

*National Mental Health
Consumer and Carer Forum
Queensland Carer Representative*
Recruitment Information



Queensland
Mental Health
Commission



The Queensland Mental Health Commission invites interested mental health carers to apply for the position of Queensland Carer Representative on the National Mental Health Consumer and Carer Forum.

Context

The [National Mental Health Consumer and Carer Forum \(NMHCCF\)](#) was established in 2002 by the then Australian Health Ministers Advisory Council Mental Health Standing Committee in recognition of the continued need for mental health consumer and carer involvement at the highest level of policy development.

The NMHCCF provides a mechanism for mental health consumers and carers to foster partnerships and to ensure consumer and carer perspectives are considered in mental health sector activities, including policy, service delivery and evaluation of reform.

The NMHCCF is auspiced by Mental Health Australia and funded through state, territory and federal government contributions. The Queensland Mental Health Commission (the Commission) provides annual funding to the NMHCCF on behalf of Queensland.

The NMHCCF includes one mental health consumer representative and one mental health carer representative from each state and territory, representatives from national consumer and carer projects/organisations, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representation.

As a member of the NMHCCF, the representative will use their lived experience, understanding of the mental health system and communication skills to listen, learn, advocate and promote carer issues and concerns.

The Queensland Carer Representative position is vacant, and the Commission has engaged Arafmi and Carers Queensland to recruit for the role.

The Commission will provide ongoing support for and liaison with the new Queensland Carer Representative.



The following position description and selection criteria are provided to guide applicants to complete an application for the Queensland Carer Representative role on the NMHCCF.

Position description – Carer Representative

Key tasks for the Queensland Carer Representative:

- Represent Queensland mental health carers at the NMHCCF. Where possible this is to include carers in regional areas and carers of diverse backgrounds and ages.
- Present the range of carer perspectives using system advocacy skills in a national policy development context.
- Maintain connection with and be actively involved in the key networks of mental health carer representatives across Queensland.
- Be the link for information and sharing between the NMHCCF and the Commission, as well as relevant Queensland-based carer networks.
- Maintain regular contact with the Queensland contact officer at the Commission.
- Fulfil duties of NMHCCF members as outlined in the [National Mental Health Consumer and Carer Forum Operating Guidelines September 2017](#).

Selection Criteria

1. Demonstrated ability to provide an understanding of diverse carer perspectives at a system advocacy level.

For example, skills may include:

- An understanding of the principles of carer participation.
 - Being widely informed of and able to represent carer experiences beyond one's own personal experience.
 - Familiarity or the ability to gain familiarity with Queensland and national policy issues in mental health.
 - Being able to provide advice and strategic direction to the NMHCCF on behalf of Queensland carers.
 - Being able to problem solve, use initiative and contribute to the goals of the NMHCCF.
2. Demonstrated ability to establish and maintain networks with Queensland-based carer mental health organisations and/or government bodies.

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3. Effective interpersonal skills including the ability to work as part of a team and maintain positive working relationships with NMHCCF members and other relevant stakeholders (e.g. Carer Networks, the Commission, government and service providers).
4. Well-developed communication skills including the ability to listen, negotiate and provide verbal and written feedback, and prepare reports.
5. Willingness to participate in training relevant to the work of the NMHCCF (this training would not be onerous and would be provided through the NMHCCF).

For further details about the NMHCCF and the Carer Representative role please refer to the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) and the [National Mental Health Consumer and Carer Forum Operating Guidelines September 2017](#).

How to apply for the Queensland Carer Representative position

- ✓ Complete the attached [Application Form](#).
- ✓ Obtain a letter of support from a relevant carer organisation outlining your suitability for the position.
- ✓ Submit your application form with your letter of support and a resume with details of two referees to Arafmi.

Documents can be submitted to Arafmi:

- Online at <https://arafmi.com.au/nmhccf/>
- By email to alexyson@arafmi.com.au or by
- Mail to PO Box 248, New Farm, QLD 4005

All applications must be received by **5pm Monday 24 May 2021**

If you have any questions or require support with your application, please contact Alex Tyson, Arafmi Service Delivery Manager – Carer Supports via email alexyson@arafmi.com.au or on 07 3254 1881. All enquires will be treated with strict confidentiality.