
Community Liaison Psychiatrist Project



Supporting Mental Health & Wellbeing

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Service Gaps in Western Sydney Local Health District



- Lack of availability of Mental Health Professionals to improve coordination of care between services & practitioners
- Need for improvements of holistic care at the primary care level
- Identification by GPs of the need to improve capacity in mental health
- Early detection of mental illness and provision of assessments and support at General Practices
- Lack of awareness and usage of mental health service for people with moderate, severe and complex mental health issues by GPs



Principles of the project

- Early identification of co existing mental and physical health issues
- Mental health prevention and early intervention through:
 - improved supports
 - Education
 - Capacity building of GPs, allied health and GP practice staff
- Integration of and easy access to medical, allied health, hospital, community mental health and non clinical psychosocial services



Principles of the project

- Improvement in health and psychosocial outcomes or people with co existing chronic health conditions
- Education and support for families and carers
- Use of peer based approaches to support, coach and mentor people
- Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of primary health care services in managing mental ill health

Key elements of service model



- Steering committee
- Patient- centred approach
- Develop partnership with 10 GP practices across Wentwest PHN
- Employment of a full time Consultant Psychiatrist Liaison to provide:
 - ❖ Clinical assessments and reviews
 - ❖ Education
 - ❖ Capacity Building
- Peer Supporters and a Support Co-ordinator to identify support services required person

Current Position



- Last week we conducted Psychiatrist interviews with a positive outcome
- We are currently seeking steering committee members
- Project Worker and Support Facilitator identified
- PHN will be calling for expressions of interest from GP Practices