

Results

of

Membership

Survey

Results of Membership Survey March 2004

Undertaken by Robin and Alexandra Griffiths University final year students Disability Studies and Rehabilitation

A sample of 92 members were phoned, including individual and organizational members.

61 respondents were female

31 respondents were male

Areas covered:

➤ Brisbane South	14
➤ Brisbane North	20
➤ Ipswich	6
➤ South Coast	6
➤ Logan	4
➤ Tanam Sands	1
➤ Tanah Merah	1
➤ Jimboomba	1
➤ Russell Island	1
➤ Runaway Bay	3
➤ North Buderim	1
➤ Nambour	1
➤ Benarkin	1
➤ Nanango	1
➤ Maryborough	1
➤ Mackay	1
➤ Warwick	1
➤ Granville	1
➤ Gladstone	1
➤ Weipa	1
➤ Mt Isa	1
➤ Cairns	5
➤ Mareeba	1
➤ Ayre	1
➤ Charters Towers	1
➤ Townsville	1
➤ Bundaberg	6
➤ Bowen	1
➤ Toowoomba	1
➤ Longreach	1
➤ Roma	3
➤ Charleville	1
➤ St George	1

49 identified as consumers

43 identified as workers

17 identified as carers

13 identified as students

16 identified with more than one role.

Requests for Training

Requests were similar across membership categories, geographies and sex. Some differences were:

- Workers and carers requested training in working with challenging behaviour, particularly in rural and remote areas
- Consumers commented that workers needed training by consumers in:
 - ❖ Lived experience of consumers
 - ❖ Consumers perspectives on the system
 - ❖ Recovery
 - ❖ Stigma and labelling

1 Process Training Requests	Gender	Type of Membership	Location	Number of Requests
Advocacy	10 F 8 M	4 W 1 St 14 Con	Bris s Ips GC Bowen Cairns Granville Nanango Bundaberg	18
Community development	2F 1M	3 con	GC Warwick	3
Residential care	f	w	Nanango	1
Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation	3 F	2W 1car 1con 1st	GCBenarkin Bris S Bris S	3
Self Development				
Self esteem workshops	1 M 1F	2 Con	GC Bris s	2
Stress/coping workshop	1 F 1M	2 con	Bris s Maryborough	2
Self development	1 M1Ff	1 W 1con	Tville Brisbane S	2
Communication	f	w	Brisbane	1
Recovery	3F 1M	1Con 2 car 1st 1w	Tannum Sands Russell Is Brisbane Cairns	4
Support Groups	8F 2M	6 Con 2w 1car 1st	Roma Tanah Merah Logan Bris s GC Charters towers	10
CAGS	2F	2 con	Roma Bundaberg	2
Workplace Related				
Mental health in the workplace	2 F	1 St 1 con 1w	Br GC	3
Stress at work	2 F 1m	3 con	Bris S Bris SGC	3
Time management	1 F	w	Br	1
Data collection	1 F	w	Br	1
Employment – how to get jobs for people with a mental illness	2 F	Car w	Russell Island Brisbane	2

Job search skills for consumers	2 F 1 M	Con 2w st	Brisbane Brisbane Ipswich	3
Mental Health				
Mental Health – what is mental health – steps to mental health	3F 1 m	Con w st w con w	Roma GC Mackay Brisbane	4
Education on normalizing mental health	3 F 1 m	2W con	Tannum Sands Logan Townsville	3
Stigma and labelling–destigmatise mental illness	8 F 4 M	6 con 4car 7w	Runaway Bay Logan Bris S Tannum Sands Tanah Merah Brisbane Br Ips Ips BRis S St GeorgeCharters Towers	12
Difference between mental health and mental illness	1 F 1m	Con car 2	Rb Weipa	2
Anything that reduces the medical model prototype – thinking outside the medical model	F 2 m	Car w con	Logan Bundaberg Brisbane	3
Working with challenging behaviour	1F	1w	Mt Isa	1
Recreational				
Pottery and visual arts	1m	con	Bundaberg	1
Creative writing	3 F 1 M	3 Con ca 3w	Logan Tville Cairns Warwick	4
Qualifications				
Cert IV Advocacy	5 M 5 F	5Con 6 W	Toowoomba St George 2Bundaberg Roma Longreach Cairns Charleville Brisbane s	10
Cert IV Mental Health Non-Clinical	5 M 6 F	4Con 6 w	Toowoomba Gladstone 2 Bundaberg Ayre Longreach Brisbane Ipswich Charleville	11

