**Consumer Inclusive Research – Consumer Reference Group**

**Expression of Interest**

**Closing date**

 **9am Friday 20th September 2019**

**About us**

**The Hopkins Centre is recruiting 8 consumer representatives on a Consumer Inclusive Research - Consumer Reference Group.**

**The Hopkins Centre: Research for Rehabilitation and Resilience**

*The Hopkins Centre: Research for Rehabilitation and Resilience* is a joint initiative of Griffith University and the Division of Rehabilitation, Metro South Hospital and Health Service. *Read more about the Hopkins Centre on* [*www.hopkinscentre.edu.au*](http://www.hopkinscentre.edu.au) *and in Appendix 1.*

The Hopkins Centre is conducting research on **“Supporting the ethical inclusion of people with acquired disability in research: Consumer informed approaches”**. We invite consumers and community members to join a reference group which will support and guide us in this project. *For more information on the project see Appendix 2.*

**We cannot and should not do our research without including you, so we are asking for your help.**

**Consumer Reference Group**

**What is the purpose of the consumer reference group?**

* To help us *design and run* the research
* To *be an active member*; contribute your skills and knowledge to the research study
* To *help design an online survey*
* To *help plan for focus groups*
* To *assist in interpretation and translation of results* to create useable guides on how to conduct ethically inclusive research for researchers and research participants
* To *be available for one-to-one discussions* with members of the research team if necessary

**Who is it for?**

**Membership**

This opportunity would suit a consumer who has a particular interest in research.

We are recruiting *8 consumers or carers* from a variety of backgrounds to participate in a maximum of *4 meetings* to be held over approximately *6 months via teleconference or web based*.

**Experience and qualities we are looking for**

Applications from a range of people and groups is encouraged.

* Able to speak about the experiences of people with an acquired disability.
* Able to take part in online meetings; small amount of computer literacy is required and access to a computer and the internet.
* Able to provide constructive feedback to the research team.

**Meetings**

**Meeting format**

The committee will be a virtual working group with meetings conducted via teleconference or web meeting solutions. Some work will also be completed via email.

**Frequency of meetings**

* Attend 4 x 1-1 ½ hour virtual meetings and conduct approximately 1 hour of reading of relevant material for each meeting (where necessary). Time and date to be decided.
* Every effort will be made to fit the timing, format and needs of members. The meetings will be friendly and informal.

Supporting papers will be provided to applicants before the committee meets.

**Payment and reimbursement**

Reimbursement is available at $187 per meeting 4 hours and under. This covers pre-reading and pre- and post- meeting support as required.

**How to apply**

Please complete the Expression of Interest form on the following pages and return to Dr Gary Allen at The Hopkins Centre via g.allen@griffith.edu.au by 9am Friday 20th September 2019 .

For queries relating to the Reference Group or assistance completing this Expression of Interest, please contact Gary Allen at The Hopkins Centre via g.allen@griffith.edu.au or by phone on c/o 3735 2069.

**Consumer Application Form**

**Consumer Inclusive Research Reference Group**

Full name:

Preferred phone number:

Email:

Postal address:

Postcode:

* By completing this application, I consent for my details to be added to The Hopkins Centre YES | NO
* I would like to receive email updates from Health Consumers Queensland YES | NO
* Would you like us to retain this application for future vacancies? *(Applications not retained are destroyed once the application process is complete.)* YES | NO

Please highlight any group you identify as being a part of:

* Living with a disability/chronic condition
* Caring for someone with a disability
* Physically isolated or transport disadvantaged
* Culturally or linguistically diverse
* From a non-English speaking background

Do you identify as: Aboriginal | Torres Strait Islander | Both | Prefer not to state

Are you a: Consumer | Carer

Age range: 16-24 25-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60-69 70+

Please describe any support you need to take part in this activity *(examples include support person, hearing loop, dietary requirements)*

*Your responses to the following questions only need to be a brief sentence or two*

* Please describe your experience as a health consumer representative including committees, focus groups, surveys, governance roles, etc.

*Tip: Past consumer representative positions that have similar requirements to the opportunity you’re expressing interest in. Give an indication of how long each position was for, and any relevant highlights.*

* Please describe any experience you have of research as either a participant or researcher
* **Please describe any connections you have to your community (e.g. networks, groups)***Tip: Think about how this relates to the role you’re applying for.*
* Please describe your interest in in being a part of this reference group?

*Tip: Although this section usually requires the longest response, try to keep it concise. Things to consider focusing on here include:*

* *any past lived experience that shows your understanding of the topic, or*
* *your understanding of the social/health/economic implications of the topic/condition, or*
* *Any systems change that you have identified that will improve care for health consumers, and possible strategies you could share to affect that change.*

**Appendix 1**

**What is The Hopkins Centre?**

The Hopkins Centre: Research for Rehabilitation and Resilience is a joint initiative of Griffith University and the Division of Rehabilitation, Metro South Hospital and Health Service. Our researchers focus on research to benefit people with brain injury, spinal cord injury, amputation, persistent pain and other chronic disabling conditions that have lifelong implications for individuals, families, carers, support services and the community.

The Centre is leading the way in interdisciplinary and applied research that examines disability and rehabilitation practices, services and systems.  It provides a vehicle for driving improvements in service delivery by facilitating research that is embedded in practice. Our research is built upon 21 years of rehabilitation research and partnerships across Queensland and in 10 different countries.

Our hubs at Princess Alexandra Hospital, Woolloongabba, Griffith University, Logan, Gold Coast Hospital, Gold Coast nurture sustainable partnerships and respectful sharing of knowledge and expertise, enabling the Centre to continually expand its potential and impact of research. We are ideally positioned at the interface of research, clinical practice and the community, bringing together experienced rehabilitation practitioners, service users, community practitioners, policy makers and leading academic researchers.

The approach and structure of the Centre enhances timely translation of knowledge into new ways of working and improved outcomes for people living with chronic disabilities and complex health conditions.

**Research title: Supporting ethical inclusion of people with acquired disability in research: consumer informed approaches**

**Appendix 2**

**What are the aims of the project?**

The objective of the study is to explore the respectful use of co-design and consumer-led approaches in traditional research processes. We are aiming to develop practical frameworks that can be used by researchers and participants during the research process. These will essentially be “how to” guides that will:

1. inform research participants about research processes. Particularly, people who have additional vulnerabilities because of disabilities, especially disabilities such as head injury, spinal cord injury, neuro-cognitive disorders and mental health.; and
2. support researchers to optimally include these people throughout the research process.
3. Support research ethics committees to optimally include, whilst still protecting, participants and consumers in research.