

Interview Participant Information

Project Title	Same Same Different: Social change values in mental health Peer Support
HREC Reference	HREC/2021/QGC/74459
Coordinating Principal Investigator	Chérie McGregor (PhD candidate)
Associate Researchers	Amanda Waegeli; Brooke Starr; Helena Roenfeldt; James Hill; Kevin Stevenson; La Rue De Vries; Michael Burbank; Michelle Edwards;
Supervisors	Dr Michelle Banfield; Dr Louise Byrne; Ms Suzi Quixley; Dr Bianca Calabria

About this research project.

This research project explores what role social change values play in shaping mental health Peer Support practices across diverse settings in Queensland. The first phase of this project collected data through an online survey. We are now seeking to recruit mental health Peer Support practitioners to discuss their values and practice approaches in more depth during online interviews. After analysing the data collected, we will invite research participants and members of the Peer Support workforce to review and discuss the findings in online focus groups. Research findings will be presented as a PhD thesis; articles published through Open Access and academically reviewed journals; and used to develop a training package about values-driven practice for mental health Peer Support workers.

This is a Lived Experience led, PhD research project undertaken with the Lived Experience Research Unit at the Australian National University (ANU). It has been approved by the Gold Coast Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC/2021/QGC/74459) and is recognised by the ANU Human Research Ethics Committee.

For more information visit our website at <https://nceph.anu.edu.au/research/projects/same-same-different-social-change-values-mental-health-peer-support>. You can read more detail about the project and the researchers' backgrounds; follow our progress; register your interest in receiving email updates and invitations to participate.

Why research social change values in mental health Peer Support practice?

There is a lot of pressure to define and standardise mental health Peer Support practice. Australian politicians, policy makers and employers use academic literature to make decisions about the work we can do. Only a small minority of the current academic literature examining our practice is written by Lived Experience researchers who have worked in Peer Support roles. Even less is written by Australian researchers. Lived Experience / Peer Support workers often describe their work as having a dual focus on mutual support and social change. Yet this is rarely reflected in academic literature.

About the interviews

Interviews will take about 40 minutes. Up to three interviews with each participant may be required. Interviews will be conducted outside business hours and online. They will be video-recorded through Microsoft Teams.

Participation is voluntary. If you choose to participate, you may decline to answer some questions and you can withdraw at any time. If you withdraw, you may request to have some or all of your responses deleted from the data collection. You will not be asked to explain why you want to do so. Deleting data is possible up to the point we begin preparing research findings for publication.

Who can participate?

You are eligible to participate if you are

- 1) Over 18 years of age; and
- 2) Currently employed (paid or volunteer) in an identified Lived Experience / Peer Support role; and
- 3) Work in Queensland.

People are excluded from participating in interviews if they are

1. Currently working in Lived Experience roles that do not provide mental health Peer Support and/or provide Peer Support exclusively focused on problematic substance use.
2. Require an interpreter to be provided to be able to participate. Providing access to interpreter services is beyond the resources available for this study

How to register your interest in participating

You can register your interest in participating by completing the online *Expression of Interest and Consent Form (EOI)* available on our [website](#).

The *EOI form* includes a link to (and requires you to complete) the online survey which was distributed in the first phase of this study. The survey asks multiple choice questions about your background, location and approach to providing mental health Peer Support. It will take about fifteen minutes to complete.

If you completed the survey in the first phase of this research, you may choose to either provide us with the code you created at the beginning of that survey or you could use the link in the EOI form to complete it again. Data from surveys completed using the link in the EOI form will not be included with the data that was collected in the first phase of this study. Data collected from the EOI survey will only be used in the selection of interview participants and to provide background context about the diversity of people interviewed.

Why is completing the survey necessary?

We want to select ten participants that represent diverse backgrounds, locations, service settings and values. Survey responses provides the detailed information we need to be able to do that.

The Coordinating Principal Investigator (Chérie McGregor) will be the only person to have access to your identifiable information. The information from your EOI (including your online survey responses) will be de-identified before being considered by members of the research team who will review all (de-identified) EOIs to select ten participants for the first round of interviews.

If your application is selected, Chérie will contact you to arrange a time for your first interview. If you are not selected for the first round of interviews, Chérie will contact you to advise other ways you may be involved in the research and ask if you would like your expression of interest to be included in any future recruitment of interview participants for this project.

Risks and Benefits of participating

We believe the potential for participation in this research to cause distress is minimal, as the research is focused on Peer Support practice approaches in professional settings. However, if you find it does trigger strong emotion, you may seek Peer Support by calling the [Brook RED Warmline](#) on 07 3343 9282.

