

Joint Statement

Health Consumers Queensland and the Mental Health Lived Experience Peak Queensland

9 October 2023

Health Consumers Queensland (HCQ) and the Mental Health Lived Experience Peak Queensland (MHLEPQ) believe in strong and specific representation of consumer voices in the Queensland health system. We believe that consumers have a right to be heard and to be represented by the voice they find most relevant to them and their experience.

HCQ has for many years been the main voice for consumer representation in Queensland. With the establishment of the MHLEPQ as the mental health consumer peak of Queensland, the specific representation of consumers with lived experience of mental ill-health and suicidality has transferred from HCQ to the MHLEPQ.

Our organisations know that health consumers, throughout their life, will move from needing mental health care and general healthcare and at times will need care from both streams at the same time.

HCQ and the MHLEPQ will share requests for engagement across our respective consumer networks and encourage consumers to be active with one or both organisations as they find most appropriate.

Health services and organisations who would like to engage consumers:

- for **healthcare generally** (and not specifically about mental health) contact HCQ on consumer@hcq.org.au or www.hcq.org.au
- for **mental health and suicidality** contact the MHLEPQ on engagement@mhlepq.org.au or <https://forms.office.com/r/W7YagRGB9d>

Consumers who wish to participate in co-design and consultation processes can find current requests:

- On the HCQ consumer opportunities webpage <https://www.hcq.org.au/home-2/consumer-opportunities/> or by joining our network (at www.hcq.org.au) for free and getting our weekly eAlert.
- On the MHLEPQ consumer portal <https://mhlepq.org.au/consumer-representative-opportunities/>

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