

## WHY AM I AN INVOLUNTARY PATIENT?

Being made involuntary is a decision made by your doctor. Advocates can meet and discuss your options when involuntary in hospital.

- Advocates are not part of the hospital system or your treatment team
- We take a 'best interest' approach

I need help with...

### Contact Us



MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCACY SERVICE

- Freecall:** 1800 999 057
- Phone:** 08 6234 6300
- Email:** [contactus@mhas.wa.gov.au](mailto:contactus@mhas.wa.gov.au)
- Web:** [www.mhas.wa.gov.au](http://www.mhas.wa.gov.au)
- Address:** 6/18 Harvest Terrace  
West Perth WA 6005  
Monday - Friday  
8:30am - 4:30pm

Inpatient  
Treatment  
Orders

ARE  
YOU  
UNDER  
18 YRS?

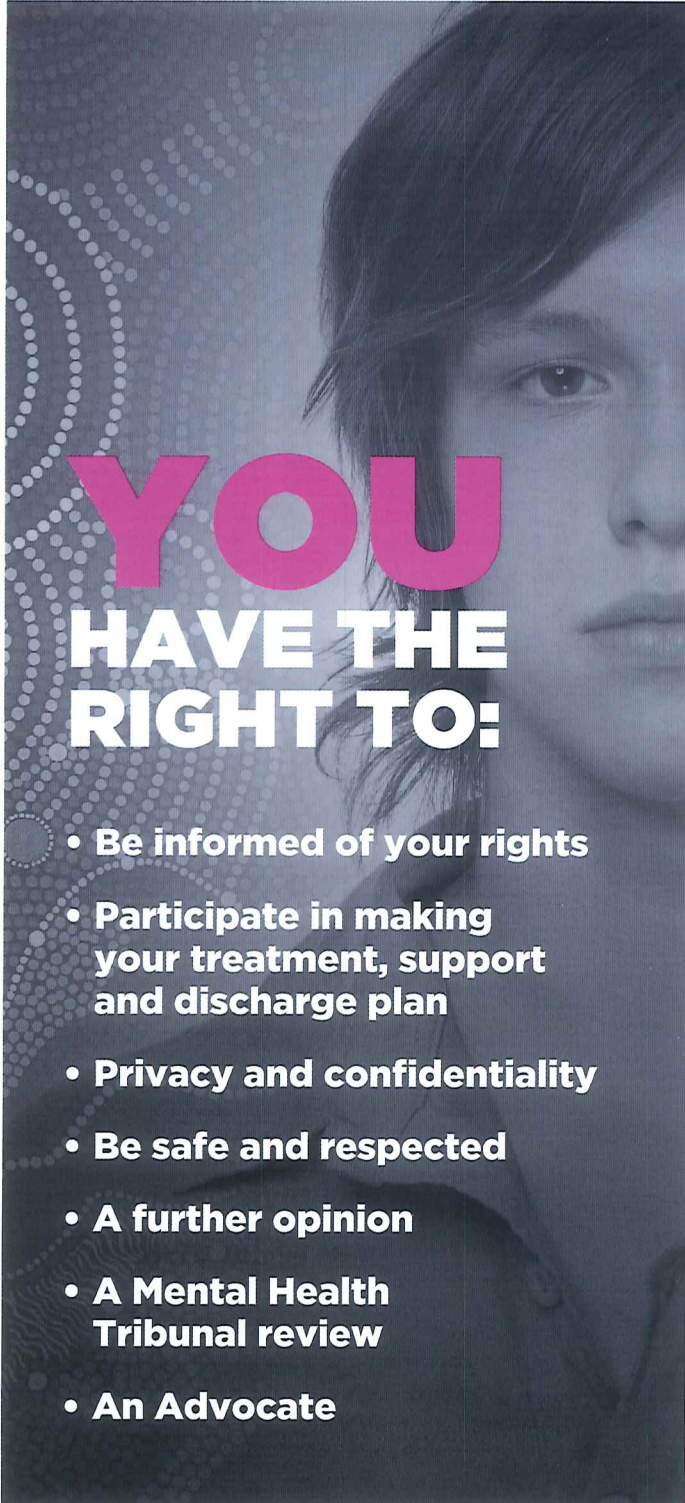
KNOW  
YOUR  
RIGHTS.

MENTAL HEALTH  
ADVOCACY SERVICE

Getting your voice heard







# YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

- **Be informed of your rights**
- **Participate in making your treatment, support and discharge plan**
- **Privacy and confidentiality**
- **Be safe and respected**
- **A further opinion**
- **A Mental Health Tribunal review**
- **An Advocate**

## Who we can help:

- An involuntary patient in hospital or mental health unit
- A patient in an emergency department awaiting examination by a psychiatrist
- Anyone on a Community Treatment Order

We can also assist people in other situations. Please see our *Voluntary Patients'* brochure.

## An Advocate can help you:

- Arrange a meeting with your doctor or treating team and attend with you
- At Mental Health Tribunal hearings
- Seek to resolve issues that are concerning you at the facility
- Participate in Treatment, Support and Discharge Planning meetings
- Request a Further Opinion
- Make and resolve complaints
- Advocate for your physical health needs to be met
- Discuss leave from the ward with your treating team
- Access culturally appropriate care
- Access other services including lawyers



*"I don't understand what is happening....I just want to go home."*

## I'm an involuntary patient – what's next?

It can be confusing when made involuntary. It's useful to know that:

- An Advocate will visit you within 24 hours of being involuntary and can support you during your admission
- An involuntary order lasts up to 14 days
- You will then be assessed by your psychiatrist
- The psychiatrist can extend or revoke the involuntary order
- You will have a Mental Health Tribunal within 10 days to review the order

## Mental Health Advocates – who are we?

- We are a free and independent service
- We help young people with mental illness know and protect their rights
- We use a best interest approach
- We represent your views to the treating team
- We are not part of the hospital or treating team
- We can work with your parents and guardians to provide support

## Are you Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?

- You may have other rights. Talk to your Advocate

## Are you a parent or guardian?

- An Advocate can help you understand your rights when your child is in hospital