# Representation at the Mental Health Review Tribunal hearing

## What are the benefits of having representation?

Attending your hearing with a representative can help you feel more comfortable at your hearing and to have your say.

If you choose, your representative can speak on your behalf and put forward your personal views and wishes.

"I went with whoever I felt comfortable with. Either a family member or a worker from wherever I was staying. The worker was probably better because they understood it"

#### You have the right to:

- Choose your nominee and support persons
- Attend your hearing with legal representation and/or your nominated support person
- An interpreter (sign and language) (provided by the MHRT at your request)
- Have a person with cultural knowledge attend your hearing (provided by the MHRT at your request)
- Receive visits from your own health practitioner or legal adviser at any reasonable time if you are an in-patient
- Talk to your treating psychiatrist/authorised doctor about your involuntary order and your treatment plan



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### Who can represent your views at your hearing?

- · A legal representative
- Your nominated support person
- An independent Advocate

### Who can attend with you as support?

 A support person, such as your carer, family member, friend, or significant other

\*If a person is not your nominated support person, they must apply for leave (permission) from the Tribunal to attend

"The Advocate was able to add context, knowledge of broader services and provide a platform for the person's voice or encourage them to speak for themselves"

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Partners in Recovery is an initiative of the Australian Government: Department of Health