

2019 Submission - Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System

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What are your suggestions to improve the Victorian community's understanding of mental illness and reduce stigma and discrimination?

"Lack of mental, police, and other agencies support "

What is already working well and what can be done better to prevent mental illness and to support people to get early treatment and support?

Very little support in a time of crisis

What is already working well and what can be done better to prevent suicide?

Not much at all from organisations outside of immediate family.

What makes it hard for people to experience good mental health and what can be done to improve this? This may include how people find, access and experience mental health treatment and support and how services link with each other.

"Lack of information to families due to ""privacy issues"". The victim take minimal responsibility for their illness. "

What are the drivers behind some communities in Victoria experiencing poorer mental health outcomes and what needs to be done to address this?

"More awareness and information/Dx be made available to significant other ie: parents, so that they are involved and can develop coping strategies and hopefully prevent a suicide. "

What are the needs of family members and carers and what can be done better to support them?

"To know what is happening with the individual, who is suffering mental illness. Parents/Carers need to know so that sufferers are compliant with Medical/Clinical/Police instructions. Some don't/won't comply with instructions. As parents/Carers we are not privy to the necessary information."

What can be done to attract, retain and better support the mental health workforce, including peer support workers?

Increase the success rate in preventing suicide.

What are the opportunities in the Victorian community for people living with mental illness to improve their social and economic participation, and what needs to be done to realise these opportunities?

Make them feel valued

Thinking about what Victorias mental health system should ideally look like, tell us what areas and reform ideas you would like the Royal Commission to prioritise for change?

As above

What can be done now to prepare for changes to Victorias mental health system and support improvements to last?

"Overhaul the current system to reflect the needs of next of Kin, so they are part of any treatment.

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Is there anything else you would like to share with the Royal Commission?

"I have written document of my experience dealing with my son. They are about him, his behaviours, our dealings with Victoria Police and the Coroners Court of Victoria post My Sons suicide "