

NT Mental Health NGO Sector – 2024 Election Asks

Non Government Organisation Mental Health Sector Asks:

- **Delivery of a new NT Mental Health and Related Services Act** (including stakeholder engagement of a draft bill and proposed implementation and awareness raising of the bill)
- **Commitment to a Minister for Mental Health and Well Being**
- **Funding for an NT Lived experience network/peak body** (representing the collective experiences and perspectives of active services users and their family/kin)
- **Investment in Mental Health Workforce;**
 - Fund Cyclical and bespoke workplace initiatives
 - NT Lived experience workforce strategy
- **Support Closer to Home services** e.g “more Sub-Acute options and Safe Spaces”



137,600

Territorians are between the ages of 16 and 85 years



51.7%

or 71,000 Territorians (16-85 years) will experience a mental illness at some point during their lifetime



28.8%

or 29,600 Territorians (16-85 years) will experience mental illness during any given year¹



582

NDIS participants in the NT have a primary disability related to their mental illness²

The Northern Territory recorded the highest number of Mental health patients per 1,000³

24.6



The Northern Territory has the highest rate of burden of disease in Australia. 1 Mental health conditions contribute:

16.3%

of the burden of disease in the NT⁴

compared with the national average of

15.4³



compared nationally with

7.4%



There are only two lived experience positions in NT hospitals despite evidence to demonstrate peer workers have a 3:1 return on investment (for every \$1 spent, \$3 is saved).

The Northern Territory is the only state or territory government in Australia that does not recognise and support a ‘Consumer’ peak body.

¹<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/health/mental-health/national-study-mental-health-and-wellbeing/latest-release#prevalence-of-mental-disorders-by-state-and-territory>

²Quarterly Reports | NDIS

³state-and-territory-community-mental-health-care-2009-10.pdf (aihw.gov.au)

⁴Submission 408 - Northern Territory Council of Social Service (NTCOSS) - Mental Health - Public inquiry (pc.gov.au)