



LIVED EXPERIENCE CONSULTATION OPPORTUNITY EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

Project title:	Implementation of a safety planning suicide intervention in a major Australian hospital: Consumer, carer and clinician outcomes.
UniSA team:	Dr Monika Ferguson - lead researcher Professor Nicholas Procter - supervisor Dr Mark Loughhead - lived experience academic
Consultation details:	2hr group Zoom meeting (+ pre-reading) Mon 24 – Fri 28 August 2020 (date TBC)
EOI close date:	9am Mon 10 Aug 2020

What is the research project about?

The [Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Research Group](#) (MHSPRG) is commencing an innovative research project to explore the effectiveness of safety planning as a suicide prevention intervention for people presenting to the Royal Adelaide Hospital in suicide-related distress. The aim is to understand, through mixed-methods research, the impact of this intervention on all stakeholders – those with lived experience and clinicians – in order to improve the suicide prevention responses available.

The project, funded by Suicide Prevention Australia Ltd., is being led by Dr Monika Ferguson, under the supervision of Professor Nicholas Procter, and with guidance from Dr Mark Loughhead.

What does this consultation involve?

The purpose of this consultation process is to discuss ways of designing the project so that recruitment strategies and the research questions will work well from a lived experience perspective. We're particularly interested in your expertise regarding safe ways of inviting people who experience suicide-related distress to participate in research, and safe ways of asking questions about their experiences with suicide prevention interventions. We're also interested in any other contributions you might like to offer about the project design.

Participants will be provided with key project research documents approximately one week before the consultation. You will then be invited to a 2hr group Zoom consultation meeting, facilitated by Monika and Nicholas/Mark. Note: we may hold two meetings, to suit participants' availability and preferences, but you would only need to attend one.

Why is my input important?

Lived experience expertise is critical to informing all stages of the research process. Your input will help to ensure the research design and conduct maximises consumer and carer benefits, and is safe and avoids any potential distress or re-traumatisation for participants. In turn, this will maximise the benefits of the research for the community.

At a broader level, your input is important for the MHSPRG as we strive to develop our skills and practice as part of our [Lived Experience Engagement Framework](#).



What expertise will I bring?

We are seeking expertise from up to five consumers and carers with lived experience of suicide-related distress, or providing support to a person in distress. Ideally, you would also have experience participating in consultations, and some knowledge of research (although this is not essential).

How will I know my voice has been heard?

A summary of the changes made to the study protocol and ethics application, as a result of the consultation, will be emailed to you approximately two weeks after the consultation.

How will my contribution to the project be acknowledged?

With your consent, an acknowledgement statement will be included in any writing (e.g. publications, reports) and presentations arising from the project. This statement will be checked with you via email after the consultation.

How will my involvement in the consultation be supported?

Participants will receive a hard copy/electronic gift card of \$120 in recognition of your time and expertise.

The consultation is being organised by an experienced group of mental health and suicide prevention academics, with combined research, clinical and lived experience. We understand that discussing suicide-related issues can be distressing. We will have at least two staff facilitating the consultation, and will endeavour to create a safe forum for discussion, valuing all voices in the room by giving each person equal opportunity to be heard. We will give you reading materials and a consultation agenda in advance, so that you have time to develop your thoughts and ideas. This consultation will focus specifically on the conduct of the research, rather than any individuals' specific experiences of suicide-related distress. We will be available before and after the consultation, should you have any questions or concerns.

I can't participate now, but will there be any future opportunities?

This project will continue in to 2022, and there will be ongoing opportunities to participate in future consultations at different stages of the research. If you would like to be involved, please email Monika.Ferguson@unisa.edu.au.

You may also like to join the MHSPRG mailing list, for similar opportunities related to other projects. Please email Mentalhealth@unisa.edu.au.

How do I express interest in this consultation?

If you are interested and available to participate in this consultation, please complete the EOI form via [Survey Monkey](#). If you would prefer to provide your responses verbally or via a Word document instead, or if you have any further questions about the consultation opportunity, please contact Monika: Monika.Ferguson@unisa.edu.au or 8302 1594.

Please note EOI closes **9am Mon 10 August 2020**. After this, we will contact you to let you know the outcome of the process.

Thank you for your interest and consideration.