SPEAQ

SERVICES AND PRACTITIONERS FOR THE ELIMINATION OF ABUSE QUEENSLAND

SPEAQ FORUM 2026

First Nations perspectives on behaviour change and what that means for our people

WORKSHOP CONTENT

This trauma sensitive workshop will inform your practice approaches when working with First Nations men who have used domestic and family violence, and equip you with practical strategies, contextual knowledge and valuable learnings regarding culturally specific nuance.

This workshop will explore

- The cultural significance of yarning circles through participation in an experiential learning activity
- The impacts of colonisation, racism and trauma on First Nations participants
- Contemporary understandings of Women's business, Men's business, gender roles, gendered communication and how colonisation has influenced this
- The Red Dust cultural model and gauging readiness
- Researching culturally relevant information without placing the cultural burden on those not equipped to do so
- Supporting First Nations facilitators and the differing experience of First Nations women as MBCP facilitators
- How to start appropriate culturally sensitive conversations.
- Exploring acceptance and rejection
- Acknowledging power imbalance and creating safety
- Developing resilience in the face of challenging topics regarding historical harm. De-personalising perceptions.
- The role of cultural programs within mainstream services
- The importance of confidentiality for First Nations people
- The woven pathways for program entry, connection, referral and acceptance
- Working with men who are disconnected from culture
- Honouring vulnerability and sharing through a cultural lens
- Fostering healthy social resilience for men embedded in ongoing community harms such as substance use
- Supporting a future view for men who have both used harm and experienced harm

who should attend

- People working with First Nations men in specialist programs
- Leaders and managers of First Nations MBCP facilitators
- Generalist DFSV behaviour change program, perpetrator case management, brief or single session intervention, co-located services or multi-agency high-risk team practitioners or leaders

JAMES BACON



PRISCILLA ANDRSON



Mr James Bacon is a Proud Yorta Yorta and Kulin Nations man from Melbourne Victoria, Northern Victoria and Southern New South Wales including Cummeragunja mission. For almost twenty years he has been supporting First Nations Families challenge complex situations such as AOD misuse, Mental Health, and Domestic Violence programs. His current role within Relationships Australia is to help First Nations men identify how their behaviour impacts onto others, especially their loved ones.

Priscilla Anderson is a Waayni/Garawa woman with ties to Palm Island. Priscilla does not want to be known for accomplishments that she has or does not have. Rather, she wants to work quietly in the background to help dads be the best dad's and men they can be.

About SPEAQ

SPEAQ is Queensland's network of practitioners and services providing interventions with those who use Domestic and Family Violence. We've been around for over 30 years, supporting the work, primarily with men, and with partners or family members affected by their abuse. Our network connects and supports practitioners, co-ordinators and managers across Queensland. SPEAQ is the collective voice representing practitioners and services in this field in Queensland and is actively involved in sector development and consultation with government. Read more at www.speaq.org.au/about

EVENT INFORMATION

Date: Wednesday 7 October 2026

Time: 1-4:30PM

Venue: Hotel Grand Chancellor Townsville, Flinders Street, Townsville QLD 4810

Registration includes pre-workshop lunch and a'tea.

Registration Cost:

- SPEAQ members: $130
- Non-members: $160

Register at **speaq.org.au/forum2026**
Registrations close **Sunday 30/08/2026**

Note: The above link goes to registration for all events connected with SPEAQ Forum. This training is being organised as a pre-forum workshop, However you are welcome to attend this workshop as a stand-alone training.

Supporting Change and Safety – Ending Domestic and Family Violence through behaviour change practice, leadership and advocacy

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