Aggression and violence are common within our general health care system, in emergency departments, in hospitals and in community care. It is also common in mental health care settings. It is an issue that is difficult to tackle.

This Forum will examine the issues from the perspectives of both the individual and the system. Individually both clients and staff can experience violence. Systemically policy and procedures can either inhibit or promote the occurrence of aggression and violence.
This Forum will focus on what is happening in the mental health system, what research is available and what can be done to improve the system.

Invitation to Sydney
Come to TheMHS 13th annual Summer Forum in Sydney, at the Parkroyal Darling Harbour Sydney, close to Sydney Central Business District and Darling Harbour. Nearby are many attractions: the Chinese Gardens; a myriad of cafés and restaurants; Australian National Maritime Museum; Powerhouse Museum; IMAX theatre; Sydney Aquarium; Sydney Wildlife World; Paddy’s market; cinemas and ferry, bus, tram, train and monorail services.

Who should attend this Forum?
This forum will be of interest to mental health program managers and directors, clinical leaders, clinicians, researchers, educators, policy makers, consumers and carers.

Program
The latest program is available from our website: www.themhs.org

Ronald J Diamond
For more than 30 years, Dr. Diamond has been involved in the community-based treatment of persons with severe and persistent mental illness. He has taught and written on issues of staff training, ethics, staff roles, decreasing coercion, medication compliance, psychiatric administration and system design. For more than a decade, he has been interested in how to integrate concepts of recovery and cultural competence into day-to-day clinical practice. The Mental Health Center of Dane County is a national model in community psychiatry providing culturally competent services to both children and adults. His psycho-pharmacology book “Instant Psychopharmacology” was written for non-medical clinicians, consumers and family members. The third edition of this was published in 2009. His previous book, “Treatment collaboration, improving the therapist, prescriber, client relationship” was published in 2007. He is currently Medical Director of the Mental Health Center of Dane County, Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Wisconsin and Consultant to the Wisconsin Bureau of Mental Health and Substance Abuse.

He will speak on:
Dealing with Angry People
Chemical restraint: medication and aggression
Borderline Personality and aggression

Kevin Gournay
Kevin Gournay works at Institute of Psychiatry (Kings College; University of London) and is a Chartered Psychologist and a Registered Nurse. He has extensive clinical experience in the treatment of anxiety disorders and has a large research portfolio on areas as diverse as CBT, violence, suicide, schizophrenia, medication, epidemiology and primary care. He manages research and training projects in Australia, Russia and several other countries and is the author of 300 books, monographs, papers, chapters and major conference papers. He has other diverse interests in mental health including policy work for the Department of Health, chairing a NICE panel on the management of violence and being an expert witness on PTSD and suicides and homicides by people with a mental illness. He has worked for the UK Joint Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights on the Deaths in Custody report. He is President and founding Patron of No Panic (the UK’s largest anxiety self help group); frequent contributor to TV, Radio and newspapers; Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists (2002) for outstanding services to Psychiatry; Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences (2000) for distinguished contribution to Medical Sciences; Fellow of the Royal College of Nursing (1998); CBE in the New Year Honours (1998/9); Psychiatric Nurse of the Year by the American Psychiatric Nurses Association (2004).

He will speak on:
NICE (National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence) Guidelines on Violence

Kathleen Brady
Kathleen Brady is Professor of Psychiatry at the Medical University of South Carolina, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. She is well known for her research in the area of psychiatric comorbidity and substance use disorders and pharmacotherapy of substance use disorders. She has had a particular focus on the area of victimization and post-traumatic stress disorder in substance users, issues of particular importance to women. Her focus on psychiatric comorbidity in substance use disorders has led to investigations of gender-specific issues because of the high comorbidity of anxiety and affective disorders in substance using women. Her recent research activities involve the interface between basic and clinical science investigating the neurobiological connection between stress and substance use disorders and in the translation of empirically-based treatments. She is the Principal Investigator and Director of the Southern Consortium of the NIDA Clinical Trials Network; Assistant Dean for Clinical Research at MUSC and the Director of the MUSC General Clinical Research Center (GCRC).

She will speak on:
Substance abuse and violence and aggression
Violence and women, victimisation and PTSD

For details of the Summer Forum program and listing of speakers, please go to www.themhs.org

Latest program: www.themhs.org
Accommodation

The Parkroyal Darling Harbour Sydney, the conference hotel, is offering specially reduced room rates for delegates to TheMHS Summer Forum. To obtain these special conference rates book via the link on TheMHS website.

PLEASE NOTE: Standard policy is that hotels require a credit card or cash bond to be presented on arrival to cover any additional charges that may occur during your stay, even if your accommodation has been fully prepaid.

Cancellations – Please see the hotel’s policy for cancellations.

Closing Date for Registration

17 FEBRUARY 2011

The number of places at this Forum is strictly limited, so please book early to guarantee your place. On-site registration may be available, depending upon numbers – please check availability with TheMHS office before the commencement of the Summer Forum.

PRIVACY STATEMENT
Your name and contact details will be used only to notify you of future mental health related events organised by TheMHS. If you do not wish to have your details used for this purpose please contact TheMHS office.

INSURANCE
It is strongly recommended that delegates take out adequate medical, travel and personal insurance prior to the commencement of travel to cover any loss of fees, accommodation or airfares, should you be unable to participate in the conference for any reason.

DISCLAIMER
The information given by presenters at the conference does not represent the views of TheMHS, and does not constitute therapeutic advice.

In the event of industrial action, force majeure or other unforeseen disruption, the conference organisers do not take responsibility for any loss of monies incurred by conference delegates. We strongly advise conference delegates to arrange their own personal insurance. The conference will not be liable for any participant failing to take out their own insurance.

TheMHS CANCELLATION POLICY: Fees will be refunded in full if TheMHS is notified in writing by the 21 January 2011, 50% of fee will be refunded if notification is received by 4 February 2011. NO REFUND will apply after 4 February, except at the discretion of TheMHS Management Committee.

This Summer Forum is organised by TheMHS Management Committee:
Tom Brideson, Andy Campbell, Cathy Chapman, Lynne Dunbar, Roger Gurr, Paula Hanlon, Douglas Holmes, Kevin Kellehear, Leonie Manns, Peter McGeorge, Marilyn McMurchie, Vivienne Miller, Sadie Robertson, Alan Rosen, Maree Teesson

Special Event at TheMHS Summer Forum
National Standards for Mental Health Services 2010 Poster & Video Competition – Announcement of winners
The winners of the National Standards 2010 Poster & Video Competition will be announced at TheMHS Summer Forum by a special guest speaker, and winning entries will be displayed at the Forum.

Please check website for updates about the Summer Forum