

NT Mental Health Coalition
Annual Report 2014/2015



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Introduction

NT Mental Health Coalition- Who we are.

The NT Mental Health Coalition is the peak body for Non-Government Organisations in the Northern Territory who provide services to mental health consumers and their families. Its members are organisations and its main role is to promote mental health through representing the interests of members and work towards ensuring that Consumers and Carers are provided with quality mental health services.

Our Vision

To be a dynamic focus for better promotion and advancement of the Not for Profit community mental health sector in the NT.

Our Mission

As a Coalition we will foster partnerships for better mental health services. Promote, strengthen and develop the growth of non-government, community based, recovery oriented responses to the needs of people with mental illness and psychiatric disability in the Northern Territory. Ensure all people are able to access a diverse range of services and resources to support their recovery and well-being.



2014/2015 Agenda

Notice of the NTMHC Annual General Meeting
Alzheimers Board Room
Nightcliff Community Centre
18 Bauhinia Street
Nightcliff NT

Monday 23rd November
at 4.00pm

AGENDA

Business to be transacted at the Annual General Meeting

1. Welcome by President – Helen Egan
2. Attendance and apologies received
3. Minutes of previous AGM 2014/2015
4. President's report
5. Treasurer's report
6. Auditor's report
7. Election/appointment of Board members
8. Election of Public Officer
19. Any other business
10. Meeting close

All members and guests are welcome to some light refreshments.

President's Report

The Northern Territory Mental health Coalition (NTMHC) experienced a difficult year in 2014-2015. We started the year without funding surety and we were unable to have the Executive Officer position filled on a full time basis.

The NTMHC took urgent action in October 2014 to resolve funding delays. The peak body grant funding for NTMHC was prioritised in late October by the NT Department of Health, Mental Health Directorate to enable our continuing operations through 2014-2015.

Many thanks to Louise Mayclair (formerly of OzHelp) who was operating as part time Interim Executive Officer for an eight month period during this time. Louise was integral to a review and consultation process which the NTMHC undertook with our stakeholders and members through an external NT consultant. This was provided to the Mental Health Directorate on 31 March 2015 as required under our agreement.

In our review, and March 2015 submission to the Mental Health Directorate, we sought sufficient funding to resource and recruit a skilled Executive Officer, administration support and the internal infrastructure to ensure that the NTMHC:

- Re engages with our members and the NT Mental Health sector broadly,
- facilitates consultations and advocacy regarding key issues in the NT sector as a peak body or the NT Mental Health Sector.
- promulgates NT views in the national arena through community Mental Health Australia (CMHA), Mental Health Australia (MHA), and the National Disability Insurance Agency (NIDA), among others,
- alerts stakeholders and decision makers to the impacts of continuing national areas of uncertainty around programs and funding arising from matters such as:
 - the NDIS, including the Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) design work, and
 - the Department of Health's actions following the presentation of the National Review of Mental Health Programmes and Services in November 2014.
 - grows to be the 'go to' information place for mental health, mental health in the NT, mental health events and workforce development opportunities

I am pleased that we were eventually able to negotiate a suitable agreement and we were delighted to welcome Vanessa Harris as the new NTMHC Executive Officer on 19th August 2015.

A couple of the work items undertaken by the Interim NTMHC Exec Officer and Board in 2014-2015 included:

- revision of the NTMHC constitution (many thanks to all who supported us by attending our 10th March Special Meeting to ratify these changes)
- brief input into the ICE Select Committee of the NT Parliament
- mini grants program for Mental Health Week in October 2014
- action to have the reductions to the 4th quarter NTG payments in May 2015 reversed to ensure consistency with funding agreements and with the NTG and NGO Community Services Sector Statement of Principles signed by the Chief Minister, APONT Chair and NTCOSS Exec. Dir. on 12 February 2015
- sponsorship, together with Mental Health Association of Central Australia (MHACA) to have Nic Newling speak about Suicide and its impact on families and individuals at a pre-NTCOSS Conference event in Alice Springs in June 2015.
- input into national mental health meetings, MHA events and Community Mental Health Australia work.

I would like to thank all of the hard working members of the NTMHC Board and thank Vanessa Harris, our new Executive Officer. Vanessa has commenced at a fast pace and will have a very active year during 2015-2016. I am sure you will all welcome her into your services and ensure she has good contacts across the sector plus a broad and deep knowledge of the challenges for people with mental illness in the NT, the services that are available and the gaps that must be filled.

Many thanks

Helen Egan

President, NTMHC

Treasurer's Report

An Overview of the Financial Year 2014 - 2015

I am pleased to present the audited financial statements of the Northern Territory Mental health Coalition period ended 30th June 2015.

Expenditure was less than expected due to a shortage of staff and a re-evaluation project which was undertaken to determine the best use of coalition funds for this year and into the future. We have requested that the surplus be carried forward to 2015/2016

The Balance Sheet shows that we have accumulated funds of \$118,500, an increase of \$84,867 from 30 June 2014. I am confident that the accounts are in a fit state to enable us to meet the aims of the NT Mental Health Coalition in the foreseeable future.

Janet Wright

Treasurer

Board Members

Executive Board Members

President: Helen Egan, TEAM Health NT

Vice President: Lorraine Davies, MIFA NT

Treasurer (April – November 2015): Janet Wright, Mental Health Association of Central Australia

Ordinary Board Members

Greg Johnson, Top End Mental Health Consumer Organisation

Le Smith, Primary Health Network NT

Gwenda Freeman, Australian Red Cross

Interim Public Officer (July 2014 – April 2015)

Louise Mayclair, NTMHC

The Coalition wishes to acknowledge the contribution of Board Members for their commitment, energy and contribution to the oversight of the NTMHC.



Staffing 2014/2015

Executive Officer

Louise Mayclair (July – April 2015)

Contractors

Bookkeeping Services: It Figures "Efficient Bookkeeping Solutions"



NORTHERN TERRITORY MENTAL HEALTH
COALITION
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2014/2015

Thank you for coming

