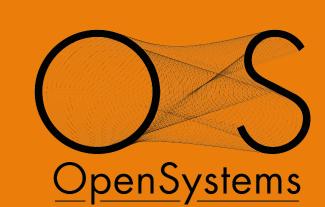


# Citizen Science Practices for Community Mental Health Care



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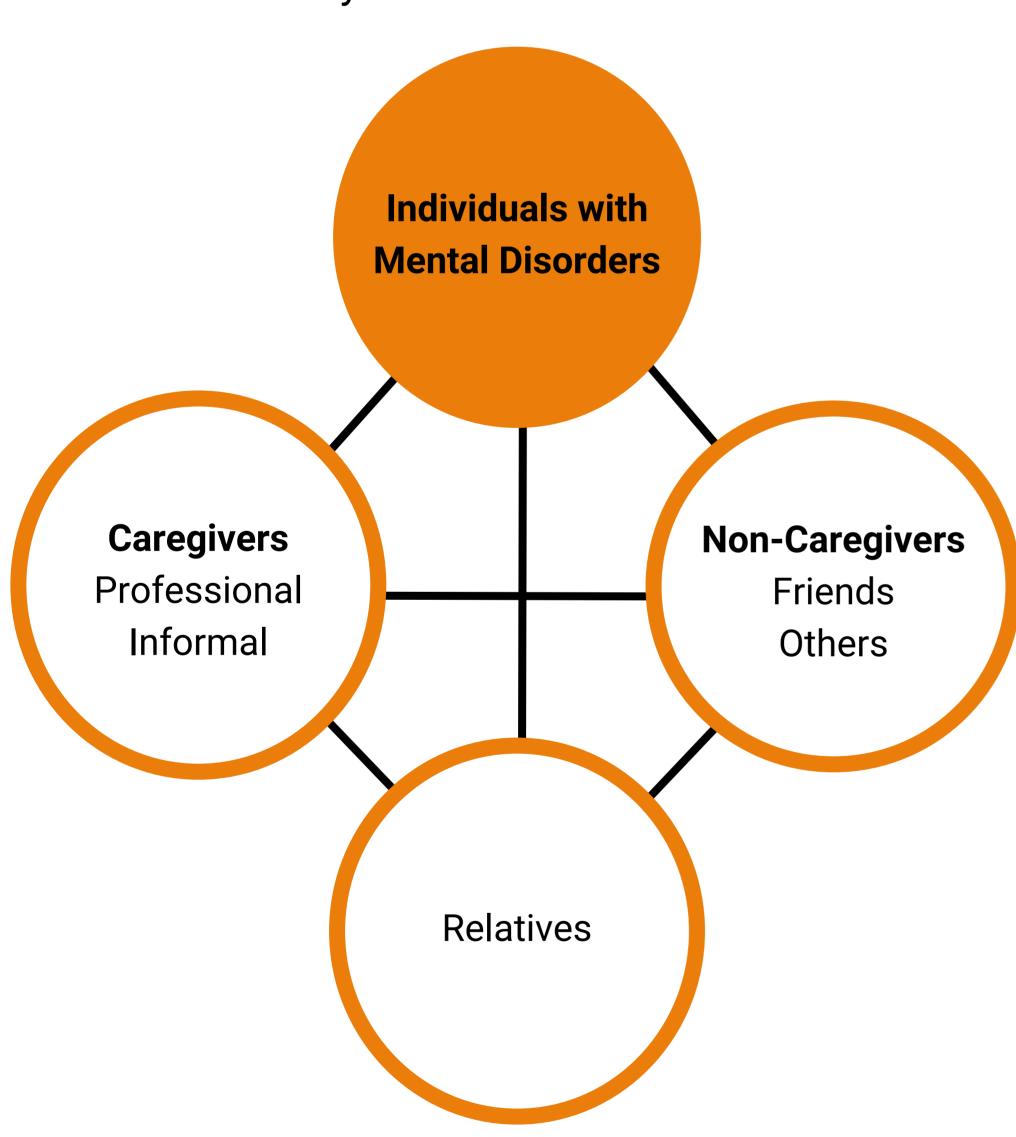
#### Co-Design

The project is based on a participatory process through which the crucial behavioral aspects of the recovery process are identified. All representatives of the mental health ecosystem are involved.

#### The Community Care Model

As part of a paradigm shift in mental healthcare provision, reliance is increasingly made upon supportive social networks.

Mental health is then understood beyond cognitive performance to account for individual ability to actively participate in the community life.



The Community Mental Health Care Model acknowledges the value of the relationship context in which individuals with mental disorders are embedded.

It goes beyond the traditional physician-patient dyad to include caregivers, relatives, social workers and the community as a whole, while recognizing their crucial role in the recovery process.



#### **Working Sessions**

Individual behavior is explored through a suite of games based on social dilemmas run on digital tablets in a participatory way.

More than 270 actors involved in the recovery process took part in 45 collective experiments.

## Game theory and public experiments

Social behavior is crucial to the recovery process of most mental disorders. Game theory allows to model strategic social interactions among members of the mental health ecosystem to identify best practices and optimize resource allocation.

The participatory experiments reinforce the active role that all actors play within the community.



### **Social Impact**

The identification of the role groups that boost and sustain cooperation within the mental health ecosystem points to interventions tailored to the community needs.

#### Results

Caregivers can be considered the strong ties in the mental health ecosystem, because of their high level of cooperation and optimism.

Relatives who do not strictly contribute to caregiving practices show systematically lower levels of prosocial behavior.

Participants with mental disorders play a leading role for the functioning of the ecosystem, because of their larger efforts towards reaching the collective goal.

Community care approaches should take into account group composition to deal with potential inequalities arising from different capabilities.

