

## Expression of Interest (EOI) Network Community Engagement Committees (Inland and Coastal)

### Can you help us improve community engagement across Southern NSW?

Southern NSW Local Health District (SNSWLHD) has committed to strengthening its community engagement and is looking for enthusiastic community members to join our two new Network Community Engagement Committees (CECs) – one for the Inland Network and one for the Coastal Network.

Effective community engagement enables our health service to plan, design and deliver services that meet the needs of local communities.

The CECs will:

- Provide input to assist the Board and executive continue to build a quality health service that meets the needs of local communities.
- Support and advocate for effective community engagement across each Network and liaise with local Community Engagement Working Groups
- Identify emerging issues and community concerns
- Represent diverse views and perspectives
- Strengthen partnerships and collaborations
- Build on existing community engagement activities including SNSWLHD's Community Engagement Working Groups (CEWGs, formerly Community Consultation Committees)
- Work with the organisation to ensure the LHD appropriately responds to the NSW Regional Health Strategic Plan 2022-2032 (Priority 4. Keep communities informed, build engagement, seek feedback) which identifies targeted strategies and priority actions to strengthen regional health outcomes over the next decade.

### Objectives

The objectives of the Network CECs are:

- Encourage and support effective community engagement across SNSWLHD's sites, services and planning
- Support the expansion and strengthening of SNSWLHD's community engagement to reach diverse audiences and ensure two-way dialogue
- Advise the LHD Board and Executive of community views and perspectives relating to existing and proposed plans, policies and initiatives for health services in the District
- Monitor issues raised by community members, community groups and CEWGs

- Provide expertise, feedback and diverse perspectives to improve SNSWLHD communications, consultation and engagement
- Advise on development of partnerships to strengthen response to community and health consumer needs
- Respond to NSW Health's Strengthening local health committees report's five guiding principles:
  - Commitment to community
  - Collaborative partnerships
  - Committee-led action
  - Committee members as champions
  - A culture of learning and improvement

## Composition and appointment

Network CEC members will have the necessary skills to participate in a strategic committee environment and, collectively, they will represent the interests of a broad cross-section of the SNSWLHD community. Nominations will be considered by senior executive and appointments recommended to the Board.

Health consumer training will be provided when necessary.

Each Network Community Engagement Committee will include:

- Chair – elected by the Committee
- Deputy Chair – elected by the Committee
- 12 Community representatives (including Chair and Deputy Chair)

## Meeting Schedule and Procedures

Meetings will be held quarterly.

Each committee member has a term of 2 years. It is expected that members would serve no more than three terms (6 years). Committee members may resign at any time within the term. A letter of resignation is expected stating this request.

Meetings will be held in person within the Network area with the option to join online via Teams.

## Your skills and experience

We are looking for members who:

- Want to make a positive contribution to improving local health services
- Are able to think about health services as part of a Coastal/Inland network and wider state and federal system
- Willing to analyse information and apply it to represent a broad/diverse community view
- Can constructively raise concerns and contribute to helping SNSWLHD find solutions to problems
- Can keep sensitive information confidential

- Represent the diversity and geographical spread of our communities

### **Pre-requisites**

- To attend a meeting as a community participant you will need to provide evidence of having received COVID-19 vaccination.
- Complete a National Police Check. Southern NSW Local Health District will pay for and arrange this check.
- Sign a Code of Conduct and a Confidentiality and Privacy Agreement
- To join meetings virtually, you will require access to a computer with a working microphone and camera.

### **How to apply**

For further information, please contact:

Director Media and Communications

Email: [SNSWLHD-communications@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:SNSWLHD-communications@health.nsw.gov.au)