

CREATING A SPACE FOR CHANGE

PROGRAM BOOKLET

THE NATIONAL ABORIGINAL
CHILD SAFETY, FAMILY AND
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUMMIT

25—27 SEPTEMBER 2024



KWY

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Summit queries:
(08) 8377 7822
summit@kwy.org.au
kwy.org.au/summit

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

KWY acknowledges the traditional custodians of this land that we are on, the land of the Kurna people.

KWY would like to acknowledge the great diversity in language, cultures and histories of the Kurna people and of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across our beautiful country. We acknowledge and recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who now come to call Kurna Yerta home and thank you all for travelling here today.

We respect Aboriginal Elders, past and present, as our knowledge holders and our teachers who have gone before us. We recognise their incredible contribution to our people and community.

We see the strength and resilience of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and communities. These are the strengths we draw upon to highlight our culture that protects and heals our families and children. We believe the strategies and initiatives developed and led by local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are the most appropriate for addressing the current disadvantages that impact Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people today.

NIINA MARNI WELCOME

On behalf of KWY Aboriginal Corporation, I would like to welcome you to The National Aboriginal Child Safety, Family and Domestic Violence Summit 2024: Creating a Space for Change.

As a Ngarrindjeri and Kurna man, I am proud we are gathering on Kurna Yerta. Over the next three days, we will be hearing from and engaging with leading experts across many sectors and from many backgrounds. There will be discussions on innovative, culturally responsive practices, Aboriginal-led success stories that will and have created improved outcomes for Aboriginal women, children, men, families, and our wider community.

Through the presentations, breakout sessions and panel discussions, we will be showcasing innovative thinking, shining a light on the wise practices that address the national issue of child safety, domestic and family violence across Australia.

In Creating a Space for Change, our hope is participation in our Summit will lead to inspiring responses that promote cultural safety and cultivate improved outcomes for Aboriginal women, children, men, families and the community.



Craig Rigney
CEO, KWY Aboriginal Corporation



ABOUT KWY ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

Kornar Winmil Yunti (KWY) was established in 2011 from conversations with local Elders who identified the need for Aboriginal-led responses for working with men who use violence against women.

The name of the organisation, Kornar Winmil Yunti, means ‘men working together’ in Ngarrindjeri language. However, as the organisation grew to incorporate working holistically with women, children and community, it was soon shortened to KWY. The vision continues to be that Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people thrive through being culturally strong, empowered and safe.

Aboriginal family-led decision-making and cultural ways of doing are embedded in all our initiatives.

KWY reaches more than 1,700 families a year, providing vital support for safety, well-being and cultural connection. By working alongside families, we continue to achieve positive family-focused outcomes.



To see our range of Aboriginal led and designed supports please use this QR code.

ABOUT THE DESIGN

This year’s design was created by Metric in collaboration with Ngarrindjeri and Kurna man Craig Rigney, inspired by the Kurna people’s connection to the River Torrens (Karrawirra Pari) and its significance as a meeting place. The abstract shapes follow the topography of the Torrens to create stunning backgrounds. The dotted line work represents the path travelled across this land by the Kurna people and the colour palette is derived from native Australian botanicals such as eucalypt, lemon myrtle and wattle seed bringing the abstract shapes and dot patterns to life.



JOIN THE KWY TEAM!

Rapid growth and expansion across the whole of KWY has created multiple exciting career opportunities.

Do you have experience and knowledge in working with Aboriginal people to improve social and emotional wellbeing, enhance the safety of children, individuals and families and an understanding of the complex needs of Aboriginal communities.

KWY embraces the strengths, dreams and aspirations of Aboriginal people in our work towards long-term sustainable change.

