

# SPEAQ Forum 2022



**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November**

9:00am – 5:00pm

**Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> November**

8:15am – 5pm

**Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> November**

8:30am – 4:15pm

**This Booklet contains:**

- 3 day Programme outline
- Session descriptions
- Speaker bios
- Acknowledgements
- About SPEAQ

[speaq.org.au](https://speaq.org.au)

# Welcome from the Organising Committee

Welcome to our 2022 SPEAQ Forum – welcome to presenters and participants, both SPEAQ members and other colleagues – from across Queensland, other parts of Australia, and from overseas. Thank you all for being part of this.

We appreciate and acknowledge the work of the presenters in developing quality and practical material for our professional growth, and the work of all the participants, who have taken the time and made the commitment to be present. Thanks also to WorkUP Qld whose funding support and encouragement allowed us to proceed with confidence and keep costs affordable.

This 3-day event has been a long time in preparation. As an organising committee, we've been meeting weekly for the last 6 months. This is an historic first for us – the first SPEAQ Forum in a regional location.

There is so much happening in the DfV sector across Australia, federally and at the state level – particularly around coercive control, and the issues of responding equitably and effectively to diverse populations. A new round of reforms is underway in Queensland with the acceptance all 89 recommendations of Hear Her Voice : Report 1, of the Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce. Among these is the expansion in the number and type of services to address behaviour change for those who perpetrate DfV, as well as a number of steps in the process towards criminalising coercive control.

We know that our work in intervention programs, both with the men and with their partners and family members, is critical to safety for and accountability to those who have been harmed. It is incumbent on all of us to be up to date in our work with this challenging client group. Sharing our research, practice wisdom, and hope strengthens our professional identity and our professional effectiveness. Being together as professionals brings us a sense of belonging, a community of practice, that can energise and enthuse us to keep going and keep getting better as men's workers. So please engage with the content, your fellow participants, and the process during your time together with us, and enjoy yourselves while you do it. You are making a difference.

*SPEAQ Forum 2022 Organising Committee*

*Paul Monsour, Chez Leggatt-Cook, Michelle Loughton, Vanessa Harestad*

*November 2022*

# SPEAQ Forum 2022 - Programme Schedule

## Pre-conference Workshops - Wednesday 9th November 2022

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9:00 am **The 5 Essential Discussion Tools** *Lockhart Room 1*  
[See flyer for more detail](#)

12:15 am	Lunch	
1:00 pm	<b>The 5 Essential Discussion Tools</b> (Repeat of morning session) <a href="#">See flyer for more detail</a>  Stacy Oehlman  <i>Lockhart Room 1</i>	<b>Queering Practice: Foundations of working for and with LGBTIQ+ people in violence prevention and responses</b> <a href="#">See flyer for more detail</a>  Dr Brodie Evans  <i>Lockhart Room 2</i>
4:00 pm	Close	

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8:00 pm– **Film Screening- Behind the Rage: America's Domestic Violence** (free event)  
9:30 pm A special advance screening of a new documentary by award-winning filmmaker and activist [Deeyah Khan](#). Includes soul-searching interviews with perpetrators of DFV and their partners and provides a glimpse of the [Family Peace Initiative's work](#) (8 pm – 9:15 pm). Followed by a conversation with FPI's Steve Halley and Dorthy Stucky Halley about their experience with the making of the film (9:15 pm - 9:30 pm). Free for Forum attendees and local DFV sector staff.

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# Day 1 - Thursday 10th November 2022

