

2020 Nomination for NFP Elected Director Queensland Alliance for Mental Health (QAMH) Ltd Board
Nominee Statement – Jeremy Audas, Executive Manager – North Queensland, Richmond Fellowship Queensland – Townsville

1. *What Board Experience do you have?*

2011 Member of the State Council – Queensland Alliance
2011 to 2017 Executive Member of the Mental Illness Fellowship of Australia.
Chair of the Townsville Intercultural Centre – elected in 2015.
Chair of Townsville Community Law – elected to the board in 2013
Experience as a CEO reporting to the board of SOLAS and The Mental Illness Fellowship of North Queensland (2011- 2017)
Participation in various board member training programs.
Leadership of the merger of two mental health organisations – SOLAS and the Mental Illness Fellowship of North Queensland (2016-2017)
Board capacity building and funding contract management for NGOs funded by the Queensland Government whilst Manager Community Capacity and Service Quality for the Department of Communities North Qld (2005 – 2011).

2. *What experience in and knowledge of the Community Based Mental Health Sector do you have?*

Six years as CEO of the Mental Illness Fellowship North Queensland operating in Townsville, Cairns and Mackay.
Individual and systems advocacy – local, state, and national.
Member of the NDIS Mental Health Transition Forum in Qld.
Established the Townsville Suicide Prevention Network.
Member of the Queensland Mental Health Commission’s Advisory Council 2016 – 2019
Member of the North Queensland Primary Health Network community advisory group.
Independent Chair of the Townsville headspace consortium – appointed February 2020.
Delivered consumer and carer programs including establishing emergent programs such as drought assistance, defence veterans Peer to Peer Pilot, and the establishment of three Clubhouses in Cairns, Townsville, and Mackay.
Currently as Executive Manager North Queensland for the Richmond Fellowship I have worked across the region to promote and establish responses to mental health issues including liaison with the Townsville HHS, North Queensland Primary Health Network, urban and rural service providers and community stakeholders and networks.

3. *What networks and relationships do you have outside the Community Based Mental Health Sector to assist QAMH in raising the awareness within the general and business communities of the value of the Sector to the Community as a whole?*

My board roles with the Townsville Intercultural Centre and Townsville Community Legal Service have enabled connections with the broader community in North Queensland.
I have also been employed by Lives Lived Well to support business development and strengthen AOD networks across North Queensland. I remain a member of QNADA.
I have on numerous occasions connected with directors, team leaders and case managers at the Townsville and Mackay HHS particularly in relation to discharge planning and linking patients into the community sector.
Member of the Housing and Homelessness Network North Queensland.
In a consultancy role I have also undertaken project work for the Office of the Public Guardian in relation to restrictive practices as well as operating at the interface of the NDIS and the Community Visitor Program.

4. What partnerships/relationships do you have within the Community Based Mental Health Sector to assist QAMH to promote sector-wide development and co-operation in response to the significant system challenges facing the Sector now and into the future?

Partnership and relationship development across the major centres of Cairns, Townsville, and Mackay. These have not only extended to the community mental health sector but also to government sector agencies including hospitals, local government, housing services, education, and training providers. My work with the Townsville Intercultural Centre has brought me into contact with mental health issues around migrants and refugees.

Conference committee member for Unity in Diversity National Conference held in Brisbane in July 2019. Currently a member of the organising committee for the Australasian Mental Health in Higher Education conference, an initiative of James Cook University.

5. Other Skills?

Collaboration
Communication
Advocacy
Networking
Governance