

RESEARCH BUDDIES

What is a research buddy?

A research buddy is a consumer or community members who can help to provide the link between the researcher and the community. Some researchers have little or no contact with people affected by the condition they are studying.

What does a research buddy do?

Research buddies may:

- Discuss various aspects of the research with the researcher research team; from aims to results and new ideas
- Help to raise awareness of the research and help with the dissemination of findings

Are research buddies appropriate for my research?

Research buddies can be used in all types of research and at any stage, however they are particularly helpful when the research uses linked data or is laboratory based.

How many research buddies should I have?

We recommend having two research buddies – this helps in the event that one research buddy is unavailable, and can also assist them feeling comfortable and supported in the role.

How often should I meet with my research buddies?

Research buddies and researchers or research teams may meet two to three times per year. You may also communicate throughout the project via email or phone.

What are the costs involved with research buddies?

We advocate for honorarium payments for research buddies at a rate of \$37.50 per hour (*please refer to our honorarium payment guidelines*).

Research buddy in practice

UWA's Doctor Gabrielle Brand approached the CCI Program in 2017 for advice on involving consumers in the development of a tool to be used with health professions education, to assist in gaining a better understanding of mental health. We were able to link Gabrielle with Research Buddy Carli Sheers who initially provided advice on a grant application to Healthway. The grant application was successful, and in 2018 the project received funding.

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Connect with us

