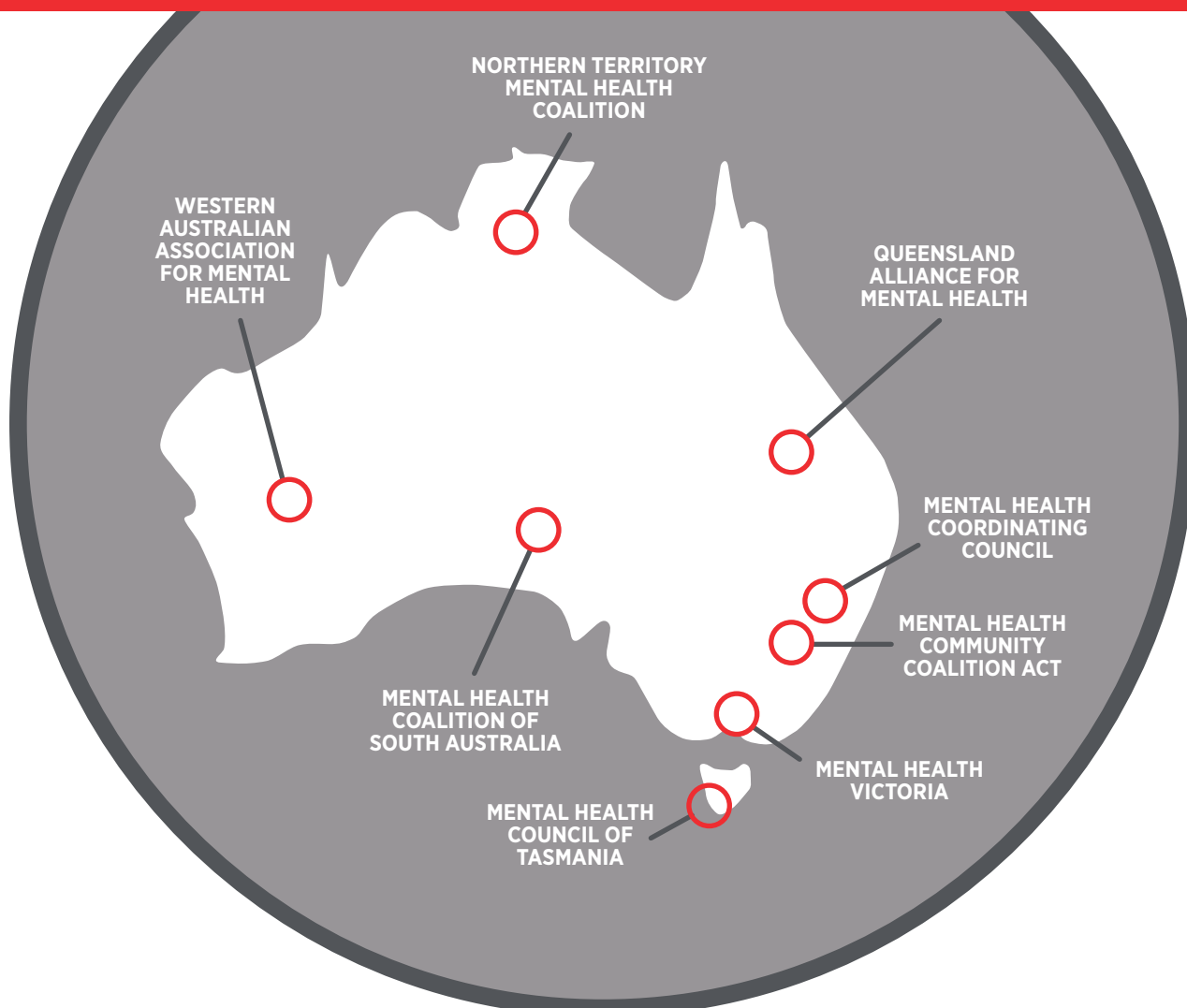


## NEWPARADIGM

Community Mental Health Australia publishes newparadigm, the Australian Journal on Psychosocial Rehabilitation, three times a year. The journal exists to encourage discussion and information sharing on material relevant to mental health such as innovative service program, new research and current thinking on policy and service provision.

It is produced in partnership with Mental Health Victoria and QAMH sits on the newparadigm editorial committee.