8:15 am	<b>Registration</b>
8:45 am	<b>Welcome session</b> <i>Welcome to Country</i> Minjil
8:55 am	<b>Welcome Address by Hon Shannon Fentiman (video)</b> , Attorney General and Minister for Justice, Minister for Women, Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence
9:00 am	<b>Welcome Address by Fiona Cornforth</b> , CEO, Healing Foundation
9:10 am	<b>Introductions &amp; new connections</b> Dr Brodie Evans <i>Getting started - A session for connecting and building network relationships</i>
9:25 am	<b>Session 1   Breaking the mould: Progressing our responses to diversity.</b> <i>Opening presentation, panel discussion, small group discussion and Q &amp; A</i> Professor Patrick O'Leary, Griffith University Panel: Dr Brodie Evans, YFS Lyn Anderson, Helem Yumba Lizette Twisleton, No To Violence
10:25 am	<b>Morning Tea</b>
10:55 am	<b>Session 2A   Practitioner and Manager Hot Topics</b> <i>Topic 1</i> <i>Group activity where Practitioners or Managers workshop a response to a 'Hot Topic' of their choice in the Men's Behaviour Change Program space, in a facilitated small group. Participants rotate between groups to address two topics within this session. Back by popular demand!</i>
11:40 am	<b>Session 2B   Practitioner and Manager Hot Topics</b> <i>Topic 2</i>
12:20 pm	<b>Session 2C   Hot Topics report back/ debrief</b>
12:30 pm	<b>Lunch</b>
1:30 pm	<b>Session 3   Coercive Control Panel Discussion</b> <i>A moderated panel discussion exploring practice responses to coercive control, using a hypothetical case example, with participants from multiple agencies within the DFV response system. Impending changes to legislation around coercive control will be part of the discussion.</i>  Moderator: Lizette Twisleton, No To Violence with Sandra Keogh, CEO, Cairns Regional DV Service Thelma Schwartz, Principal Legal Officer, Queensland Indigenous Family Violence Service Sgt Adrian Geary, OIC Gordonvale Police Station, Qld Police Service Paul Monsour, Men's DFV Counsellor and Group Facilitator, Anglicare Southern Qld Kirsty Koop, Senior Women's Advocate, YFS Keirra Girvan, Senior Team Leader Far North Queensland, Child Safety

3:00 pm	Afternoon Tea
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3:20 pm	<b>Session 4   Learning from First Nations people about working with men who use DFV.</b>
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*Three perspectives on ways of working with First Nations men, followed by small and large group discussion on what can be drawn from these approaches, for use in working with a diverse range of men who use DFV.*

Lyn Anderson - Helem Yumba (CQ Healing Service), Rockhampton

Namarca Corowa - Reconcile Life, Mackay

Joseph Oui – Royal Flying Doctor Service

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4:50 pm	Wrap-up and information – Dinner/Breakfast
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5:00 pm	<b>Close</b>
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7:00 pm - 10:00 pm	<b>Conference Dinner</b>
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## Day 2 - Friday 11th November 2022

7:00 am	<b>Breakfast hosted by Challenge DV (free event)</b> <b>Key drivers and emerging trends for domestic and family violence prevention: expert insights</b> <i>This event is an opportunity for specialists and services working to eliminate abuse and violence to share their insights about what would make the most impact for investment in prevention strategies. In this interactive event, over breakfast, attendees will have the chance to connect with others working within the space to share insights and ideas about what has worked, what hasn't worked and what needs to happen to make the biggest impact.</i>	
8:30 am	<b>Registration</b>	
9:00 am	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	
9:05 am	<b>Session 5   The river of cruelty model: a trauma responsive approach to interventions with perpetrators of DFV</b> Steve Halley & Dorothy Stucky Halley, Family Peace Initiative, Kansas	
10:35 am	<b>Morning Tea</b>	
10:55 am	<b>Session 6   K.I.N.D and ReNew: Exploring the successes and challenges of supporting families experiencing adolescent to parent violence through two different practice experiences</b> <i>An informative and practice oriented session using case studies.</i> Rebekha Melville, Brisbane Youth Service Alek Jacoby, Brisbane Domestic and Family Violence Service	
12:25 pm	<b>Lunch</b>	
1:15 pm	<b>Session 7   Exploring Motive: Examining Different Dangers and Risks for Victims of Domestic and Family Violence from a Victim Advocate Perspective</b> Dorothy Stucky Halley, Family Peace Initiative, Kansas	<b>Parallel Session 7A   Peace and Family Safety Program: A Men's Behavioural Change Program for Non-English Speaking Men</b> Lea-Anne Meehan and Kelli Byrne, Relationships Australia Qld, Brisbane
2:00 pm		<b>Parallel Session 7B   A Clinical Approach to Individual Work with Men who engage in Intimate Partner Violence</b> Kylie Nix, Fix It Counselling, Cairns
2:45 pm	<b>Afternoon Tea</b>	
3:00 pm	<b>Session 8   Diversity and intersectionality in practice – a panel discussion on workers' experiences</b> A diverse panel of practitioners	
4:00 pm	<b>Closing remarks</b>	
4:15 pm	<b>Close</b>	



## Session Descriptions

# Session Descriptions

Pre-Conference Workshops – Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022



## The 5 Essential Discussion Tools

Stacy Oehlman

this training is designed to refresh and upskill practitioners in de-escalation techniques to reduce harm. The Five Essential Tools are drawn from the experience of specialist work in MBC programs and have been packaged in a way that assists practitioners to engage men in meaningful conversations.