KWY offers many great benefits, including:

- ✔ Competitive salary and salary packaging
- ✔ Cultural learning and development
- ✔ Generous leave entitlements including additional 7 days (pro rata) of gifted leave for eligible employees
- ✔ A supportive, inclusive and fun team environment
- ✔ Opportunities to participate in cultural events & activities



KARRAWIRRA PARI
RED GUM FOREST RIVER
(RIVER TORRENS)

FIND OUT MORE AT [KWY.ORG.AU/EMPLOYMENT](https://www.kwy.org.au/employment)



CITY OF ADELAIDE MAP



If you are a visitor to Kaurna Yerta, we encourage you to experience the Adelaide Kaurna Walking Trail. Sights of significance include:

- 1 **Adelaide Oval**
War Memorial Dr
- 2 **Karrawirra Pari**
Red Gum Forest River
- 3 **Tarntanyangga**
Dreaming place of the Big Red Kangaroo
- 4 **Victoria Square**
First place in Australia to fly the Aboriginal Flag
- 5 **South Australian Museum**
North Terrace
- 6 **Uncle Moogy Mural by Elizabeth Close**
105–111 Franklin St

GENERAL SUMMIT INFORMATION

Summit Organiser

KWY Aboriginal Corporation
180 Greenhill Road, Parkside SA 5063
(08) 8377 7822
summit@kwy.org.au
kwy.org.au

Summit Location

Adelaide Oval, Ian McLachlan Room
War Memorial Dr, North Adelaide SA 5006
Karna Yerta

Registration Desk

The registration desk is located in the function room.

The desk will be open throughout the Summit for general event inquiries.

Upon arrival you will need to present to the registration desk to check-in and collect your official Summit name tag.

Name Tag

Please wear your official Summit name tag at all times. The Summit name tag identifies you as a delegate, deeming you eligible for catering and admittance to all keynote presentations, workshops and breakout sessions.

Program Start Times

The Summit room will be accessible from 8am each day; please arrive before the official start time of 8.45am. Your cooperation in being seated as soon as possible is appreciated.

- Wednesday 25th Sept: 8.45am – 5.00pm
- Welcome Function: 5.30pm – 8.30pm (tickets sold separately)
- Thursday 26th Sept: 8.45am – 5.00pm
- Friday 27th Sept: 8.45am – 3.30pm
- Focus Awards and Gala Dinner: 6.30pm – 11.30pm (tickets sold separately)

Accessibility and Inclusion

KWY has selected the Adelaide Oval as a wheelchair-friendly venue. If you require any specific access

arrangements, please contact us and we will do everything we can to ensure any accessibility needs are met for the duration of the Summit.

Catering and Dietary Requirements

The Summit will be fully catered across the three days, including a barista cart, refreshments, lunch, morning tea and afternoon tea.

Dietary requirements need to be made 14 days in advance.

Photographs

For promotional purposes, photos and video recordings will be taken during the event. If you do not wish to be photographed or have photos published, please inform a KWY staff member at the registration desk. We will give you a red sticker to wear which identifies you to our photographers.

Parking

There are two car parks within Adelaide Oval – the North car park accessible from Pennington Terrace is the closest to the function room.

Wilson North Car Park

- Entry via Pennington Terrace, North Adelaide. Enter through the Bob Quinn Gate and follow the directional signage to the function room.

Wilson East Car Park

- Entry via King William Road. Take the lifts to Level 1 and enter via the South Gate and follow the directional signage to the function room.
- Please see Oval function staff to have your car parking ticket validated for \$20.00 per day parking.

Internet Access

To connect to the Oval's complimentary Wi-Fi, browse for wireless networks on your device and connect to 'Adelaide Oval'. Once connected, you will be redirected to the login page. From here, accept the privacy policy and click 'log in'.

Mobile Phones

Attendees are asked to switch their mobile phones to silent throughout the event.

Dress

Summit and Welcome Function: Smart-Casual.



Supporting Safe Change

Safe, Supported Change

As a care provider in the child and youth sector, HenderCare Foundation is deeply committed to supporting First Nations children and their families in the face of challenges related to family and domestic violence and child protection.

