Recovery Colleges

Please scroll down (below) for details of the Recovery Colleges Information Sessions on 10 and 11 April 2018.

Recovery Colleges

As part of the 2017 State election, the State Government committed to developing Recovery Colleges in Wanneroo and on, or near, the Royal Perth Hospital site (the exact locations will be determined through the planning process). In the 2017-18 Budget, the State Government provided the Mental Health Commission (MHC) with $200,000 to develop a comprehensive, unique and evidence-informed model of service and business case, for the establishment of a Recovery College model in Western Australia.

Recovery Colleges complement existing mental health, and alcohol and other drug (AOD) support services by enabling self-directed recovery and mental health, and AOD learning opportunities in a safe and welcoming place. Generally, Recovery Colleges aim to support individual recovery through creating an education platform, and a reduction of stigma relating to mental health, and AOD problems.

There are many models of service for Recovery Colleges including a previous Business Model coordinated by the Western Australian Association for Mental Health. The MHC commissioned a Literature Review to assist in identifying the range of service models available. This will assist in ensuring an evidence-informed approach is used to develop a unique model of service for Western Australia.

The model of service will consider the provision of learning opportunities about recovery and wellbeing designed for: people with mental health and co-occurring AOD issues, their families and carers; staff of mental health service providers; and staff and volunteers of non-government service providers.

The MHC will progress the development of a comprehensive model of service for Recovery Colleges through a co-design process led by an Expert Panel and in consultation with a broad range of stakeholders including consumers, their families and carers, and workers from non-government organisations and health service providers.

Once the co-designed model of service is developed by the end of September 2018, the MHC will finalise a formal business case to meet the 2018-19 Budget process requirements.

Expert Panel

Through an open Expression of Interest process conducted between December 2017 and March 2018, an Expert Panel has been appointed. The Expert Panel consists of a range of individuals from different backgrounds and is being co-chaired by Mr Joe Calleja and Ms Tandi Kowana. The first meeting of the Expert Panel was held in late March 2018.

The Expert Panel is responsible for overseeing the co-design of the model of service for Recovery Colleges in Western Australia, in conjunction with the MHC. The Expert Panel will also determine the consultation processes for the co-design of the model of service.

Information Sessions

The Mental Health Commission is conducting a series of public information sessions on Recovery Colleges presented by Ms Jane Rennison, an international expert and Senior Consultant for Implementing Recovery through Organisational Change (ImRtC).

The Information sessions will be held on Tuesday 10 April 2018 and Wednesday 11 April 2018 in the North Room at The Boulevard Centre, 99 The Boulevard (Floreat Forum), Wembley. The sessions will include the same information and people will only need to attend one session. There will be four sessions in total:

Tuesday, 10 April 2018:

- Session 1: 9:30am to 11:30am
- Session 2: 1:30pm to 3:30pm
Wednesday, 11 April 2018:

- Session 3: 1:00pm to 3:30pm
- Session 4: 5:38pm to 8:00pm

Ms Rennison leads the Central and North West London Recovery and Wellbeing College, an early pioneer of the recovery college model in London following South West London and St George’s and Nottinghamshire Healthcare National Health Service Foundation Trust.

Ms Rennison has been working in mental health for over 39 years and is actively involved in the continued oversight and operational functioning of the Central and North West London Recovery and Wellbeing College as well as being well versed in the theoretical and empirical evidence to support recovery colleges.

To register your interest in attending one of the sessions, please email recoverycollege@mhc.wa.gov.au with the following details by 6 April 2018:

- the session you wish to attend (Session 1 or 2 or 3 or 4);
- your name;
- email address and/or phone number;
- your capacity in which you are registering for the information session (consumer, carer, mental health/AOD worker, Government, non-government organisation, general public member etc.); and
- how you heard about the information sessions.

The Mental Health Commission will make every effort to accommodate everyone that wants to attend, however, due to limited spaces, we may not be able to offer everyone a place. The registrations are on a first come, first service basis, so get your registration in fast!

Further information

For further information please click on the links below:

Frequently Asked Questions provide additional information on the Recovery Colleges. (/media/2330/recovery-colleges-faq-s-april-2018.pdf)

Literature Review to inform the development of Recovery Colleges in Western Australia, March 2018. (/media/2329/final-recovery-college-literature-review-28-march-2018.pdf)

Alternatively queries regarding Recovery Colleges can be emailed to recoverycollege@mhc.wa.gov.au