

I wish to join the VMIAC as a:

Group Member

(must be a consumer group or organisation)

Individual Member

(must be a current or past consumer of the mental health system)

Associate Member

(non-consumer or consumer group who support the VMIAC's aims and objectives)

I would like more information about the VMIAC

Name: _____

Address: _____

P/Code _____

Phone: () _____

Tear off the above and send it to VMIAC, 23 Weston Street Brunswick 3056

Victorian Mental Illness
Awareness Council

23 Weston Street
Brunswick 3056

Phone (03) 9387 8317
Fax (03) 9388 1445

**VICTORIAN
MENTAL ILLNESS
AWARENESS
COUNCIL**

(V.M.I.A.C.)

**23 WESTON STREET
BRUNSWICK 3056**

**PH: (03) 93878317
FX: (03) 93881445**

What is the VMIAC?

- *The VMIAC is an organisation for people who have had mental or emotional health problems.*
- *The VMIAC is run by people who have had mental or emotional health problems.*
- *The VMIAC believes that people with personal experience of mental health problems have a valuable role to play in the development of mental health services.*
- *The VMIAC is committed to active consumer participation at all levels of the mental health system.*

What does the VMIAC do?

- *Establish and support consumer groups;*
- *Support individual consumers;*
- *Support people so they can speak out about issues which are effecting them;*
- *Act upon broad mental health issues;*
- *Consult with people who have experienced mental health problems;*
- *Establish mental health information networks;*
- *Listen and respond to the consumer voice;*
- *Lobby to improve mental health services;*

How does the VMIAC work?

- *We facilitate meetings and forums with consumers of mental health services;*
- *We present consumer's views to the government and other relevant bodies;*
- *We write submissions to government and other relevant bodies;*
- *We respond to mental health issues through all levels of the media;*
- *We submit articles regarding mental health for publication in relevant organisation's newsletters/journals;*

We assist people to set up consumer groups and provide them with on-going support;

We auspice consumer driven projects;

- *We conduct/auspice consumer perspective research.*

The VMIAC is committed to a philosophy of equity, social justice and change to benefit consumers.

Why join the VMIAC?

If you join the VMIAC, you:

- *Will receive a regular newsletter and information updates;*
- *Can attend meetings about mental health issues and have your say;*
- *Can raise any issue you think should be addressed;*
- *Can become actively involved as a volunteer (eg office work, producing the newsletter, giving talks);*
- *Can vote for or be elected to the Committee of Management;*

If you are a non-consumer, you can join as an Associate member. As such, you:

- *Will receive regular information including the newsletter;*
- *Can show your support for the organisation;*

Associate members cannot:

- *Vote;*
- *Be on the Committee of Management.*

How do I join?

To join the VMIAC, fill in the application form on the reverse.

We will then send you a letter of acceptance once your membership application has been approved by the Committee of Management.