

QuIHN hepatitis C Community Peer Support Project

Helping people in Queensland who inject drugs to
navigate their hepatitis C testing and treatment journey



Peer workers engaged people at risk of hepatitis C and linked them to community-based hepatitis C testing and treatment services, as well as facilitated their engagement with health workers.

One of the peer workers who identified as a First Nations person focused on engaging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people at risk of hepatitis C.

Outcomes

Five part-time peer workers employed over two years:

Liaised with
115
community
stakeholders
in Queensland



Conducted
110
hepatitis C
point-of-care tests
over 9 months



Client feedback on utilising peer support was positive and highlighted the benefits of peers in the QuIHN workforce.

Supported
25
people through
treatment



Conducted regular
outreach
to five services in
Southeast Queensland



Images: Sophie and Colin are two of QuIHN's peer workers.

Learnings

- ✓ Our community-based peer project raised awareness of the **value of peers and their role in supporting people** in the community to access hepatitis C testing and treatment.
- ✓ Our model involved peer supervision sessions which were provided in partnership with the Queensland Injectors Voice for Advocacy and Action (QuIVAA). These led to a **valuable mentoring and support network for peers**.

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