The tools include specialist engagement and holding strategies specific to working with men using family violence, and uniquely applies these tools to face to face, telephone and online responses to men using family violence.



## Queering Practice: Foundations of working for and with LGBTIQ+ people in violence prevention and responses

Dr Brodie Evans

This workshop has been designed in response to a need identified by WorkUP and SPEAQ. The aim of this workshop is to create a space for practitioners in the violence prevention and response work to build relationships with each other and create dialogue focused on working with and for LGBTIQ+ people and communities. Bringing together theory, practice, and lived experience, this workshop will assist practitioners in expanding knowledge to inform practice. It will invite practitioners to critically reflect on how their own marginalisation or privileges may show up in the work.



# Session Descriptions

Day 1 - Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022



## Welcome to Country

### Minjil

Minjil is an indigenous cultural group connecting people from all backgrounds with country, culture and age-old traditions through song, dance, lore and education.



## Welcome address

Attorney General and Minister for Justice, Minister for Women, Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence The Honourable Shannon Fentiman MP

The Attorney-General will provide a welcome message by video to start our Forum.



## Welcome Address

Fiona Cornforth, CEO, Healing Foundation

Fiona Cornforth is a Wuthathi descendant of the far northeast cape of Queensland with family roots also in the Torres Strait Islands. Fiona is the CEO of the Healing Foundation which founded WorkUp QLD in partnership with ANROWS to address workforce-related challenges and opportunities to grow the workforce and better support current and future workers. WorkUp QLD is the major sponsor of the 2022 SPEAQ Forum.



## Session 1 | Breaking the mould: Progressing our responses to diversity.

*Keynote presenter:*

Professor Patrick O'Leary, Griffith University

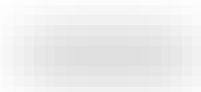
*Panel:*

Lyn Anderson, Helem Yumba

Dr Brodie Evans, YFS

Lizette Twisleton, No To Violence

Keynote presentation addressing the theme for this year's Forum, followed by panel discussion, small group discussion and Q & A.



## Session 2 | Practitioner and Manager Hot Topics Workshop with attendees

Back by popular demand is the group activity where Practitioners or Managers workshop a response to a 'Hot Topic' of their choice in the Men's Behaviour Change Program Space. Participants rotate between groups to address different topics within this session and report back with their learnings.



## Session 3 | Practice responses to Coercive Control

Moderator: Lizette Twisleton, No To Violence  
with

Thelma Schwartz, Principal Legal Officer, Queensland  
Indigenous Family Violence Service

Sandra Keogh, CEO, Cairns Regional DV Service

Sgt Adrian Geary, OIC Gordonvale Police Station, Qld  
Police Service

Paul Monsour, Men's DFV Counsellor and Group  
Facilitator, Anglicare Southern Qld

Kirsty Koop, Senior Women's Advocate, YFS

Keirra Girvan, Senior Team Leader Far North Queensland,  
Child Safety



A moderated panel discussion exploring practice responses to coercive control, using a hypothetical case example, with participants from multiple agencies within the DFV response system. Impending changes to legislation around coercive control will be part of the discussion.





## Session 4 | Learning from First Nations people about working with men who use Domestic and Family Violence

Lyn Anderson - Helem Yumba (CQ Healing Service), Rockhampton



Namarca Corowa - Reconcile Life, Mackay

Joseph Oui – Royal Flying Doctor Service

Three perspectives on ways of working with First Nations men, followed by small and large group discussion on what can be drawn from these approaches, for use in working with a diverse range of men who use Domestic and Family Violence.



## Session Descriptions

Day 2 - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November



## Session 5 | The river of cruelty model: a trauma responsive approach to interventions with perpetrators of DFV

Steve Halley & Dorthy Stucky Halley, Family Peace Initiative, Kansas, USA



The River of Cruelty is a model that illustrates how cruelty is passed from person to person and generation to generation. Through a 5-step process, this workshop will take participants through the "River" and show how unprocessed or unaccepted emotions can promote defense systems that can become problematic. Time will be spent discussing the process of intervening and how this model can be used as a component of MBCP's to create introspection and transformational change.



## Session 6 | K.I.N.D and ReNew: Exploring the successes and challenges of supporting families experiencing adolescent to parent violence through two different practice experiences.

