Two resources assisting Territorians affected by mental illness were launched yesterday by the Minister for Health and Community Services, Jane Aagaard.

The ‘Top End Mental Health Services Client Information Booklet’ and ‘Information for Carers of People with a Mental Illness in the Northern Territory’ have been developed for those experiencing mental illness and their carers.

The books were produced by the Top End Mental Health Services and the Northern Territory Association for Relatives and Friends of the Mentally Ill (NT ARAFMI).

One in five Australians experience mental illness at some stage in their lives. These booklets are intended to improve the care and treatment of those who experience mental illness, and to be more inclusive of carers and other support people.

Mrs Aagaard said the new booklets demonstrated how government and non-government organisations were working together to improve mental health services in the NT.

"The books will be a valuable resource for consumers, their families and carers," she said.

"Information is provided on areas such as admission status and legal rights and responsibilities of mental health inpatients, and well as practical operational information such as visiting hours, and access to services for mental health improvement."

"The carer booklet is especially important given the key role these people play in our community."

The client information booklet is available to anyone accessing NT Government mental health services and the carer information booklet is available from NT ARAFMI.