

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

SUB: 0002.0030.0147

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

N/A

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?

N/A

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

N/A

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.

"My wife experienced traumatic experience in the early hours of Saturday 22nd June 2019 when she was woken by being dragged off her bed by the wrists by another patient, bumping her head and getting a fracture of her spine plus multiple bruising. My wife is 72 years of age and weighs in the order of 98k and she was dragged by the wrists, head first and on her back for at least 22 meters. She was fully mobile when entering the [REDACTED] Hospital [REDACTED] and being put in the [REDACTED] -to have her medication adjusted and this has been accomplished and she is well again, however she cannot lift her feet or turn them to walk and will need extensive rehabilitation. The man had broken a window and climbed through into the nurses station, caused a lot of damage there with a fire extinguisher. The staff had retreated to another room off the nurses station and locked the door for their own safety. The man was then able to access the patients area by a door and made his way to my wife's room and assaulted her believe the police arrive 20 minutes later and tasered the man and took him away and he is to be charged. This info has been given to me by the staff and my own observations. I have asked for copies of reports etc but have not yet got them"

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

Provide more funding to support the workforce AND PROVIDE SAFETY FOR PATIENTS

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?

N/A

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?

SAFETY FOR PATIENTS WHEN IN CARE

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

N/A

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

My anger at the traumatic experience that my wife went through because the system failed her. It is only yesterday 4th July and today that she has been able to cry and shed some tears and I am deeply concerned about how this experience may affect her in the future.