



BE HEARD!

IMHA (Independent Mental Health Advocacy)

Amendments to the Mental Health Act 2007 created an Independent Advocacy Service for 'qualifying patients'. IMHAs are independent of the service providers and are trained to work within the framework of the Act.

What does an IMHA do?

- ✓ Support you to get your views heard
- ✓ Support you to attend meetings and assist you to appeal
- ✓ Tell you about your rights and how to exercise your rights
- ✓ Help you understand the Mental Health Act and how it applies to you
- ✓ Help you understand your medical treatment and explore options

Who qualifies for an IMHA?

You qualify for an IMHA if you are:

- ✓ Detained under the Act (even if you are on leave) unless you are on a short-term section lasting 72 hours or less
- ✓ A Conditionally discharged restricted patients
- ✓ Subject to guardianship
- ✓ On Supervised Community Treatment
- ✓ An informal patient being considered for a treatment under Section 57 such as surgical implantation of hormones or neurosurgery for mental disorder

We can't guarantee that you will get what you want, but we can make sure that your voice is heard!

Call us or pick up a leaflet for more information



Southern Advocacy Services
it changed my life

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