

Friday 5 May 2017

GOT A GREAT IDEA ON HOW DIGITAL TOOLS CAN IMPROVE CHILD HEALTH?

Clinicians, ICT experts, researchers and consumer representatives are being offered a unique opportunity to play a pivotal part in improving the health and wellbeing of Australian children.

Interested parties are encouraged to apply to join the Partnership Groups and Expert Reference Group of the newly established National Collaborative Network for Child Health Informatics (the Network).

Led by eHealth NSW and the Sydney Children's Hospital Network on behalf of the Australian Digital Health Agency, this exciting new collaboration will identify digital technologies to help parents and children to have better health outcomes and experience of the health system.

The Network is looking for projects that engage and empower children and their families; improve access to care; support integrated care or better coordinated care for children; and enhance the quality of care.

For the next fortnight, until 19 May 2017, Expressions of Interest (EOIs) are sought for the Network's:

- **Partnership Groups**, which will develop project proposals, informed by the feedback from the Australian Digital Health Agency's national strategy consultation process and state and national strategic priorities for child health and wellbeing. Those selected will attend half-day workshops around Australia in June 2017; and
- **Expert Reference Group**, which will assess and prioritise proposals developed by the Partnership Groups. The proposed meeting dates will be in July 2017.

The Network seeks representatives to participate in three work streams of the Expert Reference Group:

- **Community and Clinical Work Stream:** To assess whether the proposal will positively impact the health outcomes of children; will support the delivery of safer, quality care; will positively impact the health experiences of children and their families/carers; supports integrated care, better coordinated care or improved access to care; and supports patient-centred care or patient empowerment.
- **ICT & Digital Work Stream:** To assess whether the proposal is technically feasible; adequately costed; provides value for money; is consistent with national strategy and priorities; that timeframes are appropriate; and that, where possible, the proposal leverages existing infrastructure.
- **Research Work Stream:** To assess whether the proposal has adequately and appropriately outlined potential benefits and identified appropriate evaluation metrics. The sub-group will also develop guidance for the Steering Committee on potential metrics and/or research projects that could be developed to evaluate the proposal, should it go ahead.

Program Manager Steve Badham said the Network is seeking professionals in health, nursing, medical, education and social services, policy or research who have experience in child and family health in primary care and/or general practice; community health; emergency and/or specialist care; population and/or public health; rural and remote service delivery; indigenous health; mental health; informatics and analytics; safety and quality; child protection; and digital health and/or information and communications technology.

Moreover, EOIs are sought from members of industry with knowledge or experience in utilising digital health initiatives to support child health outcomes; as well as consumer representatives with knowledge or experience in utilising IT/health technology to support child health and wellbeing.

Importantly, those who apply should have the time to commit to the work of the group, including attending meetings, background reading, and commenting on proposals, said Mr Badham.

For more information and to download an EOI form, visit www.ehealth.nsw.gov.au

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