## Northern Territory Lived Experience Network

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## **Opportunity to Share Your Experience**

ABC journalist Jacqueline Breen is conducting research for an online article about the support provided during a mental health crisis by NT Police and the trial Darwin Mental Health Co-Response Team. Jacqueline is looking at the co-responder trial that the NT Government has been running to explore why a change was needed, and how it's working.

Jacqueline is seeking to speak with Territorians who have engaged with the Police previously, or the Co-Response Team throughout the trial during a mental health crisis. This might be a person who has individually received support during a mental health crisis, or the persons loved ones who may have been involved in this experience.

Jacqueline has requested that the NT Lived Experience Network support her to connect with members of the lived experience community for this article.

To support this process, the NT Lived Experience Network is offering to provide information and support to interested people about how they can share their story in a way that is safe for them. The NT Lived Experience Network is also available to accompany people when meeting with Jacqueline and to debrief with them afterward.

Jacqueline has drafted the following questions to understand the perspectives and experiences of Territorians who have interacted with these services.

- 1. Do you think a co-responder service like this is a good idea? Why or why not?
- 2. Have you had any difficult or positive experiences with emergency responses before that you are comfortable sharing? If so, what happened and how did that affect you?
- 3. If you have you had experience with the co-responder service so far, what was that like?
- 4. What do you think should happen in this space going forward?

Jacqueline is interested to hear both positive and negative experiences people have had with these services. She mindful that for some people these will be potentially very difficult personal experiences to share and intends to do this as sensitively as possible. Peer volunteers from the NT Lived Experience Network are available to provide support as well.

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People are welcome to respond to only the questions they feel comfortable to do so, and to discuss their participation with Jacqueline or the NT Lived Experience Network further before deciding if they want to take part.

If you chose to participate, it is possible for your experiences to be included in a deidentified or anonymous way. However, Jaqueline is also hoping that some people who share their experiences will be comfortable to be identified for the article. This decision would remain with you if you chose to participate.

If you would like to see the type of article that Jacqueline is hoping to put together, please click on some of the sample articles below:

- <a href="https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-03-11/disability-organisations-against-ndis-independent-assessments/13233838">https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-03-11/disability-organisations-against-ndis-independent-assessments/13233838</a>
- <a href="https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-06-22/forgotten-australians-use-storytelling-to-cope-with-trauma/12360902">https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-06-22/forgotten-australians-use-storytelling-to-cope-with-trauma/12360902</a>
- <a href="https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-03-04/lost-kids-why-do-children-go-missing-from-state-care-in-victoria/12000412?nw=0">https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-03-04/lost-kids-why-do-children-go-missing-from-state-care-in-victoria/12000412?nw=0</a>

You can contact the NT Lived Experience Network for support and we can contact Jacqueline on your behalf.

Alternatively, you can contact Jacqueline directly.

NT Lived Experience Network e: contact@livedexperiencent.net

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