Rebekha Melville & Alek Jacoby



Alek Jacoby from Brisbane Domestic Violence (BDVS), an activity of Micah Projects and Rebekha Melville from Brisbane Youth Service (BYS) will deliver an informative session examining the current practice challenges and successes of supporting families experiencing adolescent to parent violence. The two services will utilise individual practice experiences from their programs, the BDVS Renew program and the BYS Kind Program to share trends, service gaps and consideration for practice. The session will conclude with some practical tools and activities that are used within both programs to encourage positive behaviour change and reduction of violence used within the home.



## Session 7 | Exploring Motive: Examining Different Dangers and Risks for Victims of Domestic and Family Violence from a Victim Advocate Perspective

Dorthy Stucky Halley, Family Peace Initiative, Kansas, USA

In this presentation, the different motives of family and domestic violence offenders and the different impacts on their families will be explored. Those with different motives display different behaviours, and present different dangers to their victim and children. Through the use of videos and case examples, this information provides a more nuanced understanding of domestic violence, and provides practical information that can improve safety planning with victims and their children, and intervention efforts with those who perpetrate abuse.



## Parallel Session 7A | Peace and Family Safety Program: A Men's Behavioural Change Program for Non-English Speaking Men

Lea-anne Meehan and Kelli Byrne

Providing MBC group programs for men who are unable to speak English or would require an interpreter to fully participate is currently not being offered in Brisbane region. Local multicultural agencies provide men's groups and are trying to fill this gap without having the experience or knowledge or trained staff to facilitate a MBC group that would meet current Practice Standards. As a service that provides MBC programs we are often approached by men themselves, other services and now increasingly elders to support men who find themselves with a DVO or have been instructed through courts or Probation and Parole to attend a program. The presentation will map our journey and share some of our learning to date in the development of a culturally appropriate MBC program- RAQ's Peace and Family Safety Program.



## Parallel Session 7B | A Clinical Approach to Individual Work with Men who engage in Intimate Partner Violence

Kylie Nix, Fix It Counselling, Cairns

This presentation will assist professionals such as counsellors, psychologists, therapists and case managers (and their supervisors/leaders) in developing an integrated framework for generalist one on one work with men who participate in intimate partner violence (IPV). It will offer a generalised theoretical framework for working safely and collaboratively with men who use emotionally abusive, harassing and controlling behaviours in intimate relationships.

While firmly acknowledging the empirically valid model of group interventions and men's behavioural change programs, this session will invite you to explore how we can enhance one-on-one treatment outcomes for men who participate in intimate partner violence.

Kylie will briefly introduce an integrated clinical model for working with men who perpetrate IPV in a one-on-one clinical environment. The model holds central a number of foundational principles, that are built upon through evidence informed practice, dynamic risk assessment and case planning, engagement strategies and interventions, robust referral networks and judicial and clinician implications for clinical work.





## Speaker Information

# Presenters and Panellists



## Sgt Adrian Geary

Sergeant Adrian Geary is a proud First Nations descendant of the Bidjara Nation, Kairi Nation and Duncabrook clan. Sergeant Geary has 24 years' service with the Queensland Police Service (QPS) and is currently the Officer in Charge of Gordonvale Police Station. Sergeant Geary is passionate about First Nations Leadership within the QPS.

In 2019, Sergeant Geary was awarded a Commissioner's Certificate and travelled to Chicago to accept a Community Policing Award, for his contribution to an expert reference group responsible for developing the QPS Indigenous artwork entitled 'Look to the Stars'.

Sergeant Geary is also the Chairperson and Community Engagement Director of Queensland Indigenous Family Violence Legal Service (QIFVLS). Sergeant Geary has been a director of QIFVLS for over 11 years and has worked in the Domestic and Family Violence prevention sector for over 20 years. Sergeant Geary is also a facilitator for 'Strengths' Fathers Program in Cairns.



## Alek Jacoby

Alek has a Bachelor of Social Work from QUT and over 6 years' experience in a variety of roles within the not for profit, homelessness and youth sectors. He has strong focus on developing trauma informed, engaging youth based group work and interventions supporting young people to achieve positive change in their lives. Alek has been leading Brisbane Domestic Violence Service's Adolescent to Parent Violence program over the past two years and continues to provide support for families experiencing violence within Brisbane.



## Dr Brodie Evans

**Dr Brodie Evans** is the Practice Manager of the Responsible Men program at YFS Ltd, and has extensive experience facilitating and supervising facilitators of men's domestic and family violence perpetrator intervention programs. Brodie sits on various networks and committees contributing to the development of the domestic and family violence sector and advocacy for law and systems reforms in Australia. Brodie is also a Visiting Fellow for the QUT Centre for Justice. With over ten years of teaching and research experience, his research examines discourse, law and public policy, and political activism in relation to issues of social and criminal injustice.





## Dorthy Stucky Halley LMSW

**Dorthy Stucky Halley, LMSW**, is co-founder of Halley Counseling Services, P.A., and co-director of the Family Peace Initiative Program, a trauma-focused battering intervention program. She is the past director of the Victim Services Division of the Kansas Office of the Attorney General (2007-2020). Her development of a motivation typology for those who batter has opened the door to a new understanding for judges, prosecutors, law enforcement, advocates, battering intervention providers, and others in the domestic violence field. She led the state efforts to develop standards and certify battering intervention programs throughout Kansas. She has served as an expert witness in domestic violence cases for the past 33 years.

Dorthy has served victims in various capacities since 1986. She was the Executive Director of Safehouse, Inc. for over a decade, and previously served as a Crime Victim Compensation Board member. She was the Practicum Director and Assistant Professor at Pittsburg State University in the Social Work Program from 1997 to 2007. She is the past president of the Kansas Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (KNASW), the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence (KCSDV), and the Kansas Organization for Victim Assistance (KOVA). She also serves as a consultant for the Kansas Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board (KDVFRB).

Dorthy received the *Outstanding Victim Advocate of the Year Award* by KCSDV (1996). She was the first recipient of the *Dorthy Halley Lifetime Service Award* by the Office of Attorney General Derek Schmidt (2020). This award is reserved as a special recognition for a dedicated professional who creates significant positive impact in the lives of crime victims throughout their career. In that same year, she also received the *Exemplary Service to Children and Families Award* by the Governor's Conference on Child Abuse. In 2022 she became the recipient of the Kansas Children's Service League's highest honor, the *Distinguished Service to Children Award*.

Along with her husband, Steve, she has authored curricula for working with those who batter, justice-involved women, and justice-involved youth. They have also authored *The River of Cruelty*, and *Halley's Alley: Commentaries on marriage, family, healthy relationships, parenting, loss, grief, trauma, and domestic violence*. She has provided international and domestic presentations to more than 30,000 advocates, criminal justice professionals, and others. She serves as a delegate and presenter to the United Nations Commission for the Status of Women for the International Public Policy Institute (IPPI), and currently serves on the IPPI Board of Directors. In addition to her work, Dorthy loves water skiing, traveling, and spending time with family.



## Joseph Oui

Joseph Oui is a Recognized Mental Health Counsellor with Royal Flying Doctor Service working in remote areas in Far North Queensland. He works intensively with indigenous men's and women's groups in various remote Indigenous communities. He has a Masters in Narrative Therapee degree. Joseph has been working with survivors and offenders of domestic and family violence for more than 13 years. Joseph is currently publishing his thesis 'The Power of Outsider Witness Approaches: Working with Inmates towards Spiritual Healing and Validation'. Joseph has also developed and implemented numerous successful programs such as Indigenous Spirituality As A Theoretical Approach: Working With Survivors and Offender of Domestic and Family Violence in Community and Building Capacity of Indigenous Remote Mental Health Working with Men and Women in Community and including coordinating male perpetrator program, 'Which Way, Proper Way' program and 'One Way, Prapa Way' whilst working for Royal Flying Doctor Service and Relationships Australia for numeral years.



## Keirra Girvan

Keirra has worked for Child Safety for the past 12 years, working in Cairns, Cape and Torres Strait Islands. She is currently a Senior Team Leader in the Investigation and Assessment Child Safety Service Centre, where she has a team of Child Safety Officers, Cultural Practice Advisor and Child Safety Support Officer. She has worked at Edmonton, Cape York North and North Cairns and Lower Cape Child Safety Service Centres. Keirra kindly accepted the invitation to join us at the Forum at very short notice.



## Kelli Byrne

Kelli has worked as a facilitator of Men's Behavioural Change Programs for over 15 years. She has been a guest speaker for QUT and Qld Counsellors Association. Working as the female facilitator with Relationship's Australia's "Stopping Family Violence" program (for perpetrators of Domestic and Family violence. She now works as a Clinical Supervisor for RAQ DFV staff throughout Qld.



## Kirsty Koop

Kirsty Koop is a Domestic Violence Specialist with more than 12 years' experience in the Human Services' sector. She is a Senior Women's Advocate with YFS currently linked to the QCS Domestic and Family Violence program run in four Correctional Centre's across Queensland. The "*Disrupting Family Violence and Moving Closer to Family Wellbeing*" perpetrator intervention program involves working closely with the QCS team of Facilitators to assess risk. Understanding that change is not sudden or easy, Kirsty's focus is on empowering women. Working with a strengths-based, trauma informed practice framework, her priority is on dignity, respect and the safety of women and children.



