



Special Commission of Inquiry into Healthcare Funding

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Mental Health Coordinating Council

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Patrick Mullane

Special Counsel: Special Commission of Inquiry into Healthcare Funding

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Submission: Special Commission of Inquiry into Healthcare Funding

Dear Mr Mullane

MHCC is the peak body for community-managed mental health organisations in New South Wales. We represent community-based, non-government organisations who work to support people living with mental health conditions. Our members assist people to live well in the community by delivering psychosocial support and rehabilitation services. Our purpose is to support and advocate a strong and sustainable community-managed mental health sector that provides effective psychosocial, health and wellbeing programs and services to the people of NSW.

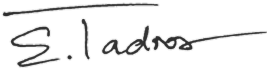
We thank you and Commissioner Beasley SC for accepting this letter as an expression of our interest to be included in further consultations about Healthcare Funding. The reason that we did not provide a more timely submission was that we had recently provided a submission to the Upper House [Inquiry into the equity, accessibility and appropriate delivery of outpatient and community mental health care in New South Wales](#) which addresses many of the areas of interface between the public and community-managed mental health sectors and raises concerns in relation to outcomes, funding and workforce shortages for our sector.

We have also just published a workforce strategy paper: [Mental Health Workforce Solutions: Towards a strategy for community-managed mental health in NSW](#). Both the Inquiry submission and the Workforce Strategy paper may well be of interest and relevance to your deliberations because they address many of the ways in which strategic funding could be directed, thus reducing the burden of disease in the community because of the impact of mental health challenges on people's lives and the use of public services. Our Inquiry submission also talks to the issues of the benefits and risks of online and telehealth services (p.15-16).

We would very much welcome the opportunity to participate in ongoing discussions and if you have any questions please don't hesitate to get in touch with me or my colleague Corinne Henderson, Director, Policy & Systems Reform at corinne@mhcc.org.au

We greatly look forward to hearing about the progress of the Inquiry and thank you for your interest in our perspectives.

Yours sincerely



Dr Evelyne Tadros
Chief Executive Officer
Mental Health Coordinating Council

