

Role Description

Carer Representation Program



Role title	Carer Representative
Reports to	Carer Representation Advisor
Hours of participation	Varies depending on the committee meeting requirements
Overview	Carer Representatives voice the carer perspective and take part in decision making on behalf of Western Australian carers. They represent the broader carer perspective rather than a purely personal perspective.

Carer Representatives are supported by, but do not represent the views of Carers Association of WA Inc. (Carers WA).

Carers WA nominate Carer Representatives based on the requirements of each committee and the experience, interests and availability of carers who have expressed interest in acting as a Carer Representative.

Responsibilities

- Have direct lived experience of being a Carer as defined in the Carers Recognition Act (2004)
- Have a broad understanding of the issues faced by carers
- Have some experience and understanding of the matters dealt with by the committee in which they participate
- Be willing to represent and articulate the carer perspective at a committee level
- Be prepared to work with Carers WA and other relevant networks to consult more widely with carers as appropriate to the work of the committee in which they participate
- Be prepared to work with a wide range of service providers, consumers and other stakeholders in a perceptive, understanding and constructive manner

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- Have some understanding of the Australian and Western Australian health and/or mental health system or be willing to develop knowledge/skills in this area
- Have an understanding of the Carers Recognition Act (2004) and its implications for the WA Department of Health, public hospitals and mental health services or be willing to develop knowledge/skills in this area
- Have experience of, or be familiar with, meeting processes or be willing to develop knowledge/skills in this area
- Have previous experience of acting as a Carer Representative or be willing to participate in Carer Representative professional development provided by Carers WA
- Be willing to provide feedback to Carers WA on carer-related issues that arise from their participation, within the bounds of required confidentiality.

Requirements

- Abide by Carers WA Code of Conduct for Carer Representatives
- Must be able to commit to meetings/committee schedules
- Must be able to attend Orientation and ongoing workshops
- When possible, attend Carer Representation Network Meetings at Carers WA
- Allow Carers WA to seek a Police Clearance if required

Reimbursements

A participation payment for endorsed committee meetings and an agreed travel reimbursement is available upon completion of appropriate paperwork for time committed to preparation for and participation in meetings. These are to be completed within 2 weeks of the meeting and forwarded to Carers WA together with a feedback form for each meeting undertaken.

Participation payments are regarded as income and may affect benefits if you are receiving a pension or allowance. You should check with Centrelink how this affects you.