In all our efforts, we recognise the strengths, dreams, and aspirations of First Nations children and their communities. Our work is geared toward creating long-term, sustainable change by delivering evidence-based, culturally grounded programs that respect and empower.

As an organisation, we passionately are working towards cultivating resilience and healing, and working towards a future where Aboriginal women, children, men, families, and communities can thrive in a culturally safe environment.

Who We Are

HenderCare Foundation is dedicated to improving the lives of children and young people under child protection services who cannot live in their family homes.

We believe in providing safe and stable environments based on a trauma-informed, therapeutic model that helps build confidence and resilience.

We are deeply committed to reconciliation and actively work towards our broader mission to offer essential support through care and advocacy, empowering those in need and creating stronger, more inclusive communities.

Together, we're making a lasting impact.

hendercare.com.au

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR SUMMIT EXPERIENCE WITH THE EVENTS AIR ATTENDEE APP!

Stay connected and organised with the EventsAir Attendee App, your essential tool for the Summit! The app provides easy access to the full agenda, lets you take notes, participate in live Q&A sessions, and much more.

Download the app using the QR code below to enhance your experience, stay up to date with the latest information, and make the most of your time at the Summit.

App Event code
kwysummit

Your login code for the app was emailed to you, if you need assistance please see Summit staff.



iOS App



Android App

BREAKOUT ROOMS

On day two of the Summit (Thursday, 26th September), we have three breakout rooms.

The colour of your lanyard corresponds to your assigned room. Please follow the coloured floor decals and the KWY staff holding matching coloured signage to find your designated room.

Attendees are to remain seated in their assigned breakout room, as the speakers will rotate between stages to ensure everyone hears from each speaker. Please note that seating is limited in each room, so we kindly ask that you go to your allocated breakout room and refrain from swapping or moving around.

NAVY/GOLD
SACA Committee Room

BLUE/GREEN
Gill Langley Room

PINK
Premiership Suite

WELCOME FUNCTION

Wednesday, 25th September | 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

After a day of insightful sessions, join us for an evening of networking and relaxation. Our Welcome Function is the perfect way to wind down and connect with fellow attendees in a casual setting.

Enjoy delicious canapés and a refreshing drink package, all while being entertained by the live tunes of Ngarrindjeri woman Ellie Lovegrove and Gubbi Gubbi, Gurang Gurang and Torres Strait Islander man Tony Minneicon. It's an evening designed for you to forge new connections, exchange ideas, and enjoy the company of mob across the sector.

Don't miss this chance to mingle and make the most of your Summit experience!

PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

DAY ONE

WEDNESDAY 25 SEPTEMBER

8 – 8.45AM

Registrations open & smoking ceremony

9 – 9.15AM

Welcome to Country

Uncle Mickey Kumatpi Marrutya O'Brien

9.15 – 9.30AM

Official opening

Hon Katrina Hildyard MP

Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence

9.30 – 10.15AM

Keynote:

Micaela Cronin

Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commissioner

10.15 – 11AM

Morning tea

11 – 11.45AM

Keynote

Dr Tracy Westerman AM

Founder of the Westerman Jilya Institute for Indigenous Mental Health and proud Nyamal woman

11.45AM – 12.15PM

Q&A

Dr Tracy Westerman AM

12.15 – 1.15PM

Lunch & networking time

1.15 – 2.45PM

Panel discussion

Theme: 'Stories of Strength: Informing evidence-based practice'

2.45 – 3.15PM

Keynote

April Lawrie

Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People and proud Mirning and Kokatha woman

