

Richmond Wellbeing is Seeking a Paid Chair and Co-Chair for its

Youth Steering Committee

Background

Richmond Wellbeing is a wholly Western Australian community mental health organisation delivering a range of contemporary recovery-oriented residential and outreach services for adults and young people. We are also an NDIS provider, supporting people with psychosocial disabilities. At Richmond Wellbeing, we approach everyone as unique, embracing their lived experience. Our belief that everyone should have the opportunity to improve their mental health and wellbeing and live a fulfilling life is the foundation of Richmond Wellbeing's organisational culture.

Richmond Wellbeing was the first organisation in Western Australia to receive Rainbow Tick accreditation in 2017, and for a decade we have been working with Elders Uncle Albert and Aunty Irene McNamara. Through that long-standing relationship, Uncle Peter and Aunty Sandra Wilkes joined Richmond Wellbeing five years ago and, as part of their role, they regularly yarn with consumers and staff at three of our residential sites. The *burdiya* to *burdiya* (boss to boss) relationship with CEO, Adrian Munro, has seen the cultural security of services improve with increased numbers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander consumers and staff. Our diverse workforce includes a high percentage of staff who identify as Culturally and Linguistically Diverse.

Whilst we currently only have one specialist youth service, Momentum QP, an eight-bed residential service in Queens Park, 15% of current consumers across all services (October 2023) are aged between 18-25.

The high rate of mental health distress in young people has led Richmond Wellbeing to focus on improving its organisational capacity to provide safe, youth-friendly services for all young people inclusive of those with multiple, intersecting identities.

Youth Steering Committee

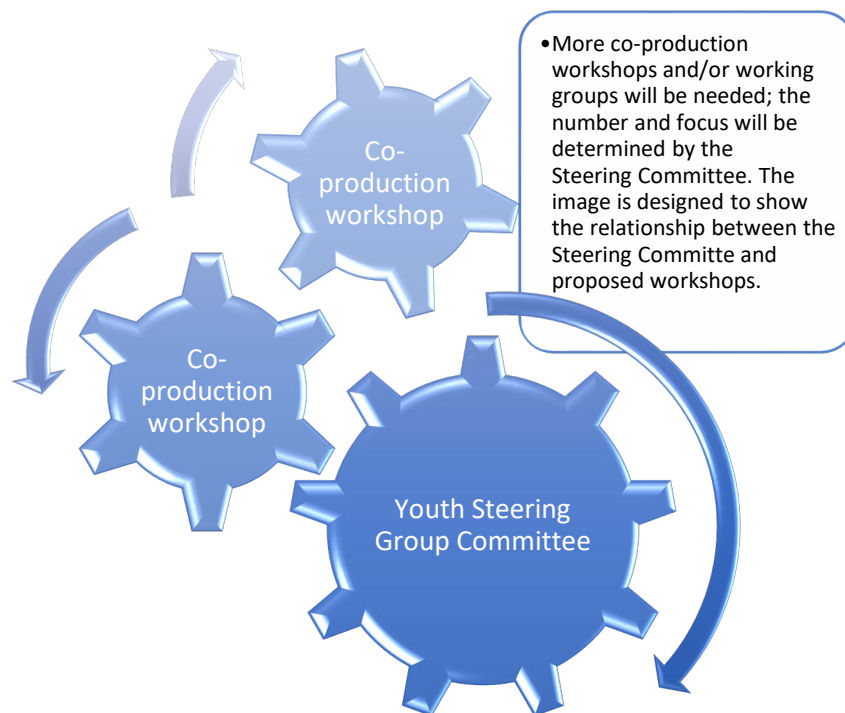
The Youth Steering Committee will provide the governance for the overall project, which will involve reviewing Richmond Wellbeing's current capacity to provide youth-friendly services and identify gaps and priority areas. The Steering Committee will also direct what work needs to be done and recommend areas of focus for co-production [1] with diverse young people. A model of care for co-production will inform how young people are supported to engage and have their voices heard; they will be paid for their participation.

The image below (page 2) illustrates the relationship between the Steering Committee and the co-production workshops. The focus of the co-production workshops will be determined by the Steering Committee and aim to elevate the perspectives of young people. In other words, this project will use participatory action cycles, including ongoing reflection, to identify the next steps as the project unfolds.

The Steering Committee Terms of Reference will be co-produced by the members which include staff who have a passion for, and experience working with, young people.

Alternative names for the Steering Committee and project will also be explored through co-production.





What we are seeking

Aligned with our commitment to lived experience, we are seeking two young people who have experienced mental health distress (aged 18—24) to Chair and Co-Chair our Youth Steering Committee. The appointment of young people with lived experience of mental health distress as Chair and Co-Chair sends a clear message about what we value at Richmond Wellbeing and challenges traditional professional expertise.

We know that when we authentically engage diverse people with lived experience through sharing power and recognising their specialist expertise, we are better placed to provide services that meet consumers' needs.

Young people with diverse identities and experiences are encouraged to apply.

Role of the Chair and Co-Chair

- Coordinate the Youth Steering Committee and Chair meetings including identifying priority action areas and setting agendas (with support [including administrative] from Helen Flavell, Executive Policy and Project Officer).
- Guide and review draft reports on the activities of the Steering Committee and co-production working groups.
- Present on behalf of the Youth Steering Committee to the Board and Senior Leadership Team (co-present if preferred and/or with mentoring as desired).
- Receive support and mentoring from Ian Moore (Chief Operations Officer), and Carli Sheers (Lived Experience Engagement Lead).
- Act as the link between the Youth Steering Committee, the Board and Senior Leadership Team.
- Draw on networks to engage diverse young people in co-production workshops.

Time expectations

This is a leadership role and will require additional hours above the regular meetings. The Committee is expected to be operating for 12 months beginning in 2024 with 10 two-hour meetings occurring approximately every 5 weeks.



Remuneration

The Chair and Co-Chair will be paid \$75 per hour for meetings and preparation time (2 hours per meeting). Additional work will be paid at the same rate. For example, reviewing draft reports or presentations to the Youth Project stakeholders (e.g., Board, Senior Leadership Team, general staff).

To express your interest

If you would like to be considered for this role, please either:

1. Send your expression of interest by outlining your responses to the dot points below to helen.flavell@rw.org.au, or
2. Or contact Helen via email or phone to discuss alternative ways to express your interest (e.g., creative responses, and videos, are welcome).

What we'd like to know:

- Why you're interested in the role
- How you meet the eligibility criteria
- What skills you can offer the team (including how you can ensure we include the voices of diverse young people)
- What you expect to achieve from the role
- Contact details and general availability.

Please feel free to contact Helen if you have any questions about any aspect of the expression of interest process or the role.

We ask that you please **submit your expression of interest by the close of business on Friday the 3rd of November, 2023.**

1. In the Mental Health Commission, *Working Together Toolkit: Designed to support the practical implementation of the Mental Health and Alcohol and Other Drug Engagement Framework 2018-2025*, co-production is defined as consumers, families and carers being involved in setting the priorities and agenda and making decisions from the very beginning.