Application for consumers and carers to join: voluntary assisted dying implementation subcommittees

Closing date: Monday, 15 November 2021

Queensland Department of Health

**The Voluntary Assisted Dying Unit, within the Department of Health is providing 12 health consumer and carer representatives the unique opportunity to participate on six of the implementation subcommittees to inform the implementation of voluntary assisted dying in Queensland.**

The *Voluntary Assisted Dying Act 2021* passed on 16 September 2021 allows for voluntary assisted dying to be available on **1 January 2023**, providing dignity, choice and compassion for those at the end of their life.

Ahead of then, the Voluntary Assisted Dying Unit is working on putting in place the complex clinical and administrative arrangements needed for implementation.

See the [Queensland Health website](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/vad) for more information.

Purpose

The implementation of voluntary assisted dying in Queensland will be overseen by an Implementation Taskforce. The Taskforce will be supported by subcommittees responsible for the delivery of the extensive program of work.

The Voluntary Assisted Dying Unit are seeking two (2) consumer and carer representatives to join each subcommittee:

* **First Nations**

Responsible for informing the codesign of culturally and clinically safe end of life care that supports families and communities. Help inform the engagement with First Nations stakeholders to ensure awareness of voluntary assisted dying, whilst being respectful of the significant and sensitive nature of end of life for First Nations people.

* **Statewide Care Navigator Service**

Responsible for informing the setup of the statewide care navigator service to be able to service metropolitan, regional, rural and remote areas. Help determine how best to connect individuals with appropriate practitioners, services and referral pathways in addition to the provision of follow up care and support to individuals and loved ones.

* **Statewide Pharmacy Service**

Responsible for informing the setup of the statewide pharmacy service to determine the correct model for distribution of the substance, particularly for regional, rural and remote areas. Establish how the substance will be managed, supplied and disposed of. Help inform the development information and support for people and practitioners regarding the substance.

* **Clinician Engagement and training**

Inform the development of medical and nurse practitioner mandatory training, multidisciplinary capability and communities of practice, clinical guidelines, procedures and forms, quality and safety guidance, clinical informatics guidance, clinical governance.

* **Regional and Remote Access**

The Commonwealth Criminal Code (*Criminal Code 1995* (Cth)) limits the ability to discuss certain aspects of voluntary assisted dying via a carriage service (such as telephone, videoconference, telehealth, email or other forms of electronic communication). The regional and remote access subcommittee will inform how best to provide access to voluntary assisted dying to people living in regional, rural and remote parts of Queensland.

* **Community and Consumer Engagement**

Responsible for facilitating, codesigning, collaborating and consulting with stakeholders, including, clinicians, entities, Frist Nations, regional, rural and remote, people with disability, culturally and linguistically diverse and the general public. Inform and provide insights on the development of the communications and engagement strategy and associated deliverables.

**Overview of committee membership**

Each subcommittee will be made up of representatives from a range of areas including, clinical, primary health, the Queensland Health and cultural groups.

Terms of Reference for each subcommittee will be made available to consumer representatives at the first subcommittee meetings.

Role of the consumer

The role of the successful applicants will be to attend all subcommittee meetings and to actively participate in all subcommittee activities, including:

* Pre-meeting reading
* Discussions
* Provision of feedback and advice
* Provide insights to help inform development
* Review and provide constructive feedback on draft documentation
* Identify relevant opportunities to improve implementation of voluntary assisted dying in Queensland

Who is it for?

**This opportunity would suit consumer and carer representatives:**

* With some committee experience, either at the Hospital and Health Service or Statewide level
* Experience hosting or participating in Kitchen Table Discussions in relation to end of life care or palliative care
* Have a particular interest in voluntary assisted dying, end of life and palliative care

We are looking for people from a diverse mix of geographical locations, age groups and lived health service experiences.

It is anticipated that members of the Subcommittees have a passion and commitment to the successful implementation of voluntary assisted dying in Queensland.

Time and location

The subcommittees will meet monthly for one to one and a half hours (depending on the subcommittee) online via Microsoft Teams from December 2021 to December 2022.

Meeting requests will be sent ahead of time.