3.15 – 4PM

Afternoon tea

4 – 4.45PM

Engagement Session

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family Safety Plan

4.45 – 5PM

Wrap up

Craig Rigney

CEO of KWY and proud Ngarrindjeri and Kaurna man

5.30 – 8.30PM

Welcome Function

**Tickets sold separately*

DAY TWO

THURSDAY 26 SEPTEMBER

8.45 – 9AM

Welcome to Country

Aunty Rosalind Coleman

9 – 9.15AM

Welcome address

Minister Amanda Rishworth

Minister for Social Services of Australia

9.15 – 10.15AM

Panel discussion

Theme: ‘Making Our Way Through Systemic Change’

10.15 – 10.45AM

Morning tea

10.45AM – 1.00PM

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Breakout 1

VACCA: A Deadly Approach to Healthy Respectful Relationships

Breakout 2

YALU Aboriginal Corporation: Healing Families in Remote Aboriginal Communities

Breakout 3

Regional Community Care Ltd: Admitting to racialisation and whiteness in the safety of children

1 – 1.45PM

Lunch & networking time

1.45 – 4PM

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Breakout 4

SNAICC: Shared decision-making in practice – implementing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander led solutions

Breakout 5

KICS (Kummara Incorporated and Infinity Community Solutions): True partnership, integrated service delivery and getting kids back to family

Breakout 6

ACRA & SAHMRI: Learning from community: Lateral violence/Lateral empowerment

4 – 4.30PM

Afternoon tea

4.30 – 5PM

Calm and collected: Bringing rest after a big day

Dana Shen

Director of DS Consulting and proud Ngarrindjeri woman

DAY THREE

FRIDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

8.45 – 9AM

Welcome to Country

Gracie Gollan-Ritchie and Sienna Watts

9 – 9.15AM

Welcome address

Hon Kyam Maher MLC

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General and Aboriginal man

9.15 – 9.45AM

Keynote

Muriel Bamblett

Adjunct Professor and CEO of Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency and proud Yorta Yorta and Dja Dja Wurrung woman

9.45 – 10.15AM

Keynote

Natalie Lewis

Commissioner, Queensland Family and Child Commission and proud Gamilaraay woman

10.15 – 10.45AM

Morning tea

10.45 – 11.30AM

Keynote

Catherine Liddle

CEO of SNAICC and proud Arrernte/Luritja woman

11.30AM – 12.15PM

Keynote

Stan Grant

Journalist, Author, Moral Philosopher, Film Maker and proud Wiradjuri, Kamilaroi and Dharrawal man

12.15 – 1PM

Lunch & networking time

1 – 2.15PM

Panel discussion with Q&A

Theme: Reflections and Aspirations

Hosted by Stan Grant

2.15 – 2.45PM

Afternoon tea

2.45 – 3.15PM

Wrapping things up: Taking time to reflect

Dana Shen

Director of DS Consultancy and proud Ngarrindjeri woman

3.15 – 3.30PM

Official close

Craig Rigney

CEO of KQWY and proud Ngarrindjeri/Kaurna man

6.30 – 11.30PM

FOCUS Awards Gala Dinner

**Tickets sold separately*

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Hon Katrine Hildyard MP

Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence



Since 2014, Katrine has represented the electorate of Reynella in Adelaide's south.

As the Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence and Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing, she is determined to work across government and community to help ensure that everyone is empowered to play their part in improving the lives of children and families.

Katrine previously served as Minister for Disabilities, Minister Assisting the Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Assistant Minister to the Premier in the Weatherill Labor Government. She also established the South Australian Women in Sport Taskforce.

Micaela Cronin

Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commissioner



Micaela Cronin was appointed Australia's first Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commissioner on 1 November 2022. She began her career as a social worker in family violence and sexual assault services. Since then, Micaela has held leadership roles across the social service sector in Australia and internationally, in her role as President of the Australian Council of Social Services.

Micaela was also CEO of an international non-government organisation based in Asia, working to build global service delivery and strategic partnerships to tackle human trafficking and human rights abuses.

In 2014, she was awarded the Robin Clark Leadership Award – Victoria's most prestigious children's protection award – in recognition of her leadership in inspiring others to achieve the best outcomes for children, young people and their families.

