



Te Ao Māramatanga

New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses (Inc.)

Partnership, Voice, Excellence in Mental Health Nursing

Introduction

The intent of this Memorandum of Understanding is to establish a formal agreement between Kites Trust and Te Ao Māramatanga.

Background

Te Ao Māramatanga:

Te Ao Māramatanga is the New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses Incorporated, the professional body for practicing Mental Health Nurses in New Zealand. The aims of Te Ao Māramatanga are to:

- Represent the professional interests of psychiatric and/or mental health nurses in Aotearoa New Zealand and those enrolled nurses who work in mental health setting in Aotearoa New Zealand
- Promote and develop the identity of psychiatric/mental health nurses as specialists working in a clinical specialty field via representation and liaison; obtain recognition of the professional status of psychiatric/mental health nurses and to promote public awareness of mental health nursing;
- Advance the educational and clinical expertise of members; promote and develop nursing codes of ethics, education and practice which are culturally safe and encompass the three articles of the Treaty of Waitangi and the principles of Kawa Whakaruruhau.
- Approve national standards of practice taking into account the unique cultural, social and political conditions existing in Aotearoa New Zealand to guide members in their professional practice; develop and support research which may benefit the community and the profession;
- Promote clinical career pathways within the clinical specialty field;
- Promote awareness of the members about political decisions which may affect the clinical and professional role of those members;
- Form links with other health professional bodies in Aotearoa New Zealand and internationally.

Kites Trust:

Kites purpose is to seize opportunities, transform ideas and current problems into successful new solutions and services that increase choices for people experiencing mental illness.

Kites specific contribution is to work collaboratively at the creative edge between organisations and between groups with different positions and perspectives.

Kites works on basis that different and new services are best developed when people who access these services work alongside people with policy and service experience.

Purpose

Both parties believe it will be mutually beneficial to work together, and are committed to making improvements for mental health service users in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Te Ao Māramatanga:

Te Ao Māramatanga can look upon Kites as a source to receive information and support from in relation to service user perspectives on policy and practice within mental health nursing.

Te Ao Māramatanga will also be able to feed in the views of its members to Kites about identified gaps in the information and systems Te Ao Māramatanga members interact with, and the views of mental health nurses in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Kites Trust:

Kites desires individual and organisational member involvement from the Te Ao Māramatanga membership and believes that Te Ao Māramatanga would be able to inform Kites of the needs, interests and concerns of mental health nurses in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Kites seeks to eliminate discrimination on the basis of mental illness whether present or past, and to promote the human rights of people with mental illness, and eliminate policies and practices which breach or endanger those rights. Kites seeks the cooperation of Te Ao Māramatanga in achieving these aims.

Kites also seeks mental health nurses' feedback on issues of mutual concern, and would like to understand and incorporate the views of mental health nurses in the work Kites does. Te Ao Māramatanga offers a mandated access point for this.

Regularity of meetings

Both parties agree to meet at least quarterly to share information about their work and to discuss the current mental health climate.

If a meeting is required outside the set dates both parties agree to accommodate each other as best they can to allow this to happen.

Confidentiality

Both parties adhere to the privacy act and agree to discuss systemic issues and not specific cases concerning individual service users or mental health nurses.

Entire Agreement

From time to time both parties may engage in collaborative agreements that align with this Memorandum of Understanding. However, this Memorandum of Understanding is not intended to create legally binding obligations, but is a statement of bona fide intent of the parties.

Termination

This Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated at any time by mutual consent.

Date of commencement and review

This Memorandum will commence on 1st June 2011 and is valid until 31st May 2013. It will be reviewed by both parties before May 2013.

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Signature  Date

On behalf of Kites Trust