

LikeMind Fact Sheet



Almost half of all Australians aged 16-85 (45.5%) have experienced a mental health issue at some point in their lifetime.¹ Mental illness can have a profound impact on people's lives, and LikeMind is intended to provide support to those who need it most.

LikeMind is an innovative consortium model of integrated care for adults with moderate to severe mental illness. LikeMind is funded by the NSW Ministry of Health with each pilot site operated by a non-government lead agency. The intent is that the lead agency will work to ensure the pilot becomes self-sustaining through access to general and private practice.

By co-locating clinical and psychosocial services, the LikeMind model aims to deliver seamless person centred care by providing triage, assessment, treatment, care coordination and discharge planning through a single point of contact.

The range of services delivered by the consortium covers four core streams: mental health, drug and alcohol, physical health, and social needs such as linkages to employment, vocational training and housing.

Local Health District community mental health teams support LikeMind by co-locating at each site and working with LikeMind staff in the provision of community based mental health care and case management. The Local Health District drug and alcohol teams are also actively involved, acknowledging the fact that mental health and drug and alcohol issues can often be inter-related.

General practitioners are an important part of the LikeMind service model as they assist in the early identification and treatment of any co-morbid or standalone physical health conditions that contribute to achieving better health outcomes for people using the service.

The LikeMind pilot has three sites that are already operational - Penrith and Seven Hills, which were established in 2015, and Orange, which launched in October 2016. LikeMind Wagga Wagga, is due to be launched in April 2017.

The expansion of the LikeMind pilot to the two regional and rural sites in Orange and Wagga Wagga was made possible through the commitment from the Government in 2014 to invest an additional \$115 million over three years to support the Mental Health Reform agenda.

To inform the Government's deliberations about the effectiveness of this pilot and its ongoing potential, an independent evaluation is underway. The evaluation will encompass an extensive framework of research methodologies including a performance and process review and an analysis of the cost effectiveness and efficiency of the different sites. The final report is anticipated in December 2017.

As at 31 December 2016, approximately 2200 people have been helped through services provided at the LikeMind Penrith, Seven Hills and Orange sites. More information can be found on the LikeMind website: <http://likemind.org.au/>.

To learn more about mental health care reform in NSW visit www.health.nsw.gov.au/mentalhealth/reform

¹National Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing, Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2007.

