

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

Organisation Name

N/A

Name

Mrs Alice Jasper

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

"- Explain to the community that literally anyone can be admitted, against their will, to a hospital' & that it is ok to not do anything that the doctor wants you to do in order for you to get better. - Set significant jail terms for doctors who admit "

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?

Possibly the free help-lines such as Beyond Blue etc

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

See above.

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.

Unsure.

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

'- Lack of housing. - Drug addiction. - Lack of suitable employment. - Drought conditions.

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

"- Believe children when they say a parent is not well. - Provide practical help to children of mentally ill parents, such as admission into foster care. "

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

Unsure.

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?

More community based programs.

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

- PLEASE introduce jail terms for doctors who involuntarily admit children to hospital' then they are clearly physically ill. This must also be applied retrospectively. Example: deprivation of liberty. - Please don't call a psychiatric hospital a h

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

'- Appropriately train doctors. - Educate police as to when someone says they have been held against their will be a doctor to believe them. - Educate the public.

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

Please introduce jail terms for doctors who admit physically ill children to psychiatric care.