

# Carer Guide Project Communique

July 2019

## Exciting news for service providers and organisations

The Network is pleased to announce that we have been funded by Mind Australia and HelpingMinds to undertake a six month project until October 2019 to influence sector wide implementation of the Practical Guide for Working with Carers of People with a Mental Illness

[www.carerguide.com.au](http://www.carerguide.com.au)

### Key Project Activities will include:

- Reviewing the demonstration projects undertaken in SA, TAS, VIC and WA
- Highlighting outcomes and key learnings from demonstration projects
- Creating a resource guide and pack of resources available to state partners for consistent implementation of the guide
- Seeking funding opportunities for Guide implementation
- Developing a national implementation plan for the Guide
- Developing marketing and communication plans

The Guide aims to support mental health professionals to engage and work with families, carers and significant others in a partnership approach in accordance with a number of national, state and territory policies and legislation.

Implementation of the Partnership Standards within the Guide and use of the self-assessment tools provides evidence to Accreditation Agencies of the organisation's ability to meet some of the criteria within the National Safety and Quality in Healthcare Standards 2nd Edition and the National Standards for Mental Health Services - Standard 7: Carers. Implementing the Guide assists in driving the national safety and quality improvements in a cost-effective manner. The Guide and the self-assessment tools assist organisations to determine how they are progressing in relation to carer inclusion and prepares them for implementation of the Carer Experience Survey (CES).

Since the Guide was created in 2015 a number of resources have been developed to assist and support implementation.



Private Mental Health  
Consumer Carer Network (Australia)  
*engage, empower, enable choice in private mental health*

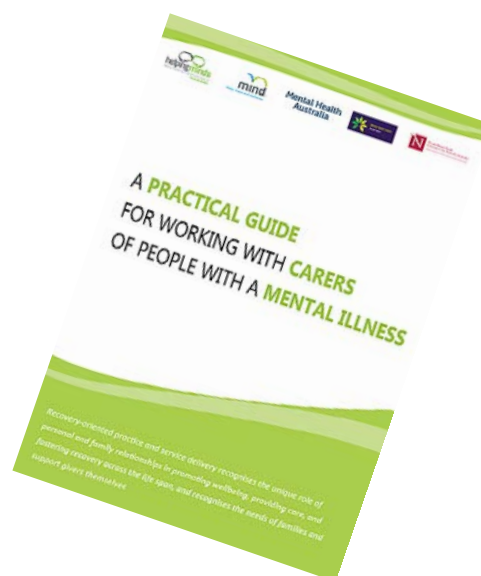
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Resources now available include:

- E-learning modules including an introduction to the guide and one module for each of the 6 Partnership Standards,
- An App enabling self-assessment and organisational reporting including progress in meeting the partnership standards
- An online library providing key implementation resources, training programs, fact sheets, research, reports and more
- Reports for each of the demonstration projects that were implemented across public and private mental health services in South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and Western Australia.

All of these resources are accessible from the online library [www.workingwithfamiliesandcarers.com.au](http://www.workingwithfamiliesandcarers.com.au)

The demonstration projects have been implemented in very different ways. A review of the projects is currently being undertaken and will provide valuable insights and key learnings to guide future implementation. Copies of the report will be available from the online library.



Have you started implementing the Guide or are you considering implementation? We would love to hear from you to help us collect stories of practice. Contact us via the contact details provided below. We will keep you updated on the project with further communiques available from the online library.

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