## QAMH APPRECIATES THE RELATIONSHIPS WE HAVE WITH OUR SISTER PEAK BODIES ACROSS AUSTRALIA.





# COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AUSTRALIA

**C**ommunity Mental Health Australia (CMHA) is a coalition of the eight State and Territory community mental health peak bodies. CMHA was established to provide leadership and direction to promote the importance and benefits of community mental health and recovery services across Australia.

CMHA provides a unified voice for over 800 community-based, non-government organisations who work with mental health consumers and carers across the nation and who are members of, or affiliated with, the various coalition members.



## BILL GYE (OAM) – GENERAL MANAGER

Bill Gye (OAM) is the new CEO of CMHA. We welcome and congratulate Bill and thank the previous CEO Amanda Bresnan, for her hard work and tireless representation of the community mental health sector on a national level.

CMHA has continued to advocate and lobby at a national level for an improved community mental health system that involves people with lived experience in the design, delivery and management of integrated and holistic services with a greater focus on prevention and early intervention, while making sure that those who are most disadvantaged and isolated are engaged and receive a high quality recovery oriented service.

Both before and after the Federal election in May, CMHA has been working to continually develop effective relationships with people on all sides of politics to maximise the probability that there is progress in the above objective.

CMHA play an active role on many national Committees such as:

- The Mental Health Expert Reference Panel (MHERP), established by the Mental Health Principle Committee to assist with the implementation and oversight of the Fifth National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Plan.
- The National Mental Health Safety and Quality Partnership Standing Committee (MHSQPSC); the National Mental Health Performance Subcommittee (MHPC) and the National Mental Health Information Strategy Standing Committee (MISCC)
- CMHA continued its representation on the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) CEO Forum; NDIA National Mental Health Sector Reference Group (NMHSRG);
- National Close the Gap Campaign Steering Committee
- National Consumer and Carer Safety and Quality Engagement Guide Advisory Committee which is a project being carried out by the National Mental Health Commission
- CMHA is an active member of ACOSS Committees
- Submissions to the Productivity Commission enquiry on the Economic Benefits of Improving Mental Health and the previous review of the National Disability Agreement
- Three Reports on the Transition of Clients from the previous Commonwealth Funded programs of Personal Helpers and Mentors (PHaMs), Partners in Recovery (PiR) and support with Day to Day Living in the Community (D2DL) to the NDIS
- Submission to Senate Standing Committees on accessibility and quality of mental health services in rural and remote Australia; the implementation, performance and governance of the National Disability Insurance Scheme in the ACT; etc.

CMHA held its National NDIS and Mental Health Conference in 2018 and will do so again in early 2020. These conferences bring together many people from community-based organisations and government services and agencies, along with consumer and carer representatives.

During 2018-19 CMHA made a number of submissions and published some reports including:

# HIGHLIGHTS



## STRETCH2ENGAGE

The second phase of Stretch2Engage (S2E) continued throughout 2018/2019. QAMH is working in collaboration with S2E partnerships with QNADA and enLightened Consultants to support our pilot sites and the sector to stretch beyond current practice. S2E is supported and funded by the Queensland Mental Health Commission and we are seeing significant change in how our members are flipping the status quo and going beyond to engage people who access services. Evaluation of the use of the framework commenced in early 2018 and outcomes will be available in 2020.



## REIMAGINE.TODAY PROJECT

QAMH is working in partnership with the Mental Health Coordinating Council on the two year reimagine.today project (stage 2). This project will redevelop the reimagine.today website as an information resource for people who are accessing the psychosocial disability stream for NDIS.

Brooke Starr joined the QAMH team in 2018 as the Queensland Peer Leader in the reimagine.today project.

Brooke is making great headway already into the development of a state-based Peer led Network/Community of Practice that will provide the basis for the development of resources for the reimagine.today website and communities throughout Queensland.

Brooke has also been working on a diversity group co-design with the Cherbourg community, in partnership with Open Doors to Access Cherbourg. The co design aims to make information and resources for psychosocial disability and the NDIS, more relevant and culturally appropriate for people from Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander backgrounds. Phase one has been completed with very creative and promising outcomes emerging. Phase two and three are planned to take place within the next six months.