Dr Tracy Westerman AM

*Managing Director of Indigenous Psychological Services
Founder of The Westerman Jiyla Institute for Indigenous Mental Health*



A Nyamal woman from Pilbara, WA, Dr Westerman is a trailblazer in Aboriginal mental health, cultural competency, and suicide prevention. She was the first Aboriginal person to attain a Master's Degree and PhD in Clinical Psychology. Her PhD resulted in the development of the Westerman Aboriginal Symptom Checklist - Youth & Adults (WASCY/A), the only culturally & clinically valid tools for at-risk Indigenous youth.

She founded Indigenous Psychological Services in 1998 in the absence of government funding. She has delivered over 80 keynotes nationally and internationally in Canada, the USA and New Zealand. In training 50,000+ practitioners & community, she is one of the most successful and in-demand trainers in the country.

Dr Fiona Arney

Director, Arney Chong Consulting



Fiona is an award-winning researcher, internationally renowned for her contributions to child welfare, child health and service reform. She has headed numerous research concentrations specialising in child protection, child and adolescent mental health and the translation of research into policy, practice and legislation. She is the former Director of the Australian Centre for Child Protection, Chair of Child Protection at the University of South Australia, and she headed the Child Protection Research Program at Menzies School of Health Research in the NT.

Fiona has also supported multiple Royal Commissions and inquiries into child protection and the subsequent whole of government policy reforms as Professorial Fellow, lead research adviser, implementation specialist and evaluator. She served as Chair of the Council for the Care of Children, conducted the Independent Inquiry into Foster and Kinship Care in South Australia and provided research services to the South Australian Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People's Inquiry into the Removal of Aboriginal Children.

As a Director with Arney Chong Consulting, Fiona's current focus is on supporting the growth of the Aboriginal evidence-base in child and family services, while promoting the next generation of Aboriginal researchers and evaluators in this field.

Alwin Chong

Director, Arney Chong Consulting



Alwin is a Wakamin descendent from Far North Queensland with over 40 years' experience in leadership positions in government, Aboriginal community controlled and academic organisations. He is a respected Aboriginal leader and is well known nationally for his advocacy and dedication to raising issues about Aboriginal health, research and social and emotional wellbeing. He is committed to researching, understanding, intervening and advocating for healthier Aboriginal communities. Alwin was the Lead Chief Investigator for the first Clinical Centre of Research Excellence (CCRE) in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, and program leader for the Healthy Communities Program for the Lowitja Institute Cooperative Research Centre providing research, training for Indigenous health researchers, and developing innovative approaches to health care applied to support communities.

Fiona Cornforth

AFHEA, MAICD, BMgt, MMgt (Merit)



Fiona is of the Wuthathi peoples of the far north-east cape of Queensland with Maluilgal nation family roots of Zenadth Kes. She has gained experience and perspectives in education, leadership, governance and business development at home and globally—and in all spaces, shares a message of celebration and gratitude for the greatness of ancestors, Elders, and the ontology and authority that holds individuals, families and nations.

Fiona has held, and currently holds, a number of senior leadership roles in community and governments. She applies her management degrees, higher education teaching and learning accreditation to lead values driven teams and organisations, understanding the opportunities for systems to change, while knowing the impacts of intergenerational trauma as well as the power and strengths of First Nations peoples' cultures to lead that change.

She has served as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Deputy CEO of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation, a national organisation leading the movement on survivor-led intergenerational healing. To further pursue change in matters closest to her heart, she is also the inaugural Director of the Centre of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Wellbeing Research at the Australian National University, a founding board director of the National Centre for Action on Child Sexual Abuse, and an appointed member of the Ministerial Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Council for Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence.

April Lawrie

Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People



April is a proud Aboriginal woman with three sons and descends from the Mirning and Kokatha people in the Far West Coast of South Australia. April is SA's inaugural Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People.

