



## MEDIA RELEASE

6 November 2023

### **Karakan joins the MIFA Network**

Mental Illness Fellowship of Australia (MIFA) is proud to announce that Karakan, a long-established not-for-profit community organisation based in the broader Logan and South Brisbane region, has joined the MIFA Network.

MIFA and Karakan share a vision that is inspired by our similar grassroots community beginnings. We strive for a future where all Australians have the best possible mental health and quality of life and are valued and included in all areas of life. Our shared values inspire the work that we do to support the mental health and wellbeing of people living with mental illness and psychosocial disability.

MIFA's Chair, Claire Moore, notes that, "Karakan's membership of the MIFA Network strengthens our national voice. Karakan is a vibrant and innovative organisation, with a long history of supporting people to develop resiliency and connections within community. This will contribute greatly to our advocacy and to supporting our efforts to elevate lived experience voices in Australia."

MIFA's National Chief Executive Officer, Tony Stevenson, is pleased that Karakan's addition to the MIFA Network allows Southeast Queensland to have a presence within the MIFA membership. "Through the addition of Karakan, we are adding to the strength of the MIFA Network and broadening our geographic reach. We are looking forward to working with Karakan to understand the issues and challenges experienced by people living in Southeast Queensland, and celebrating the good work and innovative approaches to service delivery that are helping people to live good lives in their community."

Karakan's Chair, Holly Blattman KC, and Chief Executive Officer, Cameron Thayer, are looking forward to contributing as part of the MIFA Network.

"Karakan and MIFA share a strong mutual vision and commitment to ensuring the voice of lived experience is heard and understood, with the aim to inform policy, systemic planning, program design, funding, and improvement of our mental health systems. We have seen the important work that Tony and the team at MIFA are doing to drive this mission forward.

We have already felt the value of our association with MIFA and the opportunity this has provided to engage, contribute and help shape positive change for people with mental health needs.

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It is a privilege to now be part of this network of likeminded leaders and professionals.

We look forward to a purposeful and productive partnership with MIFA and the adjoining member organisations as we continue to advocate for greater supports and better outcomes for people with mental health needs.”

We look forward to introducing Karakan to the MIFA Network at our Annual General Meeting in Canberra on 14 November 2023.

For more information about Karakan, visit <https://karakan.com.au/>.

Ends

*To get help 24/7, phone Lifeline on 13 11 14 or the Suicide Call Back Service on 1300 659 467. If you or someone you know are in immediate danger, phone 000 for emergency services.*

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