## #POWER OF PEAKS – COLLABORATING FOR REAL SOCIAL CHANGE

Queensland Community Service Peaks have been working together informally for decades. Recently this co-operation and collective action has been formalised to harness the power of the community services sector. In 2018, the peaks focused on achieving positive change in the following critical areas:

- NDIS
- Family Matters Campaign
- Human Rights Act for Queensland
- Accessible and affordable housing

QCOSS, COTA, NDS, Volunteering Queensland, ECCQ, Community Legal Centres Queensland, QShelter, QDN, PeakCare, QATSICPP, CSIA, Health and Community Services Workforce Council, Queensland Alliance for Mental Health and Tenants Queensland commit to working together and with all stakeholders to implement successful reform in these areas.





# HIGHLIGHTS

## MENTAL HEALTH WEEK 2018

In 2018, QAMH again administered the Queensland Mental Health Week Community Events grant program on behalf of the Queensland Mental Health Commission (QMHC).

The QMHC allocated \$85,000 for this program, which focused on providing funding assistance to organisations holding registered Mental Health Week events to create community awareness around mental health.

QAMH were honoured to sponsor the Jeff Cheverton Individual Award for the Queensland Mental Health Week Achievement Awards. There were ten award categories which recognised individuals, workplaces, not-for-profits, as well as people with lived experiences of mental illnesses who now use their experiences to help others. QAMH presented Justin Chapman with the Individual Award.

## OUTCOMES MEASURES PROJECT

QAMH is leading research into the use of outcomes measures across the community mental health sector. The research looks at how the sector measures real and meaningful outcomes for the people who access services, and what barriers and challenges organisations face to collect and report on outcomes.

QAMH released a discussion paper outlining the largest barriers to implementing outcomes measurement across the community mental health sector.

The discussion paper was informed by a comprehensive survey of QAMH members, looking into the current use of outcome measures and what support organisations need to successfully implement an outcomes-focused performance framework in the future.

The discussion paper includes recommendations for government that focus on:

- the need for proper funding, training and resourcing to assist organisations to implement outcomes measurement;
- the need to invest in consistent data capture and reporting systems; and
- the need to remove duplication and inconsistencies in how outcomes are measured across different departments and levels of government.

We will continue to highlight these recommendations and the findings from our discussion paper in future conversations with government representatives.

View the Outcomes Measures Discussion Paper [www.qamh.org.au/resources](http://www.qamh.org.au/resources)



# QAMH IN THE MEDIA

## QUEENSLAND BUDGET TO DIRECT \$62M AT REDUCING STATE'S HIGH SUICIDE RATE, ABC NEWS ONLINE 6TH JUNE 2019

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-06-06/queensland-budget-to-target-high-suicide-rate/11182856>

- ▶ The Queensland Alliance for Mental Health says the extra spending comes as other services are having a funding cut.

## QUEENSLAND BUDGET 2019: WINNERS AND LOSERS, ABC NEWS ONLINE 11TH JUNE 2019

- ▶ But the Queensland Mental Health Alliance said at least 10 community mental health services are set to have their funding reduced.

## AFTERNOONS WITH KAT FEENEY, ABC BRISBANE RADIO 19TH JUNE 2019

- ▶ Acting CEO, Jacklyn Whybrow was interviewed alongside our member Stepping Stone Clubhouse to talk about the importance of investing in community mental health.

## LETTER CAUSES FUNDING FURY, THE COURIER MAIL 6TH JUNE 2019

### Letter causes funding fury

JESSICA MARZALEK  
TECH POLITICAL REPORTER

COMMUNITY groups were left stunned when Queensland Health asked them to list the state electorate in which they provided mental health services during a funding round last month. Health Minister Steven Miles was forced to intervene when the shock letter left many wondering whether decisions were being made on political grounds.

The letter – sent to applicants who found out later if they were successful – came with a list of state electorates grouped by Hospital and Health Service (HHS) and a link to the Electoral Commission of Queensland website so that organisations could check boundaries.

"It is requested that your organisation indicate all State

Electorates where services are provided for all projects," the letter said.

Queensland Alliance for Mental Health director Jacklyn Whybrow said members had contacted the organisation suspicious of the letter and worried they would be penalised if they didn't comply.

"Members are concerned that it's a political approach," she said.

After questions from The Courier-Mail, Mr Miles said the Director-General would now send an apology letter.

"The letter was sent by department staff and when I was informed I immediately spoke to the Director-General and said the request for electorate information in the letter was inappropriate and unacceptable," he said. "The letter was sent for data collection purposes unrelated to the tender process."

