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AUTHORISED BY LLOYD WILLIAMS, STATE SECRETARY

31/03/2019

Knowledge is power. Keep your colleagues informed by printing this newsletter to put up on your workplace noticeboard.

BETTER MENTAL HEALTH IN MARCH

READ MORE ABOUT NEWS ACROSS THE MENTAL HEALTH SECTOR THIS MONTH

It's been a big month in for our mental health members. Our nurses and PSOs receive a pay increase during the first full pay period on or after April 1st 2019. Due to the success of our last **EBA campaign, this year, our nurses won increases of between 5-18%** *Read more about it on our website*

Our campaign for **Better Mental Health** is continuing along this month, with visits to multiple politicians. We're lobbying the government to improve the sector NOW, rather than wait for the outcome of the Royal Commission.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS

Community Consultations have been announced and we're hoping you can attend one near you.

Consultations taking place in the next two weeks include Whittlesea, Pakenham, Hamilton and Geelong.

Register NOW to attend a community consultation near you or find out more or go to rcvmhs.vic.gov.au

It's important that HACSU members attend these consultations to provide insights to the Government about your work and the issues facing the sector.

We know there will be a lot of voices to be heard throughout the Royal Commission process. In order to get the best possible outcomes for the workforce, increase services and staffing and stop violence in mental health **we need YOU as front-line workers to raise your voices!**

HACSU WORKFORCE SURVEY

Very soon you'll receive a survey from us relating to workplace issues in the mental health sector.

We need EVERY MEMBER to complete the survey.

It's important that we hear about your experiences in the sector so we can gather opinions from all workers from different disciplines and regions in the State. In the meanwhile, you can read all about our proposals for the Royal Commission.

Go to our [website](#) or check your email to read our proposals and let us know when you complete the survey if there are other proposals we need to make in the Royal Commission.

HACSU NEWS

THE MENTAL HEALTH UNION



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Did you put forward a submission to the Terms of Reference? We want to hear from you! hacsu@hacsu.asn.au

The **Mental Health Royal Commission website** has launched and community consultations will begin soon starting in Whittlesea on April 5th, Pakenham on April 9th and Hamilton on April 11-12th. A full list of community consultation dates can be found at the end of this article.

We're also lobbying Peninsula Health to **STOP STAFFING CUTS** at Frankston CCU because we think no services should be losing staff at a time when the government has agreed the sector is in crisis!

Beginning in early May, the **Prehospital Response of Mental Health and Paramedic Team (PROMPT)** pilot will be rolled out in the Greater Geelong area. Barwon Health received funding by the Department to operate alongside Ambulance Victoria, running this three-month pilot extension of the existing PACER program. This is as a result of the 5,360 cases that paramedics respond to in 2018 that were flagged as 'mental health' events, equating to 15 cases a day.

We're excited about this pilot and are hopeful it may be considered for extension to other areas in Victoria! For members currently employed by Barwon Health, please be aware that an EOI email will be sent to all Access Clinicians and recruitment for the backfill has commenced. Please contact your HACSU Delegate for more information.

There are also two big training events now open for registration, being the **Collaborative Conference** and the **International Mental Health Conference (QLD)**. We'd recommend registering ASAP if you're keen to attend! Also don't forget that HACSU provides free training to all members! You can read more about the training available on our website or talk to your HACSU Organiser.

You can follow along the campaign by going to bettermentalhealth.org.au or on our social media pages.

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Community Consultation Dates:

Friday 5 April - *Whittlesea*

Tuesday 9 April - *Pakenham*

Thursday 11 April – Friday 12 April - *Hamilton*

Monday 15 April - *Geelong*

Tuesday 16 April - *Ballarat*

Wednesday 17 April - *Sunshine*

Wednesday 1 May - *Mildura*

Wednesday 1 May - *Swan Hill*

Friday 3 May - *Melbourne*

Tuesday 7 May - *Dandenong*

Wednesday 8 May - *St Kilda*

Wednesday 8 May - *Preston*

Thursday 9 May - *Werribee*

Thursday 9 May - *Melbourne CBD*

Tuesday 14 May - *Healesville*

Tuesday 14 May - *Seymour*

Thursday 16 May - *Shepparton*

Friday 17 May - *Bendigo*

Tuesday 21 May - *Sale*

Wednesday 22 May - *Warragul*