WHAT WE DO

• **PEAK BODY** - community mental health sector in Queensland.
• **SUPPORT** - members, the wider mental health community and individuals with lived mental health experience.
• **MEMBERS** - We have 130+ members across Queensland.
• Our **FOCUS** is:
  • Advocacy
  • *Policy and reform* analysis
  • *Building innovative partnerships* – regionally across Queensland
  • *Promoting the meaningful integration* of CMMH services into the broader health system
Advocacy & impacts of government reform

QAMH CURRENT ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES:
- Submission underway - Parliamentary Inquiry into NDIS and Market Readiness (collecting information from service providers)
- Meeting with Minister Stephen Miles, Queensland Health
- Advocacy Day in Canberra, discussing with Prime Minister, Opposition Leader, Minister for Health and other Ministers the issues around Mental Health and wellbeing.

INQUIRIES / SUBMISSIONS OVER LAST TWELVE MONTHS
1. Australian National Audit Office – Decision-making controls for sustainability – NDIS access
2. NDIS – The provision of services under the NDIS for people with psychosocial disabilities related to a mental health condition
3. Consultation on NDIS pricing arrangements discussion paper
4. National Disability Insurance Scheme – Code of Conduct
5. Productivity Commission Issues Paper – National Disability Insurance Scheme Costs
7. 2017-18 Federal pre-budget submission
8. Fifth National Mental Health Plan
9. Inquiry – Introducing competition & informed user choice into human services
10. Commission Inquiry – Introducing competition & informed user choice into human services
CURRENT FOCUS

• Our primary **FOCUS** at the moment is the transition of the NDIS across Queensland.
• It is the biggest health reform since the introduction of Medicare.
• There are lots of challenges – particularly for people in regional, rural and remote regions!
NDIS - Queensland Transition

NDIS rollout continues across Australia

[Map showing NDIS rollout from 2016 to 2019 across Queensland]
Mind the Gap: The National Disability Insurance Scheme and psychosocial disability

Final Report: Stakeholder identified gaps and solutions

January 30th, 2018

Scheme Engagement & Application Process...

- Poor knowledge of the NDIS scheme
- Barriers that stop people finding out about NDIS
- Difficulty gathering evidence for application & expensive
- ‘Permanence’ requirement → does not fit with recovery model of mental health
- Existing evidence is often disregarded
  - health professionals often unwilling to submit reports
- Need NDIS staff that understand psychosocial disability and understand cultural and language diversity.
- Carer and family members need to be included
• Planning
  • Individuals are often unwell, or further challenged, throughout the planning meeting
  • Planning tool → appears to be a ‘tick box’ response
  • Face-to-face meetings have not been widely used
  • Inability to review plan prior to sign off → often do not align with needs
  • Travel challenges to access planning meetings.
• Hard to reach & complex needs → people are being missed
Service providers are under significant pressure & facing solvency challenges, including:

- Running at a loss due to high need & insufficient funding
- Providing a ‘free’ (unfunded) services to clients in need
- Pre-planning & applications are not funded
- NDIS hourly rate is lower than current staff pay
- Delivering more services than in the NDIS plan
- Communication frustrations with the NDIA/LAC
- Gap in funding between the NDIS packages & Commonwealth funding
- Up to 3 month delay from plan being approved to uptake of services
• Workforce issues:
  • Price low (deskilling workforce)
  • No funding for continued training / development
  • Change in type of staff (full-time to casual)
  • Restructures, redundancies – changes
  • Changes in what people do and when they do it
Closing points

• New Participant Pathway – tailored entry into NDIS for specific groups – will that be enough?
• Qld Transition to NDIS for Mental Health Strategic forum – keeping a watch on Qld
• Reviews – keep coming – now QAMH will be pushing to see how Commonwealth & States implement solutions
• NDIA is being more engaging – more open to change
• Need to ensure those that are not eligible for NDIS still receive services (Continuity of support) – outside NDIS
OUR REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT FOOTPRINT

CAIRNS
ATHERTON
TOWNSVILLE
MACKAY
ROCKHAMPTON
BUNDABERG
GYMPIE
GAYNDAH
TOOWOOMBA
IPSWICH

MOUNT ISA

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Thank You
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