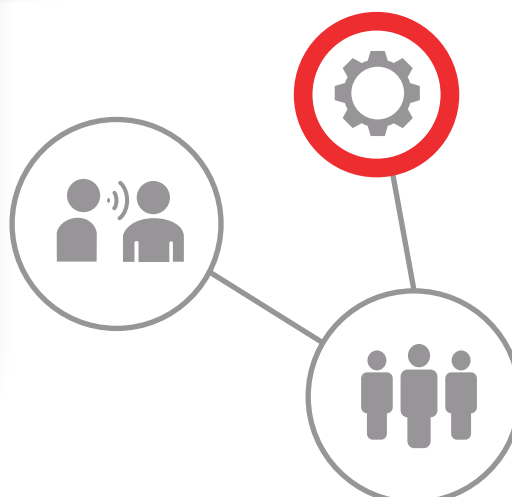
However, one community group that queried the reason for the letter was told by email that it would "assist the Department to identify current and any planned future investment".

A Queensland Health spokeswoman said "We reject outright the inference that decisions to fund organisations were politically based."

The politically messy situation comes amid anger over changes in Queensland Health-funded mental health programs.

A new version of the Mental Health Community Support Services for individual economy allows for referral only from a GP, rather than a GP or self-referral to in-community programs.

Queensland Health says that change is appropriate because the program is for acutely ill people.

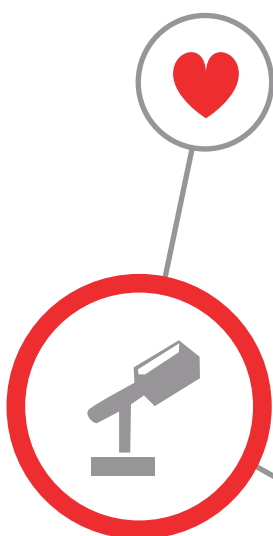


## QAMH IN THE MEDIA

**Q**AMH media helps break down the stigma around mental health, highlights service and funding challenges and promotes the important role our members have in their communities. The following media assisted with achieving additional funding and raising issues for future collaboration with stakeholders:

**Federal Senate Committee Inquiry into the accessibility of mental health services in rural and remote Australia.**

As part of this inquiry, the Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs held hearings across regional locations, including Mount Isa and Townsville on August 29 and 30. Simone Finch, Acting CEO, appeared in Townsville alongside QAMH members, to highlight the many challenges in delivering mental health services in country areas in Queensland. She elaborated on the points outlined in the QAMH submission to the Senate inquiry, which was informed by the feedback of our members. Simone was interviewed by the ABC North Queensland, Channel 7 and Rural Queensland Today.



# FINANCIAL REPORT



## STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
<b>INCOME</b>		
Events and operating		9,249
Grants received	1,447,938	1,508,429
Interest received	17,637	9,311
Member subscriptions	89,075	97,646
Other income	191	705
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>1,554,841</b>	<b>1,624,635</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Advertising	(8,090)	(24,911)
Computer, telephone and internet	(29,381)	(28,661)
Consulting and professional fees	(80,969)	(50,177)
Employee benefits expense	(1,047,201)	(786,155)
Equipment	-	(9,469)
Insurance	(12,131)	(5,281)
Meetings expenses	(11,492)	(4,503)
Membership fees paid	-	(11,843)
Planning and capacity building	-	(35,788)
Printing and stationery	(4,003)	(6,329)
Project expenses	(174,296)	(94,842)
Rental Outgoings	(73,480)	(55,725)
Sponsorship	(2,000)	(3,000)
Sundry expenses	(17,287)	(29,979)
Training	(2,275)	(14,527)
Travel and accommodation	(16,943)	(46,969)
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>(1,479,548)</b>	<b>(1,208,159)</b>
<b>TOTAL SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>75,292</b>	<b>416,476</b>



# FINANCIAL REPORT

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION 30 JUNE 2019

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
<b>ASSETS</b>		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,421,492	1,515,033
Trade and other receivables	-	74,662
Other assets	30,187	3,683
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	1,451,679	1,593,378
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, plant and equipment	-	-
Intangible assets	-	-
Deposit held	18,040	
TOTAL ASSETS	1,469,719	1,593,378
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	49,838	104,057
Employee benefits	55,603	35,949
Other financial liabilities	285,221	464,413
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	390,662	604,419
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Employee provision	14,807	-
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	14,807	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	405,469	604,419
NET ASSETS	1,064,251	988,959
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Retained earnings	1,064,251	988,959
TOTAL EQUITY	1,064,251	988,959