* **First Nations**
  + Second Tuesday of each month
  + First meeting planned for 7 December 2021
* **Statewide Care Navigator Service** 
  + To be confirmed
* **Statewide Pharmacy Service**
  + To be confirmed
* **Clinician Engagement and training** 
  + Second Wednesday of each month, 10am-11:30am
  + First meeting planned for 8 December 2021
* **Regional and Remote Access**
  + To be confirmed
* **Community and Consumer Engagement**
* Second Wednesday of each month, 2pm-3pm
* First meeting planned for 8 December 2021 (first meeting will be from 2pm-3:30pm)

Remuneration and Support

Consumers will be remunerated for their time in line with [Health Consumers Queensland’s remuneration position statement](http://www.hcq.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/Consumer-Remuneration-Rates-Dec-2015.pdf).

Consumers will be reimbursed for their time at the subcommittee meetings as per details below:

• $187 for meetings 4 hours and under (including pre-reading and travel time)

• $374 per meeting over 4 hours (including pre-reading and travel time).

Consumers will be provided with pre and post meeting support if required and throughout the sub-committee meetings.

How to apply

Please complete this consumer application form and return to[consumer@hcq.org.au](mailto:consumer@hcq.org.au) by **Monday, 15 November 2021.**

For assistance please contact Health Consumers Queensland via [consumer@hcq.org.au](mailto:consumer@hcq.org.au) or by phone on 07 3012 9090.

**Consumer Application Form**

**Voluntary assisted dying implementation subcommittee representation**

Full name:

Preferred phone number:

Email:

Postal address:

Postcode:

* By completing this application, I consent for my details to be added to the Health Consumers Queensland network database  YES |  NO
* I would like to receive email updates from Health Consumers Queensland  YES |  NO
* Are you happy for Health Consumers Queensland to share this form with Queensland Health as part of the process for this application?  YES |  NO

Please highlight any group you identify as being a part of:

Living with a disability/chronic condition

Caring for someone with a disability

Physically isolated or transport disadvantaged

Culturally or linguistically diverse

From a non-English speaking background

LGBTIQ+

Do you identify as:  Aboriginal |  Torres Strait Islander |  Both |  Prefer not to state|  Neither

Are you a:  Consumer |  Carer

Age range:  16-24 |  25-29 |  30-39 |  40-49 |  50-59 |  60-69 |  70+

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Gender:** | Male | Female | Intersex | Other | Prefer not to state |

Please describe any support you need to take part in this activity *(examples include support person, hearing loop, dietary requirements)*

*Your responses to the following questions only need to be a brief sentence or two*

1. Which VAD subcommittee are you interested in joining? (Please tick all that apply)

First Nations

Statewide Care Navigator Service

Statewide Pharmacy Service

Clinician Engagement and Training

Regional and Remote Access

Community and Consumer Engagement

1. **Would you be interested in being a part of other consumer opportunities (outside of the sub-committees) to inform the implementation of voluntary assisted dying in Queensland.** For example, hosting or participating in Kitchen Table Discussions or focus groups.  YES | NO
2. Please describe your experience as a health consumer representative including committees, focus groups, surveys, governance roles, or Kitchen Table discussion host or participant etc.

*Tip: Past consumer representative positions that have similar requirements to the opportunity you’re expressing interest in. Give an indication of how long each position was for, and any relevant highlights.*

1. **Please describe all connections you have to your community (e.g. networks, groups, communities)***Tip: Think about how this relates to the role you’re applying for.*
2. Please describe your interest in being part of the implementation of voluntary assisted dying in Queensland and what your involvement will mean for you? *Tip: Although this section usually requires the longest response, try to keep it concise. Things to consider focusing on here include: any past lived experience that shows your understanding of the topic, or your understanding of the social/health/economic implications of the topic/condition.*
3. *Referee Section – Those in representative roles, please provide a referee. For those not in a representative role or a committee, a phone interview will be arranged.*

Please provide contact details for a staff member from a health service or department you are currently partnering with.

Full name:

Staff Role:

Partnering Activity (eg. Committee Chair):

Organisation:

Phone number:

Email:

Applicant Role: