

This fact sheet describes the support that is available to help establish and sustain MHPN networks across Australia.

MHPN networks

MHPN works with practitioners to establish and support interdisciplinary mental health networks across metropolitan, rural, regional and remote Australia.

These locally-driven networks aim to improve consumer outcomes by promoting collaboration between people working in primary mental health care.

To be supported by the MHPN project, networks must have a mental health focus and aim to:

- > include three or more members from relevant disciplines, including a General Practitioner (GP)
- > meet on a regular basis, ideally a minimum of four times per year.

MHPN support

MHPN provides networks with:

- > financial support
- > administrative support
- > resources and tools.

Financial support

Networks have access to the following each financial year:

- > All networks will be eligible for up to \$400 which is generally used to help pay for venue hire, catering and guest speakers (i.e. \$100 per meeting, over four meetings)
- > Those networks that have more than 15 attendees at each meeting may be

eligible for an additional grant of up to \$75 per meeting, over four meetings.

- > Those networks located in a rural or remote area (defined by ASGC-RA 3-5) may also be eligible for an additional grant of up to \$75 per meeting, over four meetings.

Note: all amounts exclude GST.

Administrative support

MHPN's team of project officers can help with practical administration tasks, as well as provide guidance and support to the network's coordinator.

Administration support includes undertaking tasks like:

- > sending meeting invitations
- > collating meeting RSVPs
- > providing electronic Certificates of Attendance to meeting attendees after the meeting
- > emailing a PDF of a Member Directory to meeting attendees after the meeting.

Guidance and support might include:

- > providing advice with planning future meetings, engaging guest speakers and succession planning for coordinators as required
- > suggestions and support to help deal with specific challenges that affect the network's ability to function successfully.

FACT SHEET

MHPN network support

Resources and tools

MHPN has developed tools and resources that can help grow and develop networks.

These generally fall into the categories of facilitating meetings and providing ideas for content at network meetings.

Tools to help facilitate the network:

- > frameworks to support network sustainability
- > planning tool to help coordinate meeting dates and topics for discussion
- > survey tools to help engage network members in the planning process
- > survey tools to gather network member feedback.

Meeting content resources:

- > access to a psychiatrist perspective through a number of sources
- > a range of MHPN webinar recordings
- > a suite of case studies
- > resources brokered through our partner organisations.

Did you know...

MHPN also provides mental health practitioners with free professional development through its webinar series.

Visit www.mhpn.org.au to learn more.

About MHPN

A not-for-profit organisation, MHPN is funded by the Commonwealth Government Department of Health and Ageing.

Its purpose is to support improved consumer outcomes by establishing and sustaining interdisciplinary networks across Australia to enhance collaborative mental health care.

The project currently supports approximately 450 networks Australia wide, 44% of which are located in regional, rural and remote areas. Learn more about MHPN at www.mhpn.org.au.

Mental Health
Professionals' Network

telephone
1800 209 031

www.mhpn.org.au