



Collaborative Pairs Australia

A Consumers Health Forum Partnership

Consumers Health Forum of Australia (CHF) in association with Western Sydney Primary Health Network invites you to consider applying for a unique leadership opportunity: **Collaborative Pairs Australia**. Collaborative Pairs marks the beginning of a transformation in health leadership, one where consumers and service providers work in genuine partnership to lead person-centred health care, services and systems. The initiative is designed to enable health professionals (clinicians and service providers) and consumers to develop capacity in working collaboratively to influence and transform the health system.

Collaborative Pairs Australia is a partnership between CHF and the King's Fund, an independent charity in the UK to trial and evaluate the King's Fund flagship program, Collaborative Pairs in the Australian context. This National Demonstration Trial is being co-ordinated by CHF and funded by four Primary Health Networks (Western NSW, Western Sydney, North Western Melbourne and South Eastern Melbourne) and the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care.

This program will appeal to consumers and health service providers who are excited by the opportunity to participate as a pair in a leadership development program that will facilitate transformational change within the health system.

As part of the National Demonstration Trial, Collaborative Pairs is being implemented in four PHN regions in the first instance: Western NSW, Western Sydney, South Eastern Melbourne and North Western Melbourne. This is your opportunity to be in the first cohort to undertake this program in Australia.

Please see **Invitation to Apply** for more information on the program, selection criteria and how to apply.

Are you committed to the following? Then this might be the program for you.

Transformational change

Making time for learning – and sharing it

Embedding collaborative practice within your organisation or community

As a participant in this program, you can expect to become confident, competent and capable in building collaborative partnerships that facilitate strategic and operational changes that will support the health and wellbeing of your local communities

and

become influential "change agents" within your organisation and/or

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COMMISSION
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INVITATION TO APPLY

The perspectives and knowledge of patients and consumers are an important resource for policy-makers and for those involved in the design and delivery of local services. Achieving this will depend on building open, trusting, and collaborative partnerships across the system. We know that building these collaborative relationships is not always easy and requires a significant shift in thinking from all of us. The King's Fund, an independent charity in the UK have put together a unique programme to explore how health professionals and consumer leaders can work collaboratively together.

This program "***Collaborative Pairs***" will be delivered by facilitators, trained by the King's Fund to deliver this program in Australia, as part of a National Demonstration Trial being co-ordinated by Consumers Health Forum of Australia (CHF) in partnership with Western Sydney PHN and three other Primary Health Networks and the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care. The program will assist health professionals (clinicians and managers) and patients and consumer leaders to build productive collaborative relationships, exploring how different roles and perspectives can be a constructive force for change. More information on this program can be found at <https://chf.org.au/collaborative-pairs>

Who is it for?

This programme has been designed for pairs from the same local health care system to work together on a shared challenge. One half of the pair will be a patient or consumer leader and the other half of the pair will be a clinician or manager (a clinical or service provider leader) who wants to find new ways of working with consumers. You will work together as a pair for the duration of the program in building your skills in collaborative practice by way of working on a joint work challenge. This program will focus on the relationship and the factors that contribute to effective collaborative practice. The work challenge will be the vehicle for reflection and analysis.

The Program

The program will be delivered over 5 one day sessions with 4 to 6 weeks in between. Each pair will be required to bring a work challenge to work on over the duration of the course. The approach is one of “learning through doing.” The content of the programme will cover the following topics:

- Developing relationships across the health system with people who might have different perspectives and priorities
- Developing the tools and practices to handle difficult conversations
- Developing the tools and techniques to effectively communicate your message across the health system
- Understanding the power dynamic in collaborative practice and how to shift it to become more equal
- Effectively managing the political context
- Understanding your personal leadership and conflict resolution styles
- Building a support network to develop your partnerships in the workplace

The program will involve reflection and analysis, input from facilitators and experiential and interactive exercises. It has been designed to be flexible and responsive to the needs of the participants.

Facilitators



Debra Kay



Dr Walid (Wally)Jammal

Debra is a consumer representative and is the Consumer Lead. She has worked for many years in community health partnerships to build accessible, safe and effective health care. She has led consumer organisations; developed accredited consumer engagement training; holds a number of roles in governance and advocacy; and undertakes volunteer support and advocacy roles with a wide range of community organisations.

Wally is the clinical lead, a GP and an associate Clinical Lecturer at the University of Sydney and Western Sydney University. He has a strong interest in health economics and models of care in general practice, foremost the Patient Centred Medical Home framework. His practice is a lead site in the Commonwealth’s Health Care Home trial and the NSW Integrated Care project. He was awarded NSW RACGP GP of the year for 2017.

Debra and Wally feel privileged to have learnt from the leadership expertise of the Kings Fund and excited about the opportunity to work with the Collaborative Pairs Australia Demonstration Trial. They are optimistic about the potential of this program to build the capacity and expertise of

consumers and health professionals to work in genuine partnership to lead change and improve services that will improve health and wellbeing outcomes for everyone.

When: Interviews will occur in September with the first sessions to be held October and November 2018.

Where: Western Sydney venue to be confirmed.

How to Apply

We are seeking interested, enthusiastic consumers and health service providers who want to improve their collaborative practice and build effective partnerships to undertake this program.

Interested pairs are required to provide a brief written application (one application per pair) addressing the following criteria (no more than 100 words per criteria or 3 pages):

- Why do you want to undertake this program as a pair?
- What do you understand by “collaborative practice” and why is collaborative practice important to you both?
- Why have you chosen to work with each other? Can you provide a brief overview of either your individual and /or shared work history?
- What do you anticipate being your shared work challenge you will bring to the program?
- What do you hope to get out of participating in this program as a pair?
- How do you think your participation in this program will benefit your organisation and/or community?

Applicants must state their availability and commitment to attend all 5 sessions.

Applications, addressing the above criteria together with contact details and the names of 2 referees that are willing to support your joint application are to be emailed to consumers@wentwest.com.au

Employer Support

Successful applicants who are employees of a health, consumer or other organisation will need to provide written evidence of their employer’s support of their application, including agreement to be released from the workplace for the five training days and to support the pair’s chosen work challenge.

Fees and costs

Successful applicants will participate in this international training program at no cost.

Enquiries:

Melissa Gibson
(02) 8811 7100

consumers@wentwest.com.au

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