Lee Martinez

Lee Martinez has spent the majority of her life living and working in country SA, providing a lifelong experience and understanding of the needs of those residing in rural and remote areas.

Lee lives in Whyalla in country SA with her husband Louis and has two beautiful daughters who have both chosen city life—one in Adelaide and one in Sydney.

Lee currently holds a joint appointment with the University of SA University Centre for Regional Engagement Department of Rural Health and Country Health SA Local Health Network as mental health academic/knowledge broker and has held this position since mid-2011. The aim of the position is to build partnerships between the university/academia and the health sector to support research that is relevant to industry, academia and practice and enable translation of knowledge into practice. Prior to this, Lee held the position as Director Operations Mental Health Country Health SA Local Health Network since 2007.

Lee’s professional career has been in the rural health sector with a strong focus in community health, health management and health research. Her research interests are focused on building resources for mental health consumers in the community, enabling people to receive the services they require as close to where they live as possible and she has a commitment and passion to ensure equity of outcome for consumers of health services living in rural and remote communities.

Most recently in her current role Lee has worked with a small dynamic team to establish a Mental Health Research Observatory Unit for Country Health SA Local Health Network.