

Statewide Peer Workforce Coordinator



There are targeted strategies that aim to support and expand the Mental Health Peer Workforce under the Government's Mental Health Reform commitments.

The Mental Health Branch's Statewide Peer Workforce Coordinator works to support, enhance, expand and define the NSW peer workforce.

This includes working across NSW Local Health Districts and Speciality networks, the community managed sector and peak bodies through training, development and policy initiatives.

- Service agreements have been designed and implemented with every NSW Local Health District and Specialty Network to increase their peer workforce FTE quarterly.
- 116 scholarship places have been awarded to peer workers across the sector to complete the Certificate IV Peer Work qualification, which aims to significantly up skill the workforce.
- Site visits have been conducted with every NSW Local Health District and Specialty Network to provide workforce development training, good practice workshops and leadership development.
- The most comprehensive audit has been conducted on the NSW public mental health Peer Workforce, with data being used to inform development strategies for 2017/18.

- Benchmarks are being developed to stipulate specific targets for the employment of peer workers in all Ministry of Health funded mental health programs provided by community organisations, which will significantly grow the size of the peer workforce.
- Establishing peer workforce roles within emerging mental health workforces, including Family and Community Services, Statewide Eating Disorders units and Headspace youth mental health services.
- Development and implementation of a Peer Workforce framework within NSW mental health services.
- Development opportunities that connect the public health and community managed peer workforce.

To learn more about mental health care reform in NSW visit

www.health.nsw.gov.au/mentalhealth/reform

