

“Innovate” Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)

Consultation paper

Introduction

Carers Victoria is currently seeking input from Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people and services, about our draft “Innovate” RAP.

As a peak body for unpaid/family carers in Victoria, it is important that our services are appropriate, welcoming and culturally safe - for all carers. Carers Victoria understands that, despite best intentions, we may not always get this right.

This RAP consultation is an opportunity for you to tell us how we, as a peak body, may be more inclusive and welcoming so you feel safer accessing our services. We are also keen to establish partnerships and referral pathways with appropriate bodies who do have the specialist expertise to provide the full range of culturally safe and appropriate services individual carers may need, so we can offer the best possible referrals.

We therefore encourage as many people who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander as possible to be part of the consultation. Thank you for being part of this process.

How to contribute

We understand that there are many demands on your time and energy, so we have a few ways you can contribute to this consultation process:

- **3 Questions** – tell us what would make our service more welcoming and culturally safe - without reading the (entire) RAP document.
- **Respond to the draft RAP**
- **Attend a Yarning Circle**

See the next page for more information about each.

The RAP consultation closes at **9am, Monday 20th May 2024**.

For more information, please speak with our RAP Champion, Leah Lonsdale, on 03 9396 9522, or 0407 326 171 or email leah.lonsdale@carersvictoria.org.au .

3 Questions

If you would like to share some pointers for us without reading the entire document, please answer the questions below. You may do this via this [link to the online survey](#), or pop your responses in an email to leah.lonsdale@carersvictoria.org.au.

1. What makes you feel welcome and culturally safe as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person accessing a mainstream service?
2. Have you accessed Carers Victoria services previously? If so, how did we go?
3. What do you wish our staff knew about supporting a carer who identifies as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?

PS – we also ask for your postcode, to help us interpret responses from various parts of Victoria.

Respond to the Draft RAP

We'd love to hear what you think, and what we may be able to do better as a mainstream service that supports Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people. Feel free to tell us your way, referencing relevant sections so we can understand your response.

If you are having trouble getting your thoughts together, our prompt questions below may be helpful. These questions are optional.

1. Does this draft make sense to you? Why/why not?
2. Does anything seem tokenistic, misplaced or inappropriate?
3. Is there anything missing?
4. Need more? Feel free to use the '3 Questions' as prompts.

Yarning Circles

Carers Victoria is holding two Yarning Circles. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people and their organisations are welcome to join. To find out more visit our carer events calendar at: [Calendar For Carers | Carers Victoria](#)

How to give feedback

If you'd like to give feedback please contact:

Leah Lonsdale

RAP Champion and

Manager, Statewide Carer Engagement & Knowledge Centre

leah.lonsdale@carersvictoria.org.au

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