

better together...



Family Advocacy

*Working in Partnership with Family
and Whānau*



Family Advocacy is integral to all planning, implementation and evaluation of Affinity's mental health services. The Family Advocate actively seeks input from people using services and their family and whānau.

WHAT DO WE OFFER

The Family Advocate

- Will address any concerns family and whānau may have regarding the services Affinity provide.
- Will encourage family and whānau to contribute to Affinity's planning and implementation of change.
- Will engage family, whānau and Affinity Staff in regular forums and workshops which address mental illness and its treatment. Emphasis is placed on the important role family and whānau play in people's journey to recovery.
- Works with the Kaupapa Māori Service for whānau and family. Both Karihia and Kuia are available to assist and provide support with the assessment and establishing of the level of service required. They will ensure the appropriate care and support is provided to Māori.

FAMILY AND WHANAU RIGHTS

The Family Advocate helps to ensure that the rights of families and whānau are respected.

These include:

- Being treated with understanding and respect.
- Being able to provide relevant information about a family member's history in confidence.
- Being taken seriously when expressing concerns about changes in a person's behaviour.
- Information on the range of relevant services and supports available in the community.
- Being consulted about a family and whānau member's discharge plans.
- Culturally accepted treatment options which are inclusive of the family and whānau.
- Affinity recognizes the need for families and whānau to participate in shaping the service. Affinity invites families and whānau to take part in all aspects of their service planning, implementation and evaluation.

HOW TO ACCESS THIS SERVICE

If you would like further information, please contact the Family Advocate on 526 0320.