

## **Better Access to Mental Health Jobs**

In recent years, the Mental Health community sector has had an increase in funding from the government. This has increased the number of funded services and in turn, this puts pressure on the community based NGO sector organisations to find new staff.

The MHCC Workforce Development Officer at MHCC has been working hard on a recruitment campaign to promote employment opportunities in the community mental health sector to the wider community. MHCC is targeting new graduates, people returning to the workforce (such as mothers) and staff from other sectors to fill the job vacancies in the community mental health sector. These people have been targeted through several promotional activities such as an AvantCard distribution process to local cafes, restaurants, theatres etc in the greater Sydney area.

The recruitment campaign is catching people's eyes with the slogan "Do you have what it takes... to make a difference? Then consider a career in creating a mentally healthy community." This slogan was approved by the Workforce Development Reference Group members, which is made up of workers, consumers and other interested stakeholders from the community mental health sector. The AvantCard postcards and a new poster have been printed with this slogan, and distributed to member organisations and other relevant stakeholders in an attempt to help them recruit new staff to the community mental health sector.

Further, as part of the recruitment campaign, MHCC has created a webpage dedicated to recruitment resources for the community mental health sector. This webpage is relevant to organisations and workers already in the sector, and also for anyone interested in recruitment in the sector. There are several useful documents on the page, including one linking all permanent member organisations "job vacancy" webpages to the MHCC website, and another brochure describing what employment in the community NGO sector is all about. To access this recruitment webpage, go to the NGO Development Strategy link in the left hand column of the MHCC homepage, and then click on the link: NEW!! Workforce Development Employment Page. There are downloadable and printable copies of the poster, postcards and all other promotion/recruitment related materials on the recruitment webpage.

If you would like hard copies of the posters or postcards sent to your organisation to promote employment, or have other suggestions for the MHCC recruitment webpage, then please contact MHCC on 95558388 ext 116 or email: [nicole@mhcc.org.au](mailto:nicole@mhcc.org.au)