

Shared Advocacy Spaces

Commitments to you and each other



Confidentiality and respect for privacy

We respect each individual's privacy and confidentiality, unless there is a real and present concern for individual safety. We will discuss confidentiality limits early and clarify what can be shared within broader networks. As a general rule "what is discussed in a group stays in the group" to ensure privacy of those participating. Our discussions focus on getting to the issues that are important to us as a group; identifying who said what is not needed. Each person makes their own choice about what they share.

Create trusting environments

We understand the importance of being supportive and creating a trusting environment when we come together; one where diversity thrives. Considering each person's culture, beliefs, values and personal space is important, especially when we have experienced or continue to experience trauma within systems, loss of agency and choice, distress, or are simply managing the ongoing ups and downs of our lived and living experiences. We listen to each other's perspectives to understand and learn from each other.

Listen and speak without judgement

We allow each other time to talk and listen without judgment. We demonstrate tolerance, openness, compassion, empathy and respect for ourselves and each other.

Provide accessible, timely and transparent Information

We will provide clear information about the aims for each meeting, and what we will do with peoples' contributions. This includes providing reading materials, agenda, minutes, etc. in a timely way so people come to meetings in informed and ready to contribute positively, and leave feeling their contributions have been valued.

We strive to create together

We strive to use co-design and co-production whenever possible when we engage with people who identify with lived or living experience as consumers, families, carers or kin, and with sector stakeholders more broadly. We recognise that co-creation strives to set aside power structures and hierarchies that may otherwise silence some voices and preference others. We commit to value all contributions.

Support during and beyond our time together

Meetings will, where relevant, have a peer support person available who will be identified at the beginning of the meeting. We respect people's wishes to access this support or not. We encourage people to access the support structures and systems that work best for them, which may include identified contacts below, or those within an individual's own support network or preferred provider.

- Lifeline Phone 13 11 14 or Text 0477 13 11 14 [Lifeline](#)
- Beyond Blue Phone 1300 22 46 36 or online via [Beyond Blue](#)
- Suicide Callback Service Phone 1300 659 467 or [SCS Online Chat](#)
- The Carer Gateway Counselling Service 1800 422 737 or [Carer Gateway](#)
- 13 Yarn for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person/peoples [13YARN](#)

Remunerate people for their lived and living expertise and contributions

We are committed to remunerating individuals for their lived and living expertise and contributions. Activities facilitated by Lived Experience Australia will include remuneration to individuals at rates aligned with agreed standards (wherever possible) with remuneration identified prior to engagement. We will process all payments within a maximum of 7 working days.