

Trans and Gender Diverse Peer Support Community Reference Group

Expression of Interest - due 5pm Friday 10th July

We acknowledge that TGV meets on the lands of the Wurundjeri and Boonwurrung people and may occur on the lands of other Aboriginal nations in the colonial states of Victoria. We acknowledge Aboriginal people as the traditional owners with continuing connection to these lands. Their sovereignty has never been ceded. We respectfully recognise the Elders of these nations: past, present and future.

Background

We're delivering the Trans and Gender Diverse Peer Support Program to improve the lives of people in our communities across Victoria. This sits alongside the establishment of two multidisciplinary gender clinics (or 'Care Hubs'), and skills development and training for healthcare professionals.

All three initiatives are part of the Victorian Government's reform agenda to expand inclusive health services for the trans and gender diverse community.

Community Reference Group

The Program's **Community Reference Group (CRG)** represents a diverse range of lived experience and perspectives from across our communities. They share their knowledge and offer guidance on peer-support practices and delivery of successful programs.

These initiatives and strategies will form part of our mapping of support services and ways that they can improve and will continually feed into strategies guiding what we can all do better. Members will be paid an honorarium, plus reimbursement of travel expenses.

Recruitment of additional members

Due in part to the impact of COVID-19, the composition of the Community Reference group has changed over time and the need to recruit new members has been identified. A limited number of additional places on the CRG have become available that community members can now apply for.

The TGD Peer Support Community Reference Group reports to the Expert Program Steering Committee and has four aims, being to increase or improve:

- **capacity and resources of a state wide network**
- **connections between peer support services and the health system**
- **capacity and resilience to serve clients and community**
- **health and wellbeing for all trans and gender diverse Victorians.**

The CRG will work to ensure comprehensive community ownership and governance of targeted program activities to support increased health and wellbeing outcomes for trans and gender diverse Victorians.

We aim to help ensure diverse voices and perspectives are represented on the CRG that reflect breadth of diversity within trans and gender diverse communities.

This includes (but is not limited to) **people who identify as Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, a person of colour, living with a disability, or neurodivergent.**

We're also eager to hear from perspectives with **experience of living in regional and rural Victoria, prisons and corrections, sex workers, seniors, and parents/carers.**

The above is not an exhaustive list of the many identities and perspectives within our communities. We recognise that categorisation can, in itself, be limited and does not necessarily reflect all experiences.

Members of the Community Reference Group must be able to work constructively with others who bring different viewpoints and perspectives. Racism, ableism, and other forms of discrimination are not tolerated within the CRG, and we aim to foster a safe and inclusive environment for all participating in the Program wherever possible.

Accessibility

Due to COVID-19, CRG meetings need to take place remotely at this time. We recognise that digital meeting platforms may not be suitable and accessible for everyone, and are eager to find ways to meet competing access needs within limitations of program. We also welcome feedback and recommendations from members of our communities.

To Apply

Please send your CV and a cover letter describing your interest, community experience, and why you'd like to get involved in representing community on the CRG **to peersupport@tgv.org.au by 5pm on Friday the 10th of July 2020.**

Let us know how you engage with your peers in community or local spaces and any skills and experience you may bring to the CRG including but not limited to:

- Organisational skills
- Networking or group facilitation skills
- Experience of being involved in peer support groups, especially for LGBTIQ+ or trans and gender diverse focus groups
- Capacity to inspire and lead
- Strategies for bringing people together across differences
- Mediating compromise in the name of collective wellbeing

Further Questions?

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with us at **peersupport@tgv.org.au**