## Kylie Nix

Kylie is an Accredited Mental Health Social Worker with over 18 years forensic experience, and 14 years working specifically in the area of domestic violence and sexual offender rehabilitation and treatment programs and interventions. She launched her private practice in Cairns over 7 years with a primary focus on working with men in the areas of domestic violence and forensic mental health, including sexual behaviours, relationship separation and Family Law. Kylie is a current consultant with Queensland Corrective Services in the area of sexual offending treatment and interventions.

Her ideal world is to be out of a job in the fields of sexual and domestic violent offending. Second to this, would be to create integrated connections with survivors, professionals, services and groups where those perpetrating and affected by IPV are supported to prevent, exit or break the cycle of offending. She is not a professor, she is not hugely well-read, but she can see a gap in the one on one space and is eager to explore what we can do to improve the safety and experiences for women and children. She hopes her client's will have safe, loving, equal and respectful relationships in the future.



## Lea-anne Meehan

Lea-anne Meehan, graduated as a social worker in 1994. I have spent the majority of my career working across South East Queensland in Brisbane and Logan with a brief time in the mid 90's in rural and remote parts of Queensland. I have worked primarily in Child and Family, Child Protection, Domestic and Family Violence and Post Separation Program areas. I have spent a significant amount of my career as a senior practitioner, trainer and now Senior Manager across a range of programs and sectors. Though whatever I do, it is my values as a Social Worker that is at the fore front of my practice. My passion is working with clients and staff to build skills and knowledge to support growth and development and working to address service gaps for those in need.



## Lizette Twisleton

Lizette Twisleton is the Head of Engagement at No to Violence, the peak body for men's behaviour change work. She has worked in the human and community services sector for 30 years for NGO's and in local government. Lizette has experience in domestic and family violence with victim-survivors and men who use family violence, youth work, health promotion and community development. She has specialised in men's behaviour change work over the past seventeen years, twelve years as a men's behaviour change program facilitator, three years delivering partner contact and five years sector development.

Lizette is passionate about working collectively and collaboratively to create lasting safety for families.



## Lyn Anderson

Lyn is a Gangaalu/Bitjarra woman from the Central Queensland region. She has been the Chief Executive Officer of Helem Yumba, the Central Queensland Healing Centre, based in Rockhampton, since 2005. In her role as CEO, Lyn has steered the direction of Helem Yumba to ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people within Central Queensland had access to, and felt culturally and emotionally safe to engage in the range of western and traditional cultural healing modalities offered by Helem Yumba. Lyn's goal in her work as CEO, is to continue to strengthen the capacity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workers so that they can facilitate the empowerment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families to heal from the negative impacts of colonisation as it manifests in intergenerational violence and trauma. Importantly, to support our families to draw strength from our old ways as passed down generation after generation - to recover, reinstate and reconnect.



## Namarca Corowa

Namarca Corowa is the Director of Reconcile Life Pty Ltd, co-founded with his wife Vikki Corowa in Mackay Queensland. Namarca has an Australian South Sea Islander and Aboriginal heritage born and raised in Mackay. Namarca and his wife Vikki's combined work background in crisis care, youth justice, foster caring, family wellbeing in both Government and Non-Government agencies gives them over 25 years' experience combined on the ground work within their local community. In 2019, they founded Reconcile Life Pty Ltd as a local grass roots company that seeks to address Domestic & Family Violence issues and underlying factors associated with that. This includes the delivery of healthy relationships camps and programs for adults and children from Cultural Perspectives. These are based on their 10-module course developed by Namarca which is the basis of their 15-week behavioral change program from Cultural Perspectives which includes Traditional Owners, respected elders and mentors from the community.



## Paul Monsour

Paul has worked in Intervention Programs for men who use DFV since 2004, coming from the male dominated world of engineering, through teaching and other technical communication roles, to counselling. With a deep commitment to personal and spiritual growth and making a contribution to the world, Paul likes to understand the fundamentals, work collaboratively and build things that work for people.

Apart from his current role in Anglicare, he has worked with survivors of DFV at Sandbag, on the phones at DVConnect Mensline, co-facilitating at DVPC Gold Coast, and in relationship counselling at Anglicare. He was a member of the ministerial Advisory Group that advised on the development of the 2012 Qld DFV legislation and has sat on numerous references groups, roundtables and consultation groups in the DFV sector.

