

Mental Health Carers *Arafmi* Australia Inc.

MEDIA RELEASE

MEDIA RELEASE

MEDIA RELEASE

ANNOUNCEMENT

February 1, 2011

Warren Jenkins: New Executive Officer for Mental Health Carers *Arafmi* Australia

It is with great pleasure that I am able to announce the appointment of experienced mental health carer Warren Jenkins to the position of Executive Officer of Mental Health Carers *Arafmi* Australia (MHCAA).

Mr Jenkins' appointment will give mental health carers a stronger voice at the national level at a time of unprecedented interest in mental health in Australia including greater support for mental health carers.

Mental Health Carers *Arafmi* Australia is the umbrella body for Mental Health Carers *Arafmi* organisations in the States and Territories. These Mental Health Carers *Arafmi* organisations are member based organisations that have been caring for the families and friends (carers) of people with mental health issues since 1975.

Mr Jenkins recently spent five years as Executive Director of the Mental Health Carers *Arafmi* organisation in Victoria, ARAFEMI, where he oversaw expanded peer support programs for consumers and carers and partnerships with Area Mental Health Services.

In total he has spent 25 years in the management of mental health and disability services at senior levels, including government and non-government positions, in Victoria and Queensland.

Mr Jenkins has been a mental health carer for 16 years and continuing.

Mr Jenkins said he was committed to partnerships between clinical service providers and non-clinical, psycho-social supports, as well as carer supports, and is looking forward to working with the Federal government and national mental health and carer organisations to get what's best for mental health carers.

Mr Jenkins can be contacted on 0400 340 100.

Issued by Tony Fowke, President, Mental Health Carers *Arafmi* Australia Inc.

Media contact: Lee Tate, Communications Manager, Arafmi WA 0437 805189.

Email: lee.tate@arafmi.asn.au