

MIFA

















About MIFA

- Established in 1994, MIFA is a national federation of mental health organisations supporting people with high need mental health challenges. Our six member organisations, Mental Health Foundation (ACT), MIFWA (WA), MIFA(NT), Karakan (SE QLD), selectability (regional QLD), and Skylight Mental Health (SA) provide frontline support to individuals, families and carers.
- MIFA advocates to governments for mental health reform. We work collaboratively with national and state/territory mental health peak bodies to amplify the voices of lived experience.
- MIFA contributes to Parliamentary Inquiries and formal consultations. We meet with Federal Ministers, Shadow Ministers and parliamentarians to advocate for reform. MIFA leads 40 organisations in a national advocacy campaign to close the gap in psychosocial support. Each year, we conduct two Parliament House Dinners for the Parliamentary Friends of Mental Health, two national media campaigns, and two roundtable discussions of national mental health peak bodies and Government.
- MIFA auspices <u>Finding North</u>, a website designed to help people understand and navigate the mental health system in Australia. <u>Finding North Network</u> is a safe, exclusive online platform for people with first-hand experience of a mental health challenge to connect with each other and with information to assist them to develop their lived experience leadership. A 'Rights in Action' training and development initiative started in 2025 to further develop lived experience advocacy skills and opportunities. Each year Finding North conducts the <u>Perspectives</u> online symposium.
- Out From The Mist is an international photography, music and short film competition that attracts over 200 entries from over 20 countries each year. The annual exhibition and awards night is held in the prestigious Judith Wright Centre and is streamed globally. Travelling exhibitions are held nationally each year.
- Further information about us and our work can be found at Mental Illness Fellowship of Australia Inc.



MIFA Members

- Karakan (SEQ)
- Mental Health Foundation (ACT)
- •MIFA (NT)
- •MIFWA (WA)
- Selectability (Regional Qld)
- Skylight Mental Health (SA)





Board Composition

Chair	Claire Moore	Independent appointment
Deputy Chair	Brien Hallett	Appointed by MHF (ACT)
Treasurer	Rob Ramjan	Independent appointment
Director	Ann White	Appointed by MIFWA
Director	Danielle Hornsby	Appointed by selectability
Director	Holly Blattman	Appointed by Karakan
Director	Carolyn McKay	Appointed by Skylight Mental Health
Director	TBA	Appointed by MIFA(NT)



Strategic Themes

Advocacy

MIFA amplifies the voice of lived experience (individuals and families and carers)

MIFA identifies what needs to change and how to change it

MIFA influences what needs to change to reform the mental health system

MIFA raises awareness to reduce stigma and discrimination

MIFA builds a strong partnership with lived experience leadership to contribute to advocacy

The MIFA Network brings together the knowledge and skills of its members to enhance our advocacy

Lived Experience Leadership

MIFA is seen as a strong, collaborative, and valued ally to the lived experience community

MIFA builds its capacity to embed lived experience leadership systemically, organisationally, and individually

MIFA supports a strong lived experience sector and actively contributes to thought leadership in this space

MIFA and Finding North are trusted sources of information, inspiration, connection, and pathways to lived experience leadership opportunities

Sustainability

MIFA's financial sustainability is secure across all its operational areas