As Secretary of SPEAQ since 2006(ish), through the establishment of a permanent secretariat in 2009, to the present, he has co-ordinated the SPEAQ network, staffed the secretariat, and provided leadership in SPEAQ's growth and development from a group of 50 people to its current size of over 200 members. He has authored a number of key submissions and papers in collaboration with other SPEAQ members.





## Professor Patrick O'Leary

Patrick O'Leary has worked in the area of gendered violence as social worker and now as a researcher for over 25 years. Since 2004, Professor O'Leary has held numerous senior posts at universities in Australia and the United Kingdom. He has worked internationally and domestically on domestic violence and child protection issues. Professor O'Leary was commissioned as an Expert Academic Advisor to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse and has served as a Senior Research Fellow with UNICEF's Office for Research. Most recently he was a member of the Queensland Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce examining coercive control and women's experience of the justice system in relation to sexual violence as well as women's experience as offenders. At Griffith University he has been the academic lead for the Violence Research and Prevention Program (VRPP) and MATE Bystander Project. Currently he is Co-Leader of the Disrupting Violence Beacon at Griffith University and is the Chair of the Clinical Advisory Committee for Survivors and Mates Support Network (SAMSN) a lead national organization supporting male survivors of child sexual abuse. Professor O'Leary's work is internationally recognised and his work is widely cited in high quality journals. He is the Co-Editor of International Social Work since 2018.



## Rebekha Melville

Rebekha Melville is one of Brisbane Youth Service's Safe Relationships Program Coordinators. Rebekha has a Bachelor of Psychology from The University of Canberra and a Social Work Masters from Griffith University. She brings a decade of experience working with young people to the role, in settings spanning refugee youth, mental health, youth homelessness and domestic and family violence. Rebekha has a particular interest in conflict and relationships. She utilises a relationship-based, trauma-informed practice style and believes in a young person's (and anyone's) capacity for change.



## Sandra Keogh

Sandra is the Chief Executive Officer of the Cairns Regional Domestic Violence Service and has been with the service for over 17 years. Sandra has held a number of positions throughout her time and returned to the service after working for the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women as the Integration Manager for the domestic and family violence High Risk Team in Cairns. Sandra also held a casual position with Rape and Domestic Violence Services Australia as a Men's behaviour Change Counsellor in collaboration with the National Rugby League and their Secondary Prevention Counselling Program. Sandra has been involved in both the evaluation research and delivery of the JCU Dentists and Domestic Violence – Recognise, Respond, Refer initiative since 2016.



## Stacy Oehlman

Stacy is a Queensland-based Social Worker with over 15 years' frontline experience. Stacy has worked within child protection and domestic and family violence in both government and non-government agencies, across roles including policy, service delivery, risk assessment, risk management, training, and community engagement. Stacy has supervised and supported practitioners and students from a variety of clinical backgrounds and is passionate about ending male violence.

Stacy is currently a training practitioner with NTV's training team, where she leads workshops for industry experts and supports the NTV team to deliver the Graduate Certificate in Client Assessment and Case Management in collaboration with Swinburne University.



## Steven M.S. Halley LSCSW

Steven M.S. Halley, LSCSW, is the co-founder of Halley Counseling Services, P.A. and co-director of the Family Peace Initiative (FPI). He has been visionary in the development of a trauma-focused approach for intervening with those who batter. He is internationally recognized for his expertise in using a trauma-focused approach to intervene with those who batter, and in training others in this approach. His development of the "River of Cruelty" model that describes how cruelty is passed from person to person and generation to generation has been groundbreaking in the field. He is the longest sitting member on the Kansas Governor's Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board.

Having received a bachelor's degree in history, and master's degrees in both outdoor administration and social work, Halley focused his career on working with individuals and families. For the past 30 years Halley has worked as a wilderness counselor, probation officer, therapist, and battering intervention provider. Along with his wife, Dorothy, he has authored curricula for working with those who batter, justice-involved women, and justice-involved youth. They have also authored *The River of Cruelty*, and *Halley's Alley: Commentaries on marriage, family, healthy relationships, parenting, loss, grief, trauma, and domestic violence*. Steve writes a monthly blog to assist professionals working with those who batter. It can be accessed through [www.familypeaceinitiative.com](http://www.familypeaceinitiative.com) Steve is an avid golfer and songwriter.



