



Expression of Interest (EOI) Lived Experience Contribution - AOD Online Learning Course

The Mental Health Commission (Commission) values the voices of individuals with living and lived experience of alcohol and other drugs (AOD) issues, including their families, carers, and significant others. The Commission is seeking expressions of interest from people with lived and living experience of AOD use who have accessed services and are interested in contributing to the development of an online training resource for the AOD workforce.

We are looking for participants who are comfortable being filmed while sharing their reflections on the principles that underpin effective AOD service delivery. These video interviews will form part of an interactive online learning course designed for Western Australian AOD and human services professionals.

About the project

The AOD Treatment and Support Principles eLearning course is a workforce development service by the Commission. This course aims to build the capability of AOD and human service providers by grounding training in authentic, real-life experiences of people who have accessed AOD treatment and support. It will draw on national frameworks and guidelines and feature interviews from a variety of Western Australian AOD professionals and people with lived experience, who provide context to each principle. Your insights will help shape a more compassionate, informed, and effective approach to AOD service delivery.

This course aims to capture and share lived experience reflections on the core principles that guide effective AOD practice. These reflections will be used to inform the development of an online learning course designed to build empathy, understanding, and best practice among AOD workers. Your reflections will help ensure the workforce understands what these principles look like in practice, and how workers can better support the people they serve.

Participants will be invited to reflect on any of the following principles:

- Challenging Stigma and Promoting Inclusive Practice
- Equitable and Accessible Treatment Services
- Person-Centred and Strengths-Based Approach
- Culturally Secure Treatment
- Holistic and Coordinated Care
- Trauma-Informed Care
- Including Lived and Living Experience
- Working with Significant Others

What to expect on the day of filming

Before filming, there will be an opportunity to have a look and discuss the principles and questions with others in a relaxed setting. This session will provide a chance to explore some of the AOD treatment and support principles, share ideas, and become more familiar with the process.

Following this, you'll take part in a filmed conversation where you'll be invited to reflect on one or more principles that are meaningful to you. The process is designed to be supportive and flexible.

- Filming will take up to one hour, with plenty of time to pause, rephrase, or revisit any talking points as needed.
- You'll receive the questions in advance, giving you time to consider your responses.
- Filming will take place in an office or event space in Perth City.
- A staff member with Lived Experience will be present to support you throughout, and you are welcome to bring a friend or support person if you wish.



How your contribution will be used

- You will have the opportunity to review and approve your video before any content is published. Nothing will be shared without your consent.
- Your contribution may be included in training modules for AOD workers across Western Australia, helping to enhance understanding and improve service delivery.
- These modules are hosted on the Commission's free online learning platform, accessible via registration at <https://aodelearning.mhc.wa.gov.au>.
- Your video may also be considered for future training content, but only with your review and approval beforehand.

Who should apply

We welcome expressions of interest from people who:

- have accessed AOD treatment or support services for themselves (or supported others) in the community (e.g., residential rehab, outpatient programs, harm reduction services, peer support, detox, counselling, peer support groups)
- have experience with one or more AOD practice principles in action, such as trauma-informed care, person-centred support, inclusive practice, or non-stigmatising/ non-judgemental services, and can reflect on how these shaped their treatment journey.
- are comfortable being filmed and sharing their reflections in a professional training context.
- are passionate about improving AOD services and helping reduce stigma through education and awareness.

Location

The interview will be held at 1 Nash St Perth, located on Level 6 or at an alternative location in the Perth CBD.

Date and time

Filming and interview sessions will be scheduled on 20 June 2025 with specific times to be confirmed. Each session will be no longer than three hours, including time for preparation.

Regional and remote attendance

If you live in regional or remote Western Australia and would like to participate, please contact us on the number/email listed below and we will discuss this opportunity.

Remuneration

If you are successful in your EOI, you will be offered participation payment in line with the Mental Health Commission's Consumer, Family, Carer and Community Member Paid Partnership Policy or the Commission's Paid Participation Policy, as a one-off payment of \$225 for three hours.


How do I respond to this EOI?

To apply, please email aodtraining@mhc.wa.gov.au with a written response addressing the following criteria:

- A brief overview of your understanding of how the practice principles may impact your own or another person's experience of accessing AOD treatment or support services.
- Your reasons for wanting to contribute to this project and what you hope to bring to the development of the online learning course.
- Your comfort level with being filmed and having your reflections shared in a professional training context, including on an online learning platform for the AOD and mental health workforce.
- Any accessibility or support needs that would help you participate fully in the filming process.

There is no word limit for your response; however, a submission of up to one page is sufficient.

To apply, please email aodtraining@mhc.wa.gov.au and provide your experience relevant to this workshop. Please indicate if you are a consumer, family member/significant other on the application. Please also advise if there are any modifications you require. We are also happy to be contacted on (08) 6553 0400.



If you are unable to attend this event, but want to provide feedback, please contact us on the email or phone number listed and we will follow up with you. Your feedback is important to us.

When will EOI applications close?

Applications will close on 15 June 2025 at 11:59pm. Applicants will receive an email notification confirming receipt of their application. If you do not receive a notification, please follow up via email to aodtraining@mhc.wa.gov.au or call us on (08) 6553 0560.

All participants will be provided with a consent form outlining the purpose, use, and distribution of the video content. This form will be available prior to filming and must be signed before participation. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions and withdraw consent at any time.

We encourage the participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and are committed to culturally secure practices throughout the filming process. This includes consultation with cultural advisors, offering culturally appropriate support, and ensuring respectful representation of diverse voices and experiences.

Recognising the potentially sensitive nature of sharing lived experience, emotional support and debriefing resources will be made available to all participants following the filming session. This may include access to peer support workers or referral pathways to further support if needed.

We are committed to maintaining participants' privacy and confidentiality, and any identifying information will only be used with explicit consent. Data will be handled in accordance with relevant privacy legislation and ethical guidelines. All video footage and personal data will be stored securely and accessed only by authorised staff at the Mental Health Commission.

For any questions regarding this opportunity please contact Kate Drown at aodtraining@mhc.wa.gov.au.