

AWARE

Advocacy Workforce: Advancing Rights and Equity Steering Committee Expression of Interest

Please nominate by **15 February 2021**.

The Project

AWARE is a sector-driven co-design project to provide **specialist training** and skill development for existing and potential **individual advocates**, working in areas of social justice and human rights.

This project was initiated by a **collective of eleven community organisations** providing individual advocacy being: Health Consumers Council (WA), Developmental Disability WA, Consumers of Mental Health WA, Northern Suburbs Community Legal Centre, Explorability Inc., Ethnic Disability Advocacy Centre, Women's Health and Family Services, Family Inclusion Network of WA, Uniting WA, People with Disabilities WA, and Circle Green Community Legal (previously Tenancy WA).

The project is **funded by Lotterywest** from **January 2021 until June 2022** to develop the training course, set up an online hub and run two pilot courses.

The project is **auspiced by the Health Consumers Council (WA)** and will be coordinated and administrated by local training organisation **Evolve Events and Training (Evolve)**.

The AWARE training course will:

- Consist of 12 days face-to-face training delivered over six months, along with special events and project work.
- Be a dedicated course designed to develop community advocacy skills, with content developed through a co-design process to meet the needs of employers and clients.
- Be formally assessed and require minimum levels of attendance and achievement for a completion certificate to be issued.
- Be recognised by the partner organisations as representing a significant level of Advocacy training and well regarded in employment applications.

The Steering Committee: Nominations now open

The AWARE project will be guided by a Steering Committee, made up of experienced advocates and client representatives. While the day to day running of the project will be done by Evolve, the Steering Committee will be responsible for governance, strategic oversight, advice and key decision making.

To be eligible, nominees must reside in WA and:

- have a sound knowledge of individual advocacy;
- not be employed by Evolve, including the currently advertised Project Officer role; and
- not wish to be either a trainer or a participant in the AWARE program.

While all applications will be considered on merit, we are ideally seeking people such as:

- experienced professional advocates
- clients who have been recipients of advocacy services
- people with other relevant expertise such as adult education or specialist experience with particular client groups.

While nominations from representatives of the collaborating organisations are encouraged, others are also welcome to apply. It should be noted that participation in the Steering Committee is an individual commitment for those with the time and expertise to share. Partner organisations are not obligated to participate in order to remain involved.

The Committee will be selected to ensure a good mix of expertise and diverse representation.

Remuneration

Most participation will be voluntary and we appreciate nominees donating their time.

We have budgeted to pay one client representative for their input at an honorarium rate of \$70 per meeting. This person must be someone with lived experience as a member of one or more client groups which commonly receives advocacy services, such as a person with a disability or mental health issue, person with lived experience of homelessness or domestic violence, member of the Aboriginal, CaLD or LGBTIQ+ community or similar.

In addition, all Steering Committee members are welcome to request any specialist support to help them participate such as disability support or transport assistance.

Meetings

Nominating Steering Committee members should ensure they are available to attend most of the meetings. Zoom attendance will be possible where required. Contributions are welcome via phone or email, before or during meetings, where attendance is not possible.

The meetings will be in Subiaco, 3pm-5pm, starting on **Monday 22 February 2021** followed by **Monday 8 March** and the second Monday of each month thereafter.

[Click here to nominate to join the Steering Committee](#)

Nominations close **15 February**. Appointments announced by **18 February**.

Questions, please contact Katrina: 6117 5520 or katrina@evolvevents.com.au