

Boundary Spanners Participant Information

The North Western Melbourne Primary Health Network funded VAADA to explore the potential for improved cross-sector collaboration in the region, and support implementation of shared strategies.

In November last year we brought together people from the AOD, mental health and homelessness sectors in the northwest for an event called Beyond Barriers: Visions of Meaningful Collaboration. This event provided an opportunity to explore our interconnected work; reflecting on shared themes and shared intentions, as we envisioned what was possible in terms of truly person-centred care, highlighting key themes of connection, empathy, collaboration and hope.

Following on from this event, and to support this new vision, we are again bringing people together to encourage a move Beyond Barriers, and towards Boundary Spanners – invoking a tightening of connections between sectors. This evolution will be achieved via participation in Reflective Learning Circles, facilitated by lived experience peer workforce, and guided by themes of connection, perspective, reciprocity and possibility. The aim of Boundary Spanners is to support the application of these interconnected themes into practice, and deepen collective awareness, skills and action to deliver empathy based, person-centred care.

Purpose:

Development of reflective learning groups and communities to:

- build cross-sector relationships;
- enhance collaborative practice approaches to health and wellbeing for people who access AOD, homelessness and mental health services; and
- deepen collective awareness and develop skills to deliver empathy based, person-centred care.

All activities will centre on the voices and lived experience of peer workers and people who access and use services.

When:

A full-day Boundary Spanners workshop held on the 11th March 2020 after which Reflective Learning Circles will be held on a weekly or fortnightly basis between the 16th of March and 30th of June.

Time Commitment:

March to June 2020

The indicative practitioner time commitment over 4 months is 22 hours; a little more than 1 hour per week

The indicative manager time commitment over 4 months is 15 hours; a little less than one hour per week

Key Activities/Commitments:

Practitioner -

- Available on 11th March to participate in full day Workshop
- Manager aware and also willing to be involved in Boundary Spanners
- Participate in a weekly/fortnightly 45 min reflective session facilitated by a peer worker
- Participate in a monthly 90 min Community of Practice facilitated by the project team

Manager –

- Available on 11th March to participate in full day Workshop
- At least one practitioner involved in Boundary Spanners
- Participate in a fortnightly 45 min reflective session guided by lived experience
- Participate in a bi-monthly 90 min Community of Practice facilitated by the project team

Key Values Commitments:

- Willing to collaborate and participate in reflective processes with integrity, courage & kindness
- Prepared to try something new, explore with curiosity and test boundaries
- Committed to centering service delivery on lived experience
- Desire to develop own practice, recognising the value of lifelong learning

**Please contact Naomi from VAADA today if this is something you would like to be involved in.
Expressions of interest are open until Friday 14th February ready for workshop on 11th March.**

Please forward:

Name

Role

Location

Manager's name and contact details

WORKSHOP 11th MARCH 2020

Attendance at the Boundary Spanners workshop will prepare participants to take part in Reflective Learning Circles and support them to engage in lean and agile approaches to navigating uncertainty. It was also encourage connection with the power of story as we build resilient and responsive services with a shared purpose and vision; prioritising the health and wellbeing of people accessing AOD, homelessness and mental health services.

AIM: All interested participants must be available to attend the full day workshop on the 11th of March (prior to the launch of Learning Circles), to build skills, knowledge and capacity in creating safe and collaborative environments.

1. PRACTITIONER REFLECTIVE LEARNING CIRCLES

- Held weekly or fortnightly in 45 to 60 minute sessions
- Facilitated by Lived Experience Peer Worker
- Membership comprises AOD, homelessness and mental health practitioners
- Four members per group
- Multiple groups across the state
- Participants are grouped responding to geographic locations

AIM: Conversations and explorations held weekly or fortnightly via 45 minute Reflective Learning Circles facilitated by the Lived Experience Peer Workforce involving AOD, homelessness and mental health services.

2. MANAGER REFLECTIVE LEARNING CIRCLES

- Held fortnightly in 45 to 60 minute sessions
- Guided by lived experience
- Membership includes AOD, homelessness and mental health manager
- Three members per group
- Multiple groups across the state
- Participants are grouped responding to geographic locations

AIM: Conversations and explorations held fortnightly via 45 minute Reflective Learning Circles guided by lived experience and involving AOD, homelessness and mental health services.

3. COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

- Practitioners from all Reflective Learning Circles will come together once a month for a combined 90 minute reflective session
- Managers from all Reflective Learning Circles will come together bi-monthly for a combined 90-minute reflective session
- Facilitated by the project team and the Lived Experience Peer Workforce facilitators
- Participants are all reflective learning circle members from across the state
- 90 minute facilitated sessions

AIM: To share interconnected themes, explore points of mutuality, provide cross-sector peer support and resourcing and to engage leadership and service delivery in a collaborative conversation to respond to shared practice approaches.

This is a funded project so all costs have been met by the project group. Participation in the workshop, learning circles and community of practice has no cost. The learning however will be abundant.