

CONSULTATIONS AND ADVOCACY



This past year has seen MHLET tackle some complex advocacy issues including amendments to the Tasmanian Mental Health Act. We have constructively worked alongside the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist and Statewide Mental Health Services to advocate for consumers rights. We thank both departments for their efforts in tackling robust conversations with our members and their willingness to consider amendments from a consumer perspective. The consultations around any amendments are ongoing and we will keep members updated.

Primary Health Tasmania (PHT) commissioned MHLET to hold statewide consultations for the 'Continuum of Care' Project, which aims to ensure Tasmanian mental health consumers have access to the best possible care over their lifetime. MHLET was also commissioned by PHT to consult on the 'Universal Aftercare' project, which is about the care that everyone, including family and friends should receive after a suicide attempt.

Another highlight was working with a bright group of young Tasmanian mental health consumers to consult on the RHH Paediatric Ward changes. The group offer such insight and had a focus on sustainability and practicality.

NATIONAL INITIATIVES



Last year we reported that MHLET had become a founding member on the National Mental Health Consumer Alliance (The Alliance) which is a national organisation comprised of a membership of all state and one territory consumer peak bodies. This year we can celebrate the success of a grant application for \$3.5 million to fund The Alliance. Two extra Board members have joined from the Indigenous Australian Lived Experience Centre. The Alliance is also funding a reference group from the Northern Territory.

The Alliance extends funding to the state and territory peaks to employ a Policy Officer (two days a week) to support a Consumer Advisory Group. This ensures that Tasmania has an equal place at the table to help shape national policy that affects Tasmanian Mental Health consumers.

We look forward to strengthening our relationships with our national allies in the coming year.

OUR FUNDING PARTNERS

