



Terms of Reference for the National COPMI Reference Group 2008-2010.

Role:

The role of the National COPMI (Children Of Parents with a Mental Illness) Reference Group 2008-2010 is to

- provide guidance and advice with regard to strategies for implementation of the national COPMI initiative
- promote communication between the COPMI Project Team and the Reference Group members' networks
- assist the COPMI Project Team to keep abreast of developments in this expanding field.

Processes:

The Reference Group will achieve this outcome by:

- Providing expert advice in regard to the development, implementation and evaluation of strategies within the national COPMI initiative
- Facilitating networking and broad participation through sharing information with existing stakeholder networks
- Participating in 'review and comment' of materials developed
- Providing feedback about community perception of COPMI activities
- Taking an active interest in achieving the initiative's outcomes to the best possible standard

Meeting schedule and reporting:

The Reference Group will meet on a 6 weekly basis via telephone conference. Communication with members between meetings will be via e-mail or telephone.

Meeting agenda and papers will be distributed electronically at least five working days before the scheduled meeting date. Minutes of meetings will be distributed electronically and placed on a password accessible page on the AICAFMHA website within 2 weeks of the meeting. Action items agreed during meetings will be clearly marked in the minutes. [NB: Members without access to electronic document transfer will receive papers by regular post.]

A maximum of one face-to-face meeting per annum may be called if required. Transport and accommodation costs to attend will be met by AICAFMHA. Arrangements will be made for anyone unable to physically attend such meetings to link via telephone conference.

Remuneration:

Professional members of the Reference Group will participate without remuneration. Appropriate remuneration arrangements will be made for consumers, carers and young people.

Chair: Mr Phil Robinson, Chair, AICAFMHA Board of Directors

Accountability: The Reference Group is accountable to the Australian Infant Child Adolescent and Family Mental Health Association (AICAFMHA) Board.

Members:

Name	Position	Key Contribution Area
Adam McEvoy	National Young Carers Project Co-ordinator, Carers Australia.	National overview of young carer issues, resources and networks.
Adrian Falkov	Deputy Director, Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist, MH-Kids, NSW	Clinical experience; experience in evaluation of clinical 'copmi' services, development of education and training resources
Angela Obradovic	Chief Social Worker/Family Work Development Coordinator, Northern Area Mental Health Service, VIC	Adult mental health copmi-related workforce development and services. Interagency collaboration at a regional level.
Carly Dolinski	Senior Program Officer, Mental Health Network, Mental Health Division, Department of Health, W.A.	Experience in development of interagency protocols at a statewide level.
David Hay	Professor of Psychology, School of Psychology, Curtin University, WA	Evaluation of 'copmi' initiatives and of relevant workforce development. Extensive knowledge of the literature.
Jennie Parham	Project Manager, Auseinet, SA	Experience working with consumers and carers in the PPEI area. Facilitating networks, exchange of information and PPEI learnings. PPEI workforce development.
Margaret Cook	Mental Health Consumer Consultant, WA	Consumer and carer perspective. Extensive advocacy experience in the field. Links with consumer organizations nationally.
Nick Kowalenko	Clinical Director, Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Royal North Shore Hospital, N.S.W.	Clinical and evaluation expertise with 2-8 year olds and their families. Links with beyondblue perinatal and infant mental health program.
Rose Cuff	VicChamps Co-ordinator, Eastern Mental Health Program, Victoria	Experience in service provision for young 'copmi' and their families. Experience in workforce development and consumer and carer participation.

Jane Westley	Coordinator, National Primary Mental Health Care Network Australian General Practice Network, ACT	Links to the National Primary Health Care Network
Bridget Dillon	MHACT COPMI Coordinator, CAMHS, ACT	Mental health and child protection workforce development. Facilitation of interagency linkages- government and NGOs.
Nikki deBondt	Social Worker, Koping Program Co-ordinator, Child and Youth Mental Health Service, QLD	Clinical and education services and facilitation of multi-agency forum. Strong links with young people, families and service providers.
Jane Austin	Policy Consultant – Promotion, Prevention and Early Intervention, Mental Health Services, Tasmania.	Link with statewide pilot program for 'copmi'. Experienced primary school teacher and radio journalist.
Vicki Cowling	Social Worker, Psychologist, Statewide Co-ordinator Children of Parents with a Mental Illness, MH-Kids, NSW	Experience in research, conceptualising and developing projects, professional education, publication, consumer and carer advocacy. Strong international links.
Representatives	Consumer Carer Advisory Group	Consumer and carer perspective.
Jo Mason Representative	<i>MindMatters.</i>	Links with relevant Australian government funded mental health initiatives.
Brenda Dobia	Representative <i>KidsMatter</i>	
Matt O'Brien	Representative <i>headspace</i>	
Margaret Young	National President and representative of Early Childhood Australia	Links with early childhood sector (services, researchers, planners etc.).
Dr Graham Vimpani	Representative Niftey (National Initiative for the Early Years)	
Janne McMahon	Representative Private mental Health Alliance (PMHA)	Links to private sector service providers and workforce.
Barbara Hocking	Representative SANE	Advocacy, awareness raising, links with community.
Michelle Swallow	Representative NGO mental health services	Links to NGO services planning delivering and evaluating services for 'copmi' and families.
Chris Killick-Moran or his representative	Director, Children and Youth Mental Health Programs Section	Representative of the Department of Health and Ageing

COPMI Project Team member will attend meetings as observers.

NB: The Indigenous Strategies Group of the Department of Health and Ageing Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Branch will be invited to consult with the Reference Group on key issues relating to indigenous children, families, communities and services.

Proxies: The nomination of proxies will be acceptable for members not able to attend meetings on the proviso that the proxy's name and contact details are notified to the Chair prior to the commencement of the meeting.

Endorsed: 19th February 2008

Review Date: 19th February 2009