

# COPMI National Family Forum

Terms of Reference November 2010 | Reviewed October 2011

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## Purpose

To engage consumers and carers and utilise their experiences and perspectives to inform the planning, implementing and evaluation of the COPMI national initiative.

## Goal

To work in partnership and be a resource for consumer and carer input into the COPMI national initiative through strong connections with consumers and carers across the states and territories.

## Role

The role of the COPMI National Family Forum (CNFF) is to:

- inform and advise the COPMI team on the consumer and carer perspective across all areas of the COPMI national initiative
- be a conduit for information sharing and gathering across networks to promote the COPMI national initiative
- be a model of excellence in consumer and carer collaboration, inclusion and participation, in the dialogue around issues related to children of parents with a mental illness.

## Forum members' responsibilities

- Attendance at face-to-face meetings (two to three per year) and at teleconferences as required.
- Participation in subgroups of specific interest or attend meetings as a representative of CNFF (as negotiated with the Consumer and Carer Participation Officer).
- Preparation for meetings by reading relevant materials e.g. minutes of meetings and proposals.
- Reporting to the Chair CNFF on all meetings attended as a CNFF member delegate or representative.
- Providing advice on current consumer and/or carer concerns and challenges regarding the health and wellbeing of children of parents with a mental illness and their families.
- Alerting the COPMI national initiative to sources of good practice regarding children of parents with a mental illness.
- Disseminating and gathering relevant information through members' networks.
- Raising the profile of the COPMI national initiative.

## Remuneration

Appropriate remuneration arrangements will be made for all members to participate (as per the COPMI Consumer and Carer Remuneration Guidelines).

## Chair

The Chair of the COPMI National Family Forum is the COPMI Consumer and Carer Participation Officer (Lydia Trowse).

## Accountability

The COPMI National Family Forum, via the Chair is accountable to the Chair of AICAFMHA Board of Directors, Philip Robinson. COPMI National Family Forum members may contact Philip Robinson directly ([robinsonp@aicafmha.net.au](mailto:robinsonp@aicafmha.net.au)) if they have issues of concern which they have been unable to resolve to their satisfaction with the CNFF Chair. Alternatively, they may contact the COPMI Project Manager, Elizabeth Fudge ([fudgee@aicafmha.net.au](mailto:fudgee@aicafmha.net.au)).

## Members

CNFF members will be sought from consumers and carers with a broad range of perspectives and experiences including:

- parents with a mental illness
- carers of a parent with a mental illness (including spouses, children, young people and adult children)
- carers of a child (under 18 years) who has a parent with a mental illness (e.g. grandparent, carer, foster carer, sibling)

Members will be from a range of states and territories where possible.

## Executive Support

The COPMI National Family Forum will be assisted by the COPMI Administrative Assistant and by the COPMI Project Support Officers as required.

## Key performance indicators for the COPMI National Family Forum

- Increased access for the COPMI national initiative to significant advice regarding consumer and carer perspectives and experience.
- Enhanced consumer and carer participation across the COPMI national initiative.

A reported satisfaction by members with their opportunities to:

- provide advice and perspectives on consumer and carer participation
- participate in particular sections of the initiative according to their interest and expertise
- a reported perception by the COPMI team members that the activities and input of the COPMI National Family Forum have and will contribute to consumer and carer participation across all aspects of the COPMI national initiative.

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