

ACACIA: The ACT Consumer and Carer Mental Health Research Unit

Priorities Progress



Research Topic	ACACIA projects
Care planning - What makes a good mental health plan? (e.g. individualised, including perspectives of consumers, carers and clinicians)	Finding the Path
Alternative treatments - What are they, and how can they contribute to recovery? Holistic approaches, meditation, exercise	Music Engagement Program evaluation
How do current protocols support consumer and carer journeys to recovery?	COVID-19 mental health study
Pet therapy	COVID-19 mental health study
How is the consumer and carer voice integrated into policy and services? How are their contributions valued, and what indicators exist to demonstrate how their voice is used?	Understanding Participation Whose story is it?
Reach – Are services reaching the people that need them?	Co-Creating Safe Spaces
Consumer and carer journey through service pathways - What works and what doesn't? What do clinicians think?	Finding the Path
Monitoring and evaluation – to what extent is it built into programs: pre-, post- and during evaluation from participants	Partners in Recovery evaluation MIEACT evaluation
Disconnection of services	Finding the Path
Service pathways – first access, how do they go about it, what is the access to information, benefit of hindsight?	
How to implement internationally recognised models of peer support in Australia	Peer worker pilot Better Together
How to recruit and train peer workers - What is going on, and where? Where is it embedded? How are they being supported?	Co-Creating Safe Spaces
Consumers' experiences of peer to peer services	
Peer-led services - What are the gaps? (e.g. support groups)	
Peer support in public mental health system	
What are clinician views on peer support?	
What is a peer?	PhD student project
How is psychosocial disability defined in the NDIS, and how will it impact consumers and carers in Australia?	PhD student project
How does the use of language include/exclude individuals?	What we call ourselves
Consumer perspectives on use of labels - Which terms are useful/helpful, which are not?	
How participation works in practice (tokenism vs. real involvement)	Understanding participation
Consumer and carer voice integrated into policy	
Care coordination between mental health and physical health	Cancer survivors study
Carers & bereavement – Are we offering enough counselling? Is it timely enough? Should it be offered in prisons?	Coronial counselling service project Wellways Carer Coaching evaluation
What kind of support would carers like?	
Mental health in LGBTIQ+ populations	Experiences accessing health care for LGBTIQ+ people
Support in education settings	MIEACT evaluation
Suicide: continuous care and support	Co-Creating Safe Spaces
Mental health in culturally and linguistically diverse populations	My Mind, My Voice evaluation
Risk factors for mental illness	COVID-19 mental health survey
Impacts on specific age groups	Music Engagement Program evaluation