## Thelma Schwarz

Thelma Schwartz is the Principal Legal Officer of the Queensland Indigenous Family Violence Legal Service (QIFVLS), an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled organisation providing legal and non-legal support services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander victim-survivors of family violence and sexual assault in Queensland. Thelma is a solicitor with over 23 years practice experience, identifying as of Torres Strait Islander heritage alongside her German, Samoan and Papua New Guinean heritage. Thelma has worked extensively with and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in regional/remote Queensland, and is a strong advocate for achieving social justice change.



## Acknowledgements

# Acknowledgement of Country

SPEAQ acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the traditional custodians of our land and sea. We pay respect to all Elders, past, present and emerging, as well as to the individuals and organisations working in their communities to address all forms of domestic and family violence.

## SPEAQ Forum Organising Committee

For the last 6 months, the SPEAQ Forum Organising Committee comprised of Secretary Paul Monsour, Chez Leggatt-Cook, Michelle Loughton, Vanessa Harestad have been meeting weekly to progress the planning of the 2022 SPEAQ Forum to bring members and guests an exciting and interactive Program that combines professional development and networking for those working in the men's DFV intervention space across Queensland and beyond.

## Sponsorship

### *WorkUP QLD*

Thanks to our sponsor, WorkUP Queensland for their generous support of SPEAQ Forum 2021 through the Collaborative Grants process. Special thanks to Louise Villanova for her encouragement and flexibility along the way. Go to [workupqld.org.au](http://workupqld.org.au) to find out more about the Collaborative Grants.

### *Challenge DV*

Thanks to [Challenge DV](#) for their generous support of the Travel Subsidy scheme for SPEAQ members, and hosting a breakfast listening event on Friday morning.

### *QVDFVR*

Thanks to the [Queensland Centre for Domestic and Family Violence Research](#) for offering and providing invaluable administrative assistance in the preparations for this event.

## Presenters and Speakers at the 2022 Forum

Thank you to everyone who sent in a submission to present at this year's SPEAQ Forum, and those who responded to an invitation to participate. We are thankful to this year's speakers who have worked collaboratively with us to put together a meaningful programme. We'd also like to give a special acknowledgement to Steve Halley and Dorthy Stucky Halley from taking the leap and venturing over to Australia to share their knowledge and experience with us. Thanks for trusting us and for working with us to adapt your content to the Australian context.

## Attendees

Thank you to everyone who has supported the 2022 SPEAQ Forum by purchasing tickets and attending this event. We appreciate your support in making our Forum a reality – your involvement in what makes this event worthwhile. We're especially pleased to welcome attendees from interstate. Stay connected!





About SPEAQ

# About SPEAQ

SPEAQ (Services and Practitioners for the Elimination of Abuse Qld) is Queensland's network of practitioners and services involved in, or with an interest in, intervention work with men who have perpetrated domestic and family violence. The network has been operating in Queensland for nearly 30 years, initially in South-East Qld, becoming a state-wide network in 2007, with a permanent part-time secretariat established in 2009.

SPEAQ is the only collective voice representing practitioners and services in this field in Queensland. We also work to inform, educate and advise other professionals, government and the public as the voice of specialist professionals in the field of men's DFV behaviour change work.

SPEAQ operates at both a practitioner level and a management level. Our roots and our main focus has been in supporting practitioners, but our interests are broader than just practitioner roles. Manager's meetings have been held since 2008, and have provided a decision making forum for SPEAQ's direction and major activities, as well as being a forum to assist consultation with government. In 2020 the SPEAQ Steering Committee was established to direct SPEAQ's activities and drive ongoing development towards making SPEAQ a sustainable, effective and well-resourced network within the DFV sector.

SPEAQ receives no recurrent government funding. Our major funding sources are membership subscription fees, grants for special activities such as [WorkUP Queensland's](#) Collaborative Grants funding for this Forum, donations, and surplus from professional development activities where we charge a fee. We acknowledge the generous support of [Challenge DV](#) who are supporting the secretariat again this year and have supported PD activities in the past.

We welcome your interest and involvement in SPEAQ! People working collaboratively for mutual support is what SPEAQ is all about. If you'd like to join SPEAQ, or are already a member and want to take a more active role in SPEAQ, contact the Secretary at [secretariat@speaq.org.au](mailto:secretariat@speaq.org.au) or the Steering Committee at [steeringcommittee@speaq.org.au](mailto:steeringcommittee@speaq.org.au).

See more info about SPEAQ on our website at [speaq.org.au](http://speaq.org.au).