Cert IV Phone Counselling	3M 3F	3W 3con	Brisbane Buderim Bundaberg Charleville	3	6
2. Content Training Requested					
Mental Illness					
Types of mental illness					
Depression	3 F	Car 2w con st	Rb Ips Bowen		3
Grief	F f	w	Bundaberg		
Suicide in teenagers	1 F	car			1
DID	2 f	Consumer w	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Runaway Bay • Russell Island • Maryborough 		2
Mental illness in families	1F	con	Roma		1
BPD	F m	2 Con	Roma BS		2
Treatments for Bi polar	m	con	Bris S		1
Schizophrenia	m	Con car	Bris S		1
Tourettes syndrome	m	con	BS		1
New developments in treating depression Biological causes	M f	Con car w	Jimboomba Logan		3
Drug and alcohol – addictive behaviour	2F	Car w	Logan Bundaberg		2
PTSD	2F	Car w	Russell Island Bundaberg		2
Long term effects of meds	3 F	Con 3 car 2w	Runaway Bayb Brn Brn		3
Anxiety	f	w	Maryborough		1
Dealing with emotions that lead to an episode	f	car	Mareeba		1
OCD	m	w	Logan		1
Anorexia	f	Con car w	Logan		1
Mental Health Act					
Mental health Act	f	w	Ipswich		1
Tribunal	f	con	Ipsw		1

Important issues identified . These issues were identified in most areas and by consumers, carers , workers and students. Because of the open nature of the questions this was difficult to theme and code. Some answers overlap. Respondents issues clustered around:

- **Stigma**
- **Support**
- **Service access**
- **Workplace issues**

Their requirements from MHAQ clustered around:

- **Provision of support and counselling**
- **Provision of information**
- **Training**
- **Advocacy for individuals**
- **Advocacy at systems level**
- **Confronting the media**

Not all people were able to answer these questions

Important issues	What MHAQ can do
3 Where to get help	Networking where people can be referred to ideas on topical problems
1 Support groups	Particularly for DID
16 Support	Focus on prevention Support and counselling
4 Access to services Qualified professionals	education
6 Destigmatise MI Availability of beds	Pull generations together . training
1 Need for more CAG groups	
3 support	Drop in centre
1 Need for more Govt expenditure Qld behind other states	Keeping mental health on the agenda
14 Public perceptions of mental illness - stigma	Training
7 Equity and access to quality care	Information on current treatment
6 Recovery and treatment	Support, employment
2 Confront media	Provide statewide voice for consumers. Provide individual advocacy
1 Need meaningful daily activities	
3 employment	Project positive images
1 Recovery as a concept rather than cure	Deal with people
12 Acceptance, stigma, equality, empowerment,	Keeping up to speed, being advised on MH issues

regaining independence	
1 Judgemental health providers	Keep health providers on their toes
1 Care for oneself as important as drs	Advocacy, be there as a support
5 Lack of respite services	Keep informed on current issues
3 Communication between organisations	Services like access to cheap computers advertised in Balance
10 Rehabilitation services, coordination between services, access to information	Acting as a central point for information and contact for support groups
Womens health issues	Expand to western areas
3 Every agency is snowed under	Advocacy for individuals
3 Victimization, bullying in the workplace	advocacy
1 Lack of evening phone in counsellors	Communication – magazine is great issues discussion is important
1 Disclosure to employers of mental health issues	Be in an advisory role for staff
1 Need for support groups for bi-polar and tourettes	Offering information