

**New alliance between the International Initiative for Mental Health Leadership (IIMHL) and the Global Mental Health Peer Network (GMHPN) announced.**

IIMHL is delighted to confirm its formal collaboration with the Global Mental Health Peer Network (GMHPN) in a shared mission to improve mental health worldwide.

The partnership will strengthen engagement and knowledge of the challenges and solutions for improving mental health. This can be achieved through IIMHL's member countries, collaborative networks and GMHPN's work with countries around the world focusing on the inclusion of people with lived experience and on issues such as human rights, mental health improvement and reducing stigma and discrimination.

**Steve Appleton**, *President & Chief Executive Designate, IIMHL* said:

"This is a very exciting alliance for us. We are committed to bringing together and using our collective strengths, networks and resources based on our interconnecting values and objectives to improve mental health and wellbeing. Whilst IIMHL has been operating for 18 years and brings extensive global insights through a well-developed network of mental health leaders, GMHPN are experts in ensuring persons with lived experience have a platform to share their views and perspectives on mental health related topics. This combination will ensure authentic and meaningful actions are found to influence and inform global practices."

**Ms Charlene Sunkel**, *Founder/ CEO: Global Mental Health Peer Network* said

"We highly value this new partnership with IIMHL. We envision our collaboration will positively impact on creating a world where everyone is able to access quality and human rights based mental health care and support. GMHPN and IIMHL are both committed to mobilising leadership in mental health and influence policy and practice. We are bringing our unique and diverse lived experiences to join forces with IIMHL and believe that together we are a powerful catalyst for the change and transformation that we all strive towards."