People participating in interviews will receive a \$25 electronic gift card to thank you for your time. You may not feel you benefit personally from participating, but the research findings will inject the perspectives of Queensland-based Peer Support practitioners in local, national and international debates seeking to define mental health Peer Support practices. They will also contribute to the vocational education for the workforce.

Privacy and confidentiality

In completing the EOI form, interview participants will be asked whether or not they want researchers to use their name or a pseudonym to recognise and acknowledge their contributions. Participants can advise researchers at any time during the data collection and analysis if they would like to change the option originally selected. Changes will not be possible after we start preparing for publication.

Participant identity can be recognised through either direct identifiers (eg names, addresses, etc) or indirect identifiers (eg location, employing organisation, position, etc). The small size of the Lived Experience / Peer Support community is such that there is potential for participant identity to be deduced from indirect identifiers. To protect the privacy of participants in accordance with the consent provided, the Coordinating Principal Investigator will replace all indirect and direct identifiers with generic descriptive codes. The Coordinating Principal Investigator will be the only member of the research team to access your identifiable information. All data will be deidentified and aggregated before it is shared with the Associate Researchers or reported.

If you register to participate in this research, your contact details and personal information will be securely stored through password protected cloud-based platforms and on ANU password protected servers. This information will only be accessed by the Coordinating Principal Investigator. It will only be used to send you the information you request and will be deleted at the end of the project.

In collecting your personal information within this research, the Australian National University (ANU) must comply with the Privacy Act 1988. The ANU Privacy Policy is available at https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppl/document/ANUP_010007 and it contains information about how a person can:

- Access or seek correction to their personal information;
- Complain about a breach of an Australian Privacy Principle by ANU, and how ANU will handle the complaint.

Data Management

The semi-structured interview will be digitally video recorded via the Microsoft Teams platform. NVivo Transcriptions software will be used to transcribe (verbatim) recordings. Interview transcripts will be manually de-identified by the Coordinating Principal Investigator. Prior to analysis being undertaken transcripts will be provided to the participant to review and re-confirm consent. Participants may clarify responses and/or request segments (or the entirety) of the interview to be deleted from the data analysis. The Coordinating Principal Investigator will be the only person with access to identifiable data; and is responsible for 1) de-identifying data (according to participant consent) and 2) undertaking initial data analysis. Emerging themes and de-identified data will be shared with the Associate Researchers team to inform team discussions that contribute to further data analysis and reporting of findings.

All identifiable data will be generated and stored electronically via secure, password protected, cloud-based platforms and accessed through ANU secure servers from a password protected laptop computer. De-identified data will be accessed by research team members through password protected cloud-based platforms (LabArchives and ANU Cloudstor). These platforms store data locally in Australia. Post the completion of this project de-identified and aggregated survey responses and individual interview transcripts will be archived in the ANU Data Commons and Australian Data Archive for future access by other researchers and policy makers. Video recordings of interviews, contact details and any other personal information will be deleted.

Ethical clearance and research governance

This project has received ethical clearance from the Gold Coast Health Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC/2021/QGC/74459) and is recognised by the ANU Human Research Ethics Committee. Academic and ethical reviews will be completed according to schedules required by the approving Human Research Ethics Committees and ANU to ensure the study complies with relevant legislation and standards. As an ANU research higher degree (PhD) project, this study is monitored by a supervisory panel led by Dr Michelle Banfield.

More information

You are welcome to contact the Coordinating Principal Investigator if you want more information about this project

Chérie McGregor | Mobile: 0491 129 944 | Email: cherie.mcgregor@anu.edu.au

If you have any concerns or complaints about how this research has been conducted, please contact any or all of the below

Assoc Professor Michelle Banfield
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The Australian National University
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Coordinator
Gold Coast Health Human Research Ethics Committee
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Ethics Manager
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Queensland Health Staff

Site specific approvals have been granted by Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast, Wide Bay, and Darling Downs Hospital and Health Services. Local contacts (for these services) who can answer questions about this project are

Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service

Senior Peer Coordinator

Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service

Peer Support Co-ordinator or Consumer Consultant

Wide Bay Hospital and Health Service

Senior Peer Coordinator

Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service

Consumer Consultant

Queensland Health staff may also contact Research Governance Officers (RGO's) at their local Hospital and Health Service to discuss a concern or complaint about the project. Details for individual RGO's can be accessed at https://www.health.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0028/624763/Current-RGO-Contact-List.pdf

If you would like to participate in an interview, but the Hospital and Health Service you work for is not listed above, please contact the Coordinating Principal Investigator to discuss options for applying to include your health service as an approved site.