



## **KYABRAM DISTRICT HEALTH SERVICE**

**Press Release**  
28<sup>th</sup> February 2017

### **Improving the Healthcare Experience – Consumer participation**

Kyabram District Health Service (KDHS) is one of four successful recipients of first round funding from the Health Issues Centre Practice Partners Program.

The funded 12 month project will encourage patients, carers and community members to use their knowledge and experiences to participate in local healthcare improvements. People can participate by sharing their healthcare journey, experience and ideas, assisting others to share their stories, and/or by joining our working party to translate the feedback into healthcare improvements.

In the first instance, KDHS will conduct 'CARE' (conversations and reflective experience) discussions with many small groups and individuals to gather healthcare experiences and ideas.

"The KDHS project will allow the service to work with patients, carers and community members in an innovative way to support them with their health needs. We understand that when consumers contribute to healthcare improvements, it results in improved healthcare outcomes and experiences for everyone", said Peter Abraham, Chief Executive of KDHS.

"We were thrilled to receive an application from KDHS as it focused on active partnering with consumers to ensure better care in the region. We are looking forward to working with KDHS over the next year as they develop innovative solutions and ideas," said Danny Vadasz, CEO of Health Issues Centre.

The Health Issues Centre enables the voice of consumers of health services across Victoria to be heard by fostering meaningful partnerships between health consumers and the Victorian health sector.

If you would like to meet with a KDHS representative to share your story in a confidential manner, arrange a 'CARE' conversation with a small group of friends, or would like further information please contact Alicia Cunningham, Project Officer on 5857 0200 or email [acunningham@kyhealth.org.au](mailto:acunningham@kyhealth.org.au)