



Mental Health Matters 2 Ltd

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Chairperson's Report Annual General Meeting 18th October 2022

In presenting this report, I refer to the Chairperson's Report presented at the inaugural AGM on 19th July 2022 which contained detailed information regarding activities undertaken during the 2021/2022 financial year. This report is provided as an update and uses the three areas of attention and activity in MHM2's Strategic Plan 2020 as a framework.

I would like to acknowledge the retirement of Joe Calleja at the July AGM and thank Joe for his commitment and long-term contributions to MHM2. Inaugural Board members Bridget Silvestri, Mike Seward and Joe Calleja have been offered and accepted Honorary Memberships of MHM2 to acknowledge the energy, commitment and support offered by them to MHM2 both before but particularly post registration of MHM2 Ltd as a company limited by guarantee and charity in February 2021.

I would also like to welcome Wendy Cream who joined the MHM2 Board at the July AGM. Wendy comes with family lived experience in the mental health, alcohol and other drug area including from a regional perspective. Wendy also brings active system engagement including as the Family/Carer representative on the Ministerial Taskforce into Public Mental Health Services for Infants, Children and Adolescents aged 0 – 18 years in WA. Wendy has a background in management of a non-government organization and currently holds a mediation and conciliation role with an NGO.

MHM2 Ltd continues to strategically develop in deliberately intentional ways to ensure that it embeds strong foundations in governance as a lived experience led charity. The long-held MHM2 values of working in ways that are Gracious, Just, Hopeful, Informed and Resolute continue to act as guiderails to our approaches and activities.

Education and Development

Families 4 Families WA continues to be led by peer facilitators since the shift in December 2021 from the clinician supported model. F4FWA continues to be a place where 'authentic collective wisdom' is developed and shared – the phrase having been coined by a F4FWA community member when used to describe what the F4FWA community provides. The bi-monthly gatherings continue to provide a valuable opportunity to educate and share information about contemporary mental health, alcohol and other drug and criminal justice developments and initiatives as well as hear directly from people affected in these areas.

Lived Experience Co-design Community of Practice: After some time, a further grant of \$7,000 was made available by the Mental Health Commission, via the WA Association for Mental Health to continue this engagement. This positions MHM2 as a leader in the lived experience co-design area and provides an opportunity to continue to build and maintain networks and share contemporary information to better equip people with lived experience to engage in co-design opportunities.

WAAMH Mental Health Conference: An abstract entitled 'Power flows where attention goes' relating to the development of MHM2's Board and newly formed entity has been accepted. The lived experience led presentation is scheduled for 8th November 2022.

MHM2 has also been formally engaged by WAAMH to provide consultation and engagement in the development and delivery of the Plenary Panel (Day 2).

WA Lived Experience (Peer) Workforces Framework: The Mental Health Commission launched the Framework on 11th October 2022 which was the culmination of eighteen months' work in which

MHM2 has played an active role. This Framework will be valuable in MHM2's systemic advocacy as well as when building its own Lived Experience (Peer) Workforces.

Emotional CPR training: Two funding submissions were made in collaboration with the Humane Clinic in Adelaide to deliver face-to-face and or online training, including accrediting an MHM2 trainer. The Australian Business Enterprise Council submission was unsuccessful (no feedback available) and the 2022 Unsolicited Funding Request (UFR) is still in situ pending a review by the MHC of their UFR process. Other opportunities will be pursued to fund this initiative which could also potentially provide a future income stream for MHM2.

Research

National Forensic Mental Health Principles project: The final report for the 2021/2022 project was submitted to meet the 30th June 2022 deadline. It is available at:

https://qcmhr.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Principles-for-Forensic-Mental-Health-Report_smallfile1.pdf

Leading and facilitating the lived experience consultation in this project positioned MHM2 nationally as a lived experience entity with competence and quality performance in the forensic mental health area. It will be important to build upon this national work to maintain and grow national partnerships.

Mental Health Act Statutory Review: MHM2 was approached to provide lived experience input and liaised with and supported key advocates to contribute to the consultation workshops.

Independent Governance Review of the Health Services Act 2016: MHM2 provided a submission to this review and has been approached for de-identified quotes from the submission to be used in the final report. While submissions of this nature absorb significant volunteer capacity, it is intended to continue to contribute to these formal processes wherever possible.

Innovation

Partnership with WAUC (WA University Consultants (<https://www.wauc.org.au/>))

Since June 2022, MHM2 has been working in partnership with WAUC which is a management consulting charity that provides free consulting services for NGOs through teams of high-achieving university students. WAUC is undertaking the development of three strategies for MHM2 which are: Income Generation; Diversity and Communications. The collaboration has been highly engaging and useful. The finished strategies will be presented in November 2022.

These strategies will provide the foundation for funding submissions to be progressed in 2023.

They will also inform the new website development for which a successful Pay It Forward grant through ConnectGroups WA of up to \$10,000 has recently been awarded.

Partnership with WA Justice Association (www.wajustice.org.au)

WAJA is a not-for-profit organisation led mainly by law students with a focus on social justice and law reform. The students are mentored by senior practitioners in well-known law firms. WAJA has accepted a brief to work with MHM2 on the topic of Treatment, Support and Discharge planning as it particularly relates to the Mental Health Act 2014. This will progress the work done in recent years by MHM2 in the development of resources and training with and for family members about this topic.

Loomio: In order to support and embed equitable decision-making processes, the Board has endorsed the use of Loomio (<https://www.loomio.com>).

The Board continues to devote and donate significant thought, time and expertise to embedding sound governance and development processes for MHM2 Ltd as part of building a solid infrastructure from which to grow and deliberately build appropriate partnerships. It is envisaged that funding will be actively sought in 2023 for a strategic leadership and development role and an administration and support role. These funded roles will then facilitate further and iterative growth and development to progress MHM2's vision and purpose.



Margaret Doherty
Founder / Chairperson
14 October 2022