

NT Mental Health Coalition eBulletin - featuring Latest news from the Coalition, CMHA news, NDIS News, General News, Events Conferences and Training, Employment

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NT Mental Health Coalition's (the Coalition) e-bulletin has updates, news and information related to the Mental Health and the Community Managed Mental Health sector.

Please feel free to forward our e-bulletin on to interested people or organisations. As we encourage new membership and subscribers.

Feedback encouraged

This monthly e-bulletin is for your information, so we welcome your feedback and comments. Please [email](#) us with your feedback and comments.

Welcome to our latest e-bulletin subscribers:

[Charles Darwin University](#) The only university based in the Northern Territory, Charles Darwin university is a dual sector university offering a Certificate IV in Mental Health.

[VICSERV \(Psychiatric Disability Services\)](#) a membership-based organisation and the peak body representing community managed mental health services in Victoria.

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Latest news from the Coalition

Report on Government Services data for Mental Health, released today

This year marks the 23rd edition of the Report on Government Services - comparing the performance of governments in the effective delivery of a wide range of services aimed at improving the wellbeing of all Australians. The Report is produced by the Productivity Commission for the Steering Committee for the Review of Government Provision.

A concerning observation in the report involves the rates of seclusion in mental health inpatient facilities in the NT. In recent years, seclusion rates in the NT have been far higher than in any other jurisdiction – particularly in 2014-15. As a relatively small jurisdiction, the seclusion of a single person results in a visible increase in the rate of seclusion in the NT, according to the Northern Territory Department of Health's Annual Report 2016-17, which reported 18.3 seclusion episodes per 1000 bed days, with the target being 20. In Central Australia there were 13 seclusion episodes per 1000 bed days, considerably less than the target of 20.

In recent years the NT Department of Health has been performing well against its own targets for seclusion in mental health inpatient facilities, however the NT's overall rate of seclusion remains approximately double that the next highest state or territory (Tasmania). To read the full report and see seclusion rates, go to page 13.17 of the report. Click [here](#).

The Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Service review 2017

The Coalition was commissioned by the Northern Territory Primary Health Network (NTPHN) to undertake the Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Service Review, 2017. The review's final report highlights opportunities and recommendations for the improvement of the NT's mental health care system. A dissemination forum for all interested stakeholders was held on 22nd January in Darwin. This was an opportunity to discuss the findings and recommendations of the review. To view the report click [here](#)

The service review's Final Report was also featured in an article in Croakey (independent, in-depth social journalism for health) on the 19 January 2018. To view the article click [here](#)

Survey

The Coalition would like to gauge interest from you the subscriber and our members on your interest in attending a one day accredited course titled NDIS Governance Essentials and NDIS Risk Management Essentials.

Background - The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is a significant social reform in Australia, providing choice and control for consumers and presenting many challenges for the community services sector. The scheduled roll-out of the NDIS in Darwin and Alice Springs in July may create new demands for disability services providers. Not only do providers need to rethink their business models to survive in

this new market-style disability service system, they must now adapt their organisational governance and risk management principles and practices to meet NDIS requirements.

In partnership with the Queensland Alliance for Mental Health, and the Governance Institute of Australia has developed two new accreditation courses which will be delivered in a one day workshop:

- 1) NDIS Governance Essentials and
- 2) NDIS Risk Management Essentials

The aim of these courses is to assist service providers in meeting the challenge of governing and managing risk in the new NDIS environment. The target audience is Chief Executive Officers, Executive Officers and Board Members.

This short survey is designed to gauge interest and determine potential attendance numbers, in both Darwin and Alice Springs.

To make this workshop viable there will need to be a minimum of 25 participants.

Please click [here](#) to participate in the survey

Congratulations to the winners of the 2018 Australia Day Local Government Awards in Jabiru, which recognises the contributions of outstanding members in the community. Community Event of the Year – Mental Health Week. Recipient of the award was Catholic Care NT Jabiru. A successful recipient of the 2017 Mental Health Week mini grants from the NT Mental Health Coalition. Congratulations to Louise Mayclair, in the middle accepting the award on behalf of the Australia Day Local Government Awards organisers.



Community Mental Health Australia (CMHA)



Community Mental Health Australia, promoting the importance and benefits of community mental health and recovery services across Australia. Visit the website [here](#)

Community Mental Health Australia (CMHA) is a coalition of eight state and territory peak community mental health organisations. CMHA, through its state and territory bodies, has direct link and contact to community mental health organisations delivering services to the community. The NT Mental Health Coalition is a founding member of the CMHA. CMHA continues to lobby and advocate on behalf of the community mental health sector.

Community Mental Health Australia Position Statement - CMHA has released a position statement on workforce and the community managed mental health sector. The position statement highlights the mental health sector's importance. Click [here](#) to view the position statement.

The 'Mind the Gap' report, released 30 January 2018 was a collaboration between the University of Sydney and Community Mental Health Australia (CMHA). The report highlights issues in the NDIS for that are affecting people living with a psychosocial disability, and proposes solutions to these issues. Both CMHA and the Coalition have the report on their websites. To view the final report click [here](#). To view media release click [here](#). To view media release click [here](#)

People in PhaMs not accessing NDIS, says the Guardian

This article features statistics from the Department of Social Services (DSS), revealing that, of the first group Personal Helpers and Mentors (PhaMs) participants being transitioned into the NDIS, approximately 75% of people are being found ineligible, not submitting access requests, withdrawing access requests or not testing eligibility. Click [here](#) to view the article.

Patient safety and quality improvement in primary care

A submission to the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care consultation paper on a national approach to support improvements in patient safety and quality in primary care was developed on behalf of CMHA members. The submission can be found on the CMHA website by clicking [here](#)

NDIS News



NDS Legal Helpline

This national helpline offers organisational members a free over-the-phone 15-minute initial consultation on any business-related issue, such as governance, intellectual property, contracts and human resources. Click [here](#) for more information

365 days of the NDIS

2017 was a huge year for the NDIS, with 119,000 people now benefiting from support and 71% of participants saying they now have more choice and control. Hear from participants, families, carers and providers in the [NDIS end of year video](#)

The NDIS Engagement Team Quarterly Update Newsletter. For up-to-date information click [here](#) for the 5th edition December 2017 newsletter.

How the NDIS works

Did you know that the NDIS has a YouTube playlist dedicated to explaining how the NDIS works? Find out about developing your plan and what happens after a planning meeting. [Watch now](#)

Your NDIS Journey

The participant pathway is the steps a person takes to access and use the NDIS, and over the next few months the NDIS will be testing and improving the way they do things. One of the important steps the NDIS have taken is developing a [new Provider Toolkit](#) to ensure a diverse range of providers to deliver choice and control for participants. Stay up-to-date about upcoming [participant pathway improvements](#).

Other

The Federal Government recently announced a \$110 million boost in funding to fight anxiety and depression among young people. The funding is set targeting school mental health programs and a range of new headspace centres throughout Australia, with \$46 million set aside for beyondblue's new Mental Health in Education initiative. For more information click [here](#)

New Initiative: Emerging Minds

Emerging Minds, National Workforce Centre for Child Mental Health is a new workforce development initiative funded by the Australian Government. The project focuses on building workforce capacity to better support children and parents/carers and improve the mental health outcomes of children aged 0 – 12 years. Integral to this is building and supporting an organisational and workplace culture to embrace a range of practices and attitudes that aim to keep 'child mental health in mind'. For more information click

[here](#)

The National Indigenous Critical Response Service (NICRS) is an initiative funded by the Commonwealth Government through the Indigenous Advancement Strategy to provide a critical response to support individuals, families and communities affected by suicide-related or other trauma that is culturally responsive to their needs and to strengthen community capacity and resilience in communities where there have been high levels of suicide to better recognise and respond to critical incidents and strengthen service system coordination. NICRS and Standby - Support After Suicide Service are programs with Thirrili Ltd. Both services work together to complement each other and provide support to individuals, families and community impacted by suicide loss.

Visit the Standby Support after Suicide website [here](#) To view the flyer click [here](#)

The Implementation Plan Advisory Group (IPAG) My Life My Lead consultations 2017. My Life My Lead - Opportunities for strengthening approaches to the social determinants and cultural determinants of Indigenous health. A Report on the National Consultations. The Implementation Plan Advisory Group (IPAG) My Life My Lead consultations provides an opportunity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and leaders, government and the non-government and private sector to help shape the next Implementation Plan for the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan 2013-2023. The learnings from the consultations are summarised [here](#)

Aboriginal LGBTI People Say, They Need Funding, Research, And Solidarity

At the Better Together, a National LGBTI conference last week in Melbourne, a broad range of issues from the LGBTI communities were brought to the conference. Click [here](#) for more information.

beyondblue - Request for Proposal (RFP)

beyondblue is seeking proposals from local service providers to coordinate the delivery of an innovative suicide prevention program, The Way Back. The Way Back program fills a critical gap in supporting people who have attempted suicide or are in a suicidal crisis. It supports continuity of care by providing non-clinical assertive outreach, follow-up care and practical support to such people. For further information click [here](#) with your organization name and contact details of a liaison person during the procurement process.

Better Supporting People with Disability - Price Waterhouse Coopers, Skills for Australia is seeking input from a diverse mix of individuals, industries and locations around Australia, on what the future skills and training needs are for vocational educators, employers and customer service providers, to better support people with disability. This is your opportunity to contribute your views on the barriers to inclusion, and inform solutions to improve support for people with disability in the VET project. For more information you can download the fact sheet [here](#), or visit Skills for Australia [website](#).

Events, Conferences & Training

Mental Illness Fellowship of Australia NT (MIFANT)

Do you want to gain a better understanding of mental health and provide help to people experiencing mental illness? MIFANT is delivering free workshops, for workers, carers and families of people experiencing mental illness. The workshops are being delivered in February and May. The aim of the workshops is to give an understanding of mental health and increase participant's confidence to assist others and one's self to live well. For more information contact Amanda Brain, Carer Support and Education Coordinator on 08 8948 1051 or to view the workshop click [here](#)

TeamHEALTH are committed to delivering supports and education to reduce the stigma and discrimination associated with mental illness and contribute to better mental health outcomes through suicide prevention, education and training. For up-to-date training and evidence-based information for workplaces, schools and individuals in the community visit the TeamHEALTH website [here](#) For the Day 2 Day Living program for February 2018 click [here](#)

Indigenous LGBTQI Inclusive Practices in Mental Health and Suicide Prevention - 1 Day Workshop (February 14 Darwin), places are still available. Indigenous LGBTQI people often face discrimination and stigma within our society, contributing to increased likelihood of experiencing depression, anxiety, and alcohol and other drug problems, as well as many more of life's difficulties and challenges. Services that are not inclusive or responsive in their practice can create extra barriers to getting help, restricting optimal health outcomes for Indigenous LGBTQI people. For more information and to register click [here](#)

The Office of Disability is excited to announce a range of sector development workshops in 2018.

These sector development workshops will support your organisation to deliver services that are flexible and tailored to individual strengths and needs. The workshops are scheduled for 19-20 March 2018 in Darwin, 22-23 March 2018 in Katherine and 1-2 May 2018 in Alice Springs. You can register your attendance [here](#)

Impacts of Mental Health Reforms and the NDIS on Mental Health Peaks a Forum for Leaders and Decision-Makers 15 February 2018. The ACT has been a primary trial site for the NDIS and is ahead of other jurisdictions in terms of roll out and the lessons learned. State peaks are now considering a number of impacts resulting from the mental health reforms and the NDIS that are affecting our sector, sector stakeholders and those with lived experience. The Mental Health Community Coalition ACT is hosting this round table and forum to bring national and local ACT stakeholders together. To register click [here](#)

Support Coordination Workshops: an essential National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) funded support that assists participants in implementing their plans and achieving their goals. NT Office of Disability has engaged Disability Services Consulting (DSC) to deliver two workshops. The workshops will explore the different levels of Support Coordination, market data, understanding and mitigating business risks and housing with support coordination. Workshop in Alice Springs 14 March and Darwin 15 March 2018. To register your attendance click [here](#)

National Borderline Personality Disorders (BPD) Webinar Series. The Australia BPD Foundation support, promote and advocate for Borderline Personality Disorders. They are holding a series of webinars: stage one of a National BPD Training Strategy which also includes development of a Virtual Library which will support the webinars and also development and resourcing of local professional networks of mental health professionals with an interest in accessing professional development around BPD. To register or learn more about the webinar series for practitioners on 21 February 2018 click [here](#)

TheMHS 2018 Summer Forum is entitled: Trauma Matters: Values, Evidence and Responses to Trauma in Mental Health Services. 22 – 23 February in Sydney. Come and join mental health leaders and expert participants for this important two day educational event. For more information click [here](#) Calls for Abstracts are now open and close on 7 March 2018. For Abstract submission click [here](#)

Employment

Danila Dilba Health Service is seeking expressions of interest from suitably qualified individuals interested in serving on the Board of Directors. The Board has two vacancies: one independent (non-member) Director and one Director who is a registered member of the corporation. For more information click [here](#)

Mental Health Association of Central Australia (MHACA) is a community based, not-for-profit mental health organisation based in Alice Springs. MHACA offers several support services and educational programs aimed at enhancing the mental health and well being of people living with mental illness. MHACA has a vacancy for a Corporate Services Manager, based in Alice Springs. Applications close on the 8 February 2018. [Click here](#) for more details.

Anglicare NT offers a range of career opportunities in the community and social services sector in a diverse range of fields such as children and youth, family relationships and counselling, out of home care, refugee and migrant, corporate services, financial counselling, mental health, disability and home care, social enterprises and specialist homelessness services. There are several positions available, [click here](#) for more information.

Catholic Care NT provides unique career and personal opportunities that include travel and the experience of working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in both local and remote community settings. For information on vacant positions [click here](#)

Carers NT is inclusive of all carers and the people they care for, no matter their age, background, ethnicity, religious beliefs or sexual orientation. Carers NT has a vacancy for a mental health peer support worker based in Katherine. For information on the position click here [website](#)

Central Australian Aboriginal Congress is an Aboriginal health service delivering primary health care services in Central Australia, a strong political advocate of closing the gap on Aboriginal health disadvantage and in improving health outcomes for all Aboriginal people, has several job vacancies. Click [here](#)

Katherine West Health Board is an Aboriginal Health service providing primary health care services in remote communities, the following positions, locum GPs and remote area nurses are currently advertised click [here](#)

EASA provides a full range of psychological and organisational development services to organisations and consumers across the Northern Territory. EASA invites an Expressions of Interest from suitably qualified Psychologists, Social Workers and Mediators for the provision of counselling, mediation and facilitated training services. For more information click [here](#)

Sponsors

The Coalition acknowledges the NT Department of Health, Mental Health Directorate as well as our corporate partners for their ongoing support.



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