



Please read before applying

What is Partners in Recovery?

Partners in Recovery (PIR) is a national program funded by the Australian Government, Department of Health. PIR aims to better support people with severe and persistent mental illness and complex needs, and their carers and families, by getting services and supports from multiple sectors they come into contact with (and could benefit from) to work in a more collaborative, coordinated and integrated way. Key objectives of the program are to:

- a) Facilitate better coordination of clinical and other supports and services to deliver person-centred care tailored to the person’s needs;
- b) Strengthen partnerships and build better links between various clinical and community organisations;
- c) Improve referral pathways that facilitate access to services and supports;
- d) Promote a community based recovery model.

PIR funding is transitioning to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and by early 2017, we will start preparing and supporting PIR participants to get ready for the NDIS. The NDIS will commence in this region from July 2017.

Role of Support Facilitators

Support Facilitators are qualified and experienced mental health workers who bring a person-centred approach and work from a strong guiding belief in everyone’s capacity to self-right and grow within and beyond their current circumstances. Support Facilitators are employed to work alongside people with severe and persistent mental ill-health and their families. They recognise and strengthen a person’s own efforts towards recovery and help them to identify and address the barriers that are getting in the way of this process. Support Facilitators sit outside of the service system and work as recovery coaches and consultants to the system to help it work in a more coordinated and integrated way.

Support Facilitators are **not** case managers and they **do not** provide crisis support, after hours services, clinical services or direct support work. PIR does not replace or duplicate existing services, but we will make referrals and connect participants with these services where required.

Who is eligible for PIR?

Adult residents of the North Coast NSW (Port Macquarie to Tweed Heads) with severe and persistent mental illness, who consent to and would benefit from better coordination and improved access to a range of services and supports.

To be eligible, all 5 of the following criteria must be met:

Eligibility Criteria
1. Person has severe and persistent mental illness
2. Person has complex & unmet needs that require services from multiple agencies
3. Person requires substantial support and assistance to engage with various services to meet these needs
4. There are no existing coordination arrangements in place to assist the person to access necessary supports (or where they are in place they are not working)
5. The person is willing to participate in the program (consent will be formally obtained during the eligibility assessment stage)

In addition to the PIR criteria, NDIS requires that people are under the age of 65 years and either an Australian citizen or hold a permanent or special protected visa.

How many people can we assist in PIR?

The Department of Health has set a maximum participant level of 301 people that can be supported in the program in 2016-2017 for the North Coast NSW region (Port Macquarie to Tweed Heads). Unfortunately we cannot exceed this level which means that demand will probably be greater than our funded capacity. When this happens we will support referrers and individuals to connect with other suitable services in the local area. We encourage referring agencies to either contact the Intake Officer on 1800 022 066 or their local Support Facilitator to discuss capacity in their local area prior to completing an application.

Support Facilitators are available in the following locations:

Subregion	Support Facilitator	Organisation
Port Macquarie	Sally Rust	Mission Australia
	Robyn George	Mission Australia
Kempsey	Tina Bishop	Mission Australia
Coffs Harbour	Heather Coutts	CHESS
	Currently recruiting – TBA	CHESS
	Tammy Jerrett (Aboriginal referrals only)	Galambila Aboriginal Health Service
	Currently recruiting – TBA	Anglicare NC
Clarence Valley	June Stone	CHESS
	Currently recruiting - TBA	Anglicare NC
Northern NSW	Eva Kauffman	The Buttery
	Abigail Brown	The Buttery
	Cristina Massia	Mission Australia
	Alex Brown	Mission Australia
	Dani Walsh	Mission Australia
	Currently recruiting - TBA	Mission Australia
Tweed Heads	Lisa Davison	New Horizons
	Currently recruiting - TBA	New Horizons

Completing an application form

This can be done online at www.pirnorthcoast.com.au or by completing and emailing the application form to PIRintake@missionaustralia.com.au, faxing to 02 6658 7963 or posting to PO Box 396, Sawtell NSW 2452.

Once an application form is received

Once an application has been made we will confirm receipt and keep you informed about the process. If eligibility criteria are met on the application form and local capacity exists, the application will be referred to a local Support Facilitator who will contact the person within a couple of days. The Support Facilitator will arrange a time for the eligibility assessment.

Like more information?

Please contact us on:

Phone: 1800 022 066

Fax: 02 6658 7963

Email: PIRintake@missionaustralia.com.au

Or visit our website:

<http://www.pirnorthcoast.com.au/>