# ****Use your recent experiences to help inform and shape future Maternal and Child Service delivery in Victoria****

## If you have used Maternal of Child Health Services in the last three years, apply to be a Consumer Partner. Expressions of Interest close 5pm, 18 November 2022

OFFICIAL October 2022

## What is this opportunity?

We are seeking representation from a diverse range of consumers to work with us on the newly formed **Victorian Maternal and Child Health Advisory Group** (VMCHAG) and **Maternal and Child Health** **Consumer Partners Group**.

Collaborate and contribute your lived experience, knowledge, and practical reflections, of your experiences of the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) services, to inform and shape future MCH service delivery in Victoria.

Join us in planning for high quality and safe maternal and child service delivery for mothers, children, and families. Details of the VMCHAG are provided [here](https://www.safercare.vic.gov.au/news/join-the-victorian-maternal-and-child-health-consumer-partners-group-and-maternal-child-health).

### ****What to expect****

* + We are seeking up to 10 consumer partners to form an MCH *Consumer Partners Group*
  + We will meet up to four times per year
  + One to two members will participate and represent the group in the bi-monthly VMCHAG meetings to be held from December 2022 to December 2024.
  + Meetings will be on-line, occasional face-to-face meetings may be required.

### Payment details

* + Members will be paid for their time, $118.50 for half days in line with [Appointment and remuneration guidelines](https://www.vic.gov.au/guidelines-appointment-remuneration) (Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC); 2022). We will discuss what we can cover out-of-pocket expenses for in-person meetings with you.

### ****Who should apply?****

Applications are sought from broad community representation; applications are encouraged from consumers with the following identity and/or experiences.

* Consumers who have utilised MCH services in the previous **three** years
* Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
* culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
* from regional/rural location
* have utilised the Enhanced MCH program
* from a council area currently operating a prioritised MCH service model
* single parents
* LGBTIQ+
* have a disability or are a parent of child with disability
* carer/s for children in out-of-home care

### ****Questions regarding these role/s can be directed to:****

Samantha Dunne, Senior Project Officer - Safer Care Victoria.

E: [samantha.dunne@safercare.vic.gov.au](mailto:samantha.dunne@safercare.vic.gov.au) P: 0408 005 583

## Background

The Victorian Maternal and Child Health (MCH) service is under significant pressure due to a range of factors. The VMCHAG, which constitutes members from the Department, SCV, MAV, MCH services, key stakeholders and consumers, will work together to identify the highest priority short term (implementable within 6-12 months) and medium to long-term solutions to maintain high quality and safe service delivery for mothers, children, and families in the face of these pressures.

### ****Who is running this Advisory Group?****

The Department of Health (Department), Safer Care Victoria (SCV) and the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) are seeking consumer partners to inform the consumer experience of Maternal and Child Health (MCH) services.

## Details

### ****Time Commitment:****

1. *Consumer Partner Representative* is a Two-year term, commencing January 2023
   * 2-hour VMCHAG meeting, bi-monthly, and
   * 2-hours *Consumer Partner Group* meetings , four times a year.
2. *Or Consumer Partner Group is a* Two-year term, commencing January 2023
   * + 2-hours *Consumer Partner Group* meetings , four times a year.

### ****Key responsibilities of the consumer role:****

* + Provide a lived experience consumer and / or cultural lens to current and emerging service and workforce pressures.
  + Present ideas from your experiences of the MCH service that offer possible solutions and priorities for service delivery.
  + Provide reflective feedback on proposed solutions and priorities.
  + Be part of collaborative discussions with all group members / invited parties / MCH experts around strategic priorities and service delivery matters.

### ****Key requirements:****

* + Experience of participating in a Victorian MCH nurse service within the **previous three years.**
  + Ability to actively listen and represent, the lived experience, consumer voices and views.
  + Demonstrate a reflective, solution-based approach to identified issues.

## How to apply

Submit an Expression of Interest by providing:

1. A short cover letter (one page) or email briefly outlining your interest, including relevant skills/experiences you bring to the advisory group
2. Send your application email marked **EOI Consumer partnering application**.to: Marcia Armstrong, [marcia.armstrong@safercare.vic.gov.au](mailto:marcia.armstrong@safercare.vic.gov.au),
3. Applications **close: 5pm, 18 November 2022**