

Capital Health Network Limited

Election of Directors 2025

Candidate Statement

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|---|-----------------------------|------|--|
| Candidate name (please print): | Lewching Yip | | |
| Tick the Director Position being nominated for: | E2 <input type="checkbox"/> | E4 X | |

Statement in support of nomination

Lewching (She/her) is a lived and living experience advocate, shaped by her experiences as a queer woman of colour and first-generation migrant who navigated systems, her safety, and her recovery as a survivor of family violence and complex trauma. Lewching's advocacy is centred around intersectionality and cultural safety for her communities. For the past 7 years, Lewching has partnered with governments and not-for-profits on state and national levels to drive systemic reforms, organisational governance, and co-design seeking to embed lived and living experience expertise at all levels. Outside Lewching's systemic advocacy, she has a background in frontline service provision across youth mental health, youth homelessness, suicide prevention, and domestic, family, and sexual violence. Lewching is the deputy chair at ACT Mental Health Consumer Network and an inaugural member of Lived and Living Experience Authority at Wellways Australia. Lewching is passionate about decolonizing systems and services to promote cultural safety across mainstream supports for culturally and racially marginalised communities.

NOTE: 250 word maximum

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Statement addressing the position requirements for Director position E4

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|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Candidate name (please print): | Lewching Yip |
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Statement addressing the position requirements

1. Demonstrated ability to contribute to the Board's strategic thinking.

Lewching brings with her 7 years of experience in partnering with not-for-profit organisations and governments to influence systemic reform, policy, organisational governance, and strategy on state and national levels. Lewching's strategic thinking is grounded by her lived expertise and frontline work experience, giving her insights into how governance and strategies should be shaped with the workforce, consumers, family, supporters, and kins in mind.

2. Demonstrated ability to provide strong leadership, acting with integrity and high ethical standards.

Lewching brings lived experience leadership into governance to ensure strategic direction do not lose sight of the very individuals and communities that organisations like Capital Health Network seeks to work alongside. Lewching's work is led by peer values of mutuality, authenticity, human rights, and anti-oppression. Should Lewching be elected onto the Capital Health Network Board, she will be driven by the same values in leading risk management, accountability, and strategic direction to support the organisation's purpose to advance health care delivery in Canberra.

3. Appropriate governance qualifications or experience (i.e. completion of the Australian Institute of Company Directors training or equivalent).

Lewching brings experience in board governance within the not-for-profit sector. Lewching is the current deputy chair of ACT Mental Health Consumer Network, a former board member with Women with Disabilities ACT (WWDACT) and a former undergraduate representative on the ANU Academic Board. Lewching also has experience in driving lived and living experience governance as an inaugural member of the Lived and Living Experience Authority at Wellways Australia seeking to create a new form a lived experience led governance, and a former deputy consumer co-chair for the National Mental Health Consumer and Carer Forum (NMHCCF). Lewching has completed the Certificate for Advanced Leadership for Community Chairs.

NOTE: 500 word maximum



LEWCHING (LC) YIP
SHE/HER

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CURRENT WORK

SENIOR ADVOCATE, SEXUAL VIOLENCE RESPONSE (VICTIM SUPPORT ACT)

NOV 2024 – PRESENT

- Support the reinstatement of the Wraparound, an interagency coordination mechanism to provide trauma-informed advocacy and support to victim-survivors of sexual violence.
- Promote the recovery of victim-survivors and work closely with justice agencies to ensure the rights and interests of victim-survivors in the justice system are upheld.

LIVED EXPERIENCE CONSULTANT (SELF-EMPLOYED)

JAN 2019 – PRESENT

- I work with various government bodies and NGOs to drive system reform, co-production, and organisational governance. Some notable positions include:
- Deputy consumer co-chair and CALD Representative, National Mental Health Consumer and Carer Forum (NMHCCF)
- Ministerial Advisory Council for Multiculturalism, ACT Government
- Embrace Multicultural Mental Health Forum, Mental Health Australia
- Noor Survivor Advocates, Intouch
- Lived and Living experience Authority, Wellways Australia

PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE

CRISIS INTERVENTION CASE PRACTITIONER, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CRISIS SERVICES (DVCS)

NOV 2023 – NOV 2024

- Provide specialist DFV support and crisis case management to clients in DVCS Crisis Accommodation who are experiencing high risk DFV, have complex needs and/or experience significant barriers to accessing mainstream services.
- Working closely with other agencies to identify safe exit pathways from DVCS Crisis Accommodation.

CRISIS INTERVENTION WORKER & CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADVOCATE, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CRISIS SERVICES (DVCS)

AUG 2022 – OCT 2023

- Attend to crisis calls and provide crisis intervention services such as assessment of safety issues, personal and immediate practical support, referral & advocacy.
- Provide individual support and information to clients through legal processes including paralegal support as required.
- Relaying these court outcomes to people subjected to violence, safety planning with them, and advocating for them with the director of public prosecutions and courts.

CASE MANAGER, AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS – HUMANITARIAN SETTLEMENT PROGRAM (PLACEMENT)

JUL 2023 – NOV 2023

- Provide ongoing case management for refugees and humanitarian entrants with the initial 12-18 months of their settlement into Australia.
- Utilize strengths-based approaches to assist clients in identifying their short- and long-term settlement goals.

SUICIDE PREVENTION PEER WORKER, STRIDE MENTAL HEALTH

NOV 2021 – FEB 2024

- Safe Haven functions as an after-hours suicide prevention crisis drop-in service. It serves as an alternative to the emergency department.
- Carry out brief interventions including psychosocial support, safety planning, recovery/wellness planning, sensory modulation techniques, and advocacy.
- Conduct risk assessment and support clients in transfer to the emergency department as required.

