

# TENDERING FOR PHN CONTRACTS

## Delivering services for Primary Mental Health Networks

### Panellists' Bios

#### **Sian Pritchard, Nurse Practitioner**

Sian Pritchard is a Victorian Mental Health Nurse Practitioner working in her own practice Pritchard Health. She heads up Geelong's First Nurse led clinic. Sian was winner of the Australian Mental Health Nurse Achievement Award in 2017 and was a finalist in four categories for a Business Excellence Award through the Geelong Chamber of Commerce and Deakin University partnership. Sian is part of the Australian College of Nurse Practitioners National Campaign "Transforming Health Care"

<https://www.transforminghealthcare.org.au/about/>

Sian has advocated strongly for Mental Health Nursing within Australia and was awarded Fellowship of the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses in 2017. Successfully attaining a position on the Westvic PHN Clinical Council 2016/2017 she has again been successful in gaining a seat on the Regional Integrated Council for 2018/2019. Towards the end of 2017 Sian was selected to represent the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses on the "Australian Psychological Society Workforce Transition Support Project." Sian has also been formerly appointed as the representative in Canberra of Mental Health Australia to the Australian Government Department of Health sub-group of the "Improved Models of Care Working Group" and is a member of the Australian Government Department of Health "MBS Taskforce of the Psychiatry Clinical Committee."

Sian is passionate about primary care, community, and population health alongside her drive to support GPs with specialist expertise that is affordable and accessible. Presenting at national and international conferences over the last four years Sian is excited to have been invited to participate in this Webinar. Having successfully tendered for funds over the last 2 years through Westvic PHN Sian is at the forefront of change in this new world of commissioning. She hopes to encourage more nurses and other providers in private practice to consider seeking funding to support those in our population in need. Sian's clinic supports a vulnerable and often stigmatized population group and funding has assisted those people to engage in health care where they may otherwise not have been able to.

For more information on Sian's practice please go to [www.pritchardhealth.com.au](http://www.pritchardhealth.com.au) You can follow Sian on Twitter using Sian\_NP Email Sian on [sian@pritchardhealth.com.au](mailto:sian@pritchardhealth.com.au).

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## **Valda Dorries - Occupational Therapist**

Valda Dorries has worked extensively in mental health across public, non-government and private sectors as a Mental Health Occupational Therapist, Family and Youth Outreach Counsellor, Project Officer, Consultant Trainer and as an Advanced Clinical Practice Supervisor, for over 35 years.

Valda is the Occupational Therapy Australia (OTA) representative within the Workforce Transition Support Project – Multidisciplinary Working Group (funded by the Australian Government Department of Health). Valda also represented OTA in 2011 within the initial ATAPS Service Purchasing, Clinical Governance and Support Project (Purchasing guidance for child mental health services under ATAPS) and the subsequent ATAPS Children's Mental Health Services Expert Working Group in 2013 (Department of Health & Ageing ATAPS Service).

Valda completed specialist training in Psychoanalytic Child Psychotherapy in 1993 and has been working part time in private practice as a Child and Family Psychotherapist since 1992. Valda uses evidence-based therapies to work with infants, children, adolescents, adults, couples and families to deal with emotional and behavioural problems (e.g. anxiety, depression, conflict, insecure attachment) that affect their daily lives. She was an ATAPS provider from late 2012 to mid-2018.

Valda also works part-time within Children's Health Queensland CYMHS as the State-wide Professional Leader for Allied Health. In this role Valda provides clinical supervision to CYMHS staff - nursing and allied health - across Qld. She has been a lecturer /coordinator within the University of Queensland - Masters of Mental Health (Psychotherapy) and a co-facilitator within the supervision training program at the Qld Centre for Mental Health Learning (Queensland Health).

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## **Dr Lyn O'Grady - psychologist, the Australian Psychological Society**

Dr Lyn O'Grady is a Community Psychologist with a range of professional experience in the community, education and health sectors. She is currently employed as the Manager, Strategic Projects at the Australian Psychological Society, working across a number of projects in relation to primary mental health reform. She is also a registered supervisor of psychology interns.

She has worked with parents in parenting programs, individually at the community level and in schools for over 20 years and managed a number of community-based projects. Lyn also worked as a school psychologist in the Western Metropolitan Region of Melbourne. She recently completed a Master of Suicidology.