Translational Research and Innovation Advisory Panel (TRIAP)

***Applications close at 11:59PM, Wednesday 18 December***

The Victorian Collaborative Centre for Mental Health and Wellbeing (the Collaborative Centre) is inviting Expressions of Interest (EOI) from individuals with a broad range of experiences and expertise in mental health and wellbeing research to join the Translational Research and Innovation Advisory Panel (TRIAP).

TRIAP will support the Collaborative Centre and its Co-CEOs in implementing its inaugural [*Translational Research Strategy 2024-2027*](https://www.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2024-10/VCCMHW_Translational-Research_FA-1-web.pdf) (the Strategy) and accompanying action plans to ensure alignment between research activities and the strategic goals, 3-year focus area, work pillars and the implementation principles outlined in the Strategy.

This document has four sections:

1. About the Collaborative Centre

2. About TRIAP

3. Application Process

4. Expressions of Interest form

## About the Collaborative Centre

The Collaborative Centre is a Victorian statutory authority, led by a skills-based Board who report to the Minister for Mental Health.

**We exist to drive ground-breaking change to Victoria’s mental health and wellbeing system** and ensure people receive better mental health and wellbeing support through collaborating and learning together. To do this, we are bringing together people with lived experience, researchers and experts in multidisciplinary clinical and non-clinical care to develop and advise on best practice within the adult and older adult mental health sector to conduct research and disseminate knowledge across the mental health and wellbeing sector.

For more information about the Collaborative Centre’s functions, Board and Lived Experiences Advisory Panel (LEAP), please visit the Collaborative Centre website: <http://www.vccmhw.vic.gov.au>.

**Translational Research at the Collaborative Centre**

The Collaborative Centre’s Translational Research program aims to bridge the gap between research innovation and practice. It has an important role in translating the existing knowledge base and the evidence of lived experience and clinical wisdom into improvements in the quality of mental health treatment, care and support for all Victorians. The Collaborative Centre aims to lead, conduct and collaborate on translational, interdisciplinary research, and will share this evidence with the sector and the community. This program of work is being established by the Collaborative Centre’s Translational Research Team and is articulated by the Centre’s Translational Research Strategy and accompanying action plans.

The Strategy comprises four key elements.

1. **Strategic Goals**: these are clear high-level statements that articulate what success looks like for the Collaborative Centre and reflect our ambitions.
2. **3-year focus area:** represents the areas and research themes that the Collaborative Centre will prioritise over the next 3 years. The initial priority will be translational research supporting models of care for adults and older adults needing ongoing, intensive forms of mental health and wellbeing care, support and treatment, as well as their carers, family, supporters and kin. For this group, translational research priorities will consider:

* community based and hybrid models of care.
* supporting and amplifying culturally responsive, intersectional approaches to care for:
  + First Nations people and communities
  + diverse communities, including those who are culturally and linguistically diverse, LGBTIQA+SB communities, people with disability and neurodiverse/neurodivergent communities
  + priority populations impacted by intersecting layers of disadvantage, such as people with alcohol and other drugs (AOD) use, people experiencing homelessness, women and gender-diverse people, and those impacted by sexual and/or family violence.
* elimination of seclusion and restraint and reducing compulsory treatment.
* the development of dedicated supports for carers, families, supporters and kin.

1. **Work Pillars and Actions:** these set out the work and actions needed to progress the Collaborative Centre’s goals.
2. **Implementation Principles:** these guide the Collaborative Centre’s research activities and specify what needs to change across the mental health and wellbeing system to enable us to achieve our goals. They reflect the voices of people with lived and living experiences and indicate key drives and influences on progress towards our strategic goals.

For further information, please refer to the [Strategy in full](https://www.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2024-10/VCCMHW_Translational-Research_FA-1-web.pdf). The Strategy will be complemented by annual action plans that will provide detailed descriptions of research activities and the program of work.

**Lived Experience Research at the Collaborative Centre**

Core to the Collaborative Centre’s Strategy and research programs are the voices and knowledge of people with lived and living experiences, as well as their carers, families, supporters and kin.

There is an important role for the Collaborative Centre in leading exemplary practice in lived experience engagement, participation and leadership in research at all levels. This also involves the development of lived experience research as its own discrete discipline, supporting workforce development, career pathways and empowering those with lived experiences to lead research initiatives.

Championing lived experience in research permeates every aspect of the Collaborative Centre’s work and organisational practices.

## About TRIAP

TRIAP is a skills-based advisory panel, whose purpose is to provide expert advice to the Co-CEOs of the Collaborative Centre to inform decision-making aligned to the Translational Research Strategy and associated action plans. TRIAP will comprise external membership to ensure research projects are assessed impartially, transparently and without commercial advantage, consistent with the functions of the Collaborative Centre specified in the *Mental Health and Wellbeing Act 2022 (Victoria).*

TRIAP will support the implementation of the Strategy, overseeing the work pillars and action plans. TRIAP members will also monitor alignment of Strategy implementation and impact with the new outcomes and performance framework (when published by the Victorian Government).

As part of Strategy implementation, TRIAP responsibilities will include:

* reviewing the merit and alignment of strategic research proposals and other initiatives aligned with the Strategy that are supported by the Collaborative Centre.
* impartially evaluating applications for Translational Research Internships, PhD Scholarships and Postdoctoral Fellowships offered by the Collaborate Centre to embed research translation into service delivery.
* providing input into specific initiatives, such as the review of content for the Collaborative Centre’s new Knowledge Sharing Platform, or practice guides to support workforce education and professional development.

**Meetings and Membership**

TRIAP meetings will be held once every two months or as otherwise requested by the TRIAP Chair to consider urgent matters or additional items. The Collaborative Centre prefers that TRIAP meetings are conducted in person; however, video conference or hybrid attendance may be made available as flexible attendance options. The duration of TRIAP meetings will be two hours and will involve up to two hours of reading material to review in advance.

TRIAP members are appointed by the Co-CEOs of the Collaborative Centre for a period of up to two years, commencing from the date of appointment. In addition to TRIAP members, a member of the Collaborative Centre’s Board may attend TRIAP meetings as an observer to ensure alignment with strategic objectives.

**Remuneration**

In accordance with renumeration standards outlined in the *Appointment and Renumeration Guidelines 2023* (Guidelines), TRIAP members will be remunerated at a rate of $237 per day and the Chair at a rate of $276 per day. Members will be remunerated for one (1) day’s worth of engagement every two (2) months inclusive of any readings or preparatory work.

**Who are we looking for?**

TRIAP will consist of up to 12 people with a broad range of experiences and expertise in mental health and wellbeing research in Victoria. This includes, but is not limited to, people with demonstrated experience in the following areas:

* translational research
* lived experience research (consumer and/or carer)
* participatory research
* implementation and improvement science
* clinical/practice research
* regional/rural mental health and wellbeing
* the Collaborative Centre’s 3-year focus area (see ‘About the Collaborative Centre’).

It is desirable for TRIAP members to understand the Victorian public health system and the current reform agenda, following the outcomes of the Royal Commission into Victoria’s Mental Health System.

TRIAP will involve researchers who work from lived experience perspectives or are demonstrated allies of people with lived experience and are committed to working in partnership towards systemic change.

Half of the panel roles are designated lived experience roles. This includes individuals with lived experiences of mental ill-health, psychological distress, addiction, and/or trauma, or those who have supported these individuals. It is intended that lived experience membership will comprise equal ‘consumer’ and ‘carer, family, supporter and kin’ representation.

The Collaborative Centre strongly encourages applications from diverse communities and other priority populations impacted by intersecting layers of oppression, as articulated in the Collaborative Centre’s 3-year focus area (see ‘About the Collaborative Centre).

TRIAP will be led by a Chair and Deputy Chair, with one of the roles being a designated lived experience role.

TRIAP membership will also include one designated member from each of the Collaborative Centre’s lead partner organisations, the Royal Melbourne Hospital and the University of Melbourne, as well as one designated member from the Centre’s reform partner, the Victorian Department of Health. Current employees of these organisations are encouraged to apply, but please note that partner organisations will lead the selection process for their designated candidates. This means that in this instance, any information a person provides as part of their EOI submission (including disclosure of lived experience) will be shared with the relevant lead or reform partner organisation to support their selection process. For more information about these designated lead partner roles, please see the TRIAP Terms of Reference.

Individuals who are already members of another Collaborative Centre board, committee, or advisory panel (e.g., the Lived Experiences Advisory Panel [LEAP]) are not eligible for TRIAP. However, members of both the Board and LEAP may be invited by the TRIAP Chair to contribute to meetings, and an observer from the Board will have the option to attend meetings.

## Application Process

***Applications close at 11:59pm, Wednesday 18 December***

Applications can be submitted through the following channels:

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| **Online form** | You can respond to the EOI questions [using the following online form.](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=H2DgwKwPnESciKEExOufKE1nY2Lou9JPuxffRLPIIK9UQ05GU0tXN0FLSjJMTEZEVkMzTjNMTkdHOS4u&route=shorturl)  After you have submitted this form, please email your CV to us as an attachment to: [collabcentre@vccmhw.vic.gov.au](mailto:collabcentre@vccmhw.vic.gov.au) |
| **Email** | Please send responses to the EOI question as well as your CV and/or any other supporting material to the Collaborative Centre at [collabcentre@vccmhw.vic.gov.au](mailto:collabcentre@vccmhw.vic.gov.au) |
| **Post** | You can send your responses to the EOI question as well as your CV and/or any other supporting material to Dean Kolovos (he/him), Senior Project Officer at the Collaborative Centre.  Post: 50 Lonsdale St, Melbourne VIC 3000 |

If you have any questions about the EOI or would like to discuss alternate ways to submit your EOI, please contact the Collaborative Centre at [collabcentre@vccmhw.vic.gov.au](mailto:collabcentre@vccmhw.vic.gov.au)

## Personal information collection notice

The Collaborative Centre is committed to protecting your privacy. The Collaborative Centre is collecting and handling personal information in this EOI form for the purposes of understanding the diversity of applicants and ensuring we have a broad range of experiences represented in TRIAP membership, as well as for the purpose of understanding the suitability of appointment to TRIAP.

The Collaborative Centre’s lead partners – the Royal Melbourne Hospital, the University of Melbourne – and the Victorian Department of Health have each been allocated one designated TRIAP role, and they will lead separate selection processes for choosing their designated candidates. If a person has identified that they are currently employed by one of these organisations, any information they have provided as part of their EOI submission (including disclosure of lived experience) will be shared with the relevant organisation to support the selection process.

If you are successful in being appointed to the TRIAP, your name will be published on the Collaborative Centre website and may be shared in emails to partners and the public. Your other personal information (such as whether you identify as Aboriginal, culturally diverse, LGBTIQA+ or living with disability) will not be shared with any external parties without your consent.

Please contact the Collaborative Centre at [collabcentre@vccmhw.vic.gov.au](mailto:collabcentre@vccmhw.vic.gov.au) if you have any questions about the handling of your personal information.

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| To receive this document in another format, email Victorian Collaborative Centre for Mental Health and Wellbeing <collabcentre@vccmhw.vic.gov.au>.  Authorised and published by the Victorian Collaborative Centre for Mental Health and Wellbeing,  50 Lonsdale St, Melbourne, 3000.  E: collabcentre@vccmhw.vic.gov.au |

## 2024 Expression of Interest Form: Translational Research and Innovation Advisory Panel (TRIAP)

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Personal details** | | |
| **Name** |  | |
| **Pronouns** |  | |
| **Gender** |  | |
| **Age range** | 18-25  26-59  65+  Prefer not to say | |
| **Location**  Local Government Area, Suburb or Postcode |  | |
| **Telephone** |  | |
| **Email Address** |  | |
| **TRIAP role** | |
| **Which, if any, of the Collaborative Centre’s partner organisations are you currently employed by?**  *(You may choose more than one)*  *Note: If you are employed by one of the listed partner organisations, please be aware that any information you have provided as part of your EOI submission (including disclosure of lived experience) will be shared with the partner organisation to support the selection process.* | Royal Melbourne Hospital  The University of Melbourne  The Victorian Department of Health  Does not apply |
| **Which of the following roles are you applying for?**  *(You may choose more than one)* | Member  Member (lived experience designated)  Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson |
| **Which of the following best describes your relationship with lived and living experience or lived expertise?**  *(You may choose more than one)* | I identify as having lived experiences of mental ill-health, psychological distress, addiction and/or trauma  I identify as having lived experiences as a carer, family, supporter or kin of someone who has lived experience of mental ill-health, psychological distress, addiction and/or trauma  I work from the perspective of lived expertise in a designated role such as consumer/carer academic, peer or lived experience researcher, or a similar position in a research setting.  I have experience working in partnership with people with lived and living experiences.  Prefer not to say.  Other (please describe): |
| **Which, if any, of the following groups do you identify with?**  *(You may choose more than one)* | Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander  Culturally and Linguistically Diverse  Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer, Asexual (LGBTIQA+)  Disability  Neurodiverse/neurodivergent  Prefer not to say.  Other – (please describe) |

## Please tell us more about yourself

*We recommend approx. 100–250 words for each response.*

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| **Why are you interested in joining TRIAP?** |
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| **What relevant professional, research and lived experiences would you bring to TRIAP?**  If applicable, please highlight any relevant experience or interest relating to the Collaborative Centre’s 3-year focus area (see ‘About the Collaborative Centre’). |
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| **Do you have prior experience with advisory groups, committees or boards? Please describe.**  If you are also applying for the role of Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson, please outline any relevant experience you have in leading or chairing similar opportunities. |
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*Please answer the question below if you identify as having a consumer or carer lived experience and/or if you work in a designated lived experience role in a research setting.*

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| **If successful, how will you champion lived experience as a member of TRIAP?** |
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*Please answer the question below if you do not identify as having a consumer or carer lived experience.*

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| **If successful, how will you work in partnership with people with diverse lived experiences as a member of TRIAP?** |
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