RESIDENTIAL YOUTH WORKER, YOUTH EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATION NETWORK (YEAN)

OCT 2021 – AUG 2022

- Provide crisis accommodation for young people aged 16-25 facing homelessness and domestic family violence.
- Work across a 24-hour roster to provide ongoing support for these young people.

EHEADSPACE YOUTH PEER WORKER, HEADSPACE NATIONAL

JUL 2019 – MAY 2022

- Moderate online anonymous group chats to create safe and respectful online spaces for participants to provide and receive peer support. This includes ensuring safe language is being used in the chat and all participants abide by community guidelines.
- Strengthen youth participation within eheadspace and promote conversations surrounding relationships, mental health, and support services.

ACCOMODATION OFFICER, AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

SEPT 2021 – FEB 2022

- Assist with the placement of incoming and current ANU students into suitable on-campus accommodation.
- Liaise with teams within all residential halls and work closely with them to support the well-being and safety of students living on-campus.

ASSISTANT STUDENT INFORMATION OFFICER, ANU STUDENT CENTRAL

AUG 2019 – SEPT 2021

- Act as a first point of contact for all ANU Students and refer them on to the relevant support services as required.
- Assist with the day-to-day services of Student Central (Student card printing, answering phone enquiries, running zoom drop-in and pop-up services etc.)
- Facilitate orientation webinars and information sessions.

STUDENT SPACE MANAGER, ANU STUDENT ASSOCIATION

FEB 2021– SEP 2021

- Manage delivery of services that caters to the needs of students. The Student Space provided free breakfasts, groceries, sanitary products, and contraception for students. It also provided easy and affordable access to other essentials.
- Maintain inventory and process orders as required.
- Continuously review and develop the Student Space's services to ensure it cater to the ongoing needs of students.

COMMUNITY COORDINATOR, UNILODGE

JUL 2020 – MAR 2021

- Manage and support a team of 25-30 Residential Advisers to coordinate the residential life program at Davey and Lena Karmel Lodge. I oversee all welfare and community engagement programs within the building where over 500 young people reside.
- Serve as an on-call primary for all after-hours emergencies. I have managed critical incidents involving suicidal ideation, self-harm, domestic violence, SASH disclosures, drug and alcohol use, and other medical emergencies involving young people.
- Managed the multicultural and inclusivity portfolio to promote engagement with the diverse community at Lodge. I helped design inclusive and accessibility guidelines for events/programs and coordinated cultural competency/incident management training for all student leaders.

RESIDENTIAL ADVISER, UNILODGE

NOV 2018-JUL 2020

- Provide support for residents under my care and organise referrals as required.
- Acted as the first responder after hours and escalate incidents to the Community Coordinator when required.
- Worked with the rest of the team to build community spirit through a variety of events and initiatives.
- Received the Outstanding Residential Leader Award in 2019

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

BOARD DEPUTY CHAIR & DIRECTOR, BERYL WOMEN INC

PRESENT

- As a board director, I provide oversight over governance and the financial position of the organization. I also sit on the Finance & Audit Sub-Committee.
- Provide strategic direction for the organization.

BOARD DIRECTOR, WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES ACT

DEC 2020 - JUN 2022

- Provide leadership in strategic achievement, ensuring there is adequate resources and staffing to support realistic strategic goals.
- Represent the board and WWDACT on relevant state and national bodies.
- Manage WWDACT's finances and diversify funding streams to ensure longevity and sustainability of the organization.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' OFFICER, ANU STUDENT ASSOCIATION

DEC 2019 – JUL 2020

- Led a team of 17 to organise various initiatives and events that cater to the needs of international students.
- Represented all undergraduate international students at the ANU and advocated on their behalf.

ACADEMIC BOARD MEMBER, AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

DEC 2019 – JUL 2020

- Academic Board is tasked with ensuring the University maintains the highest standards in teaching, scholarship, and research. The Board reviews academic policy recommendations and approves degrees and other awards.
- Throughout the peak of the pandemic, I negotiated with various executive officers to ensure students had adequate financial, wellbeing and academic support to assist with international students who were stuck in Australia, abroad or experiencing extenuating circumstances because of the pandemic.
- Along with ANUSA, we were able to negotiate for emergency relief funds and academic concessions considering the pandemic, assisting many international students to safely return to Australia and cope with the ongoing hardships.

EDUCATION

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK, AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

COMPLETED JAN 2025

5.77/7 GPA

BACHELOR OF ARTS (PSYCHOLOGY), AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

COMPLETED DEC 2022

5.45/7 GPA

CERT IV YOUTH WORK, CANBERRA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

COMPLETED JULY 2022

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

- Institute of Community Directors Australia Advanced leadership for Community Chairs Certificate
- Australian DBT Institute Essentials in Dialectical Behaviour Therapy
- Accidental Counsellor Training Certificate
- ASSIST Training Certificate
- Blue Knot Trauma Awareness in Practice Certificate
- Mental Health Coordinating Council Responding to Voices

AWARDS

- 2024 International Mental Health Advocate of the Year, Mental Health Foundation Australia - Winner
- 2024 YWCA Great Ydea Grant, YWCA Canberra - Winner
- 2024 ACT LiFE Awards Outstanding Contribution to Suicide Prevention, Suicide Prevention Australia - Winner
- 2023 Young Canberra Citizen of the Year, ACT Government – High Commendation
- 2019 Resident of the Year & Outstanding Residential Leader Award, UniLodge – Winner

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

- Fluent in English (First language)
- Fluent in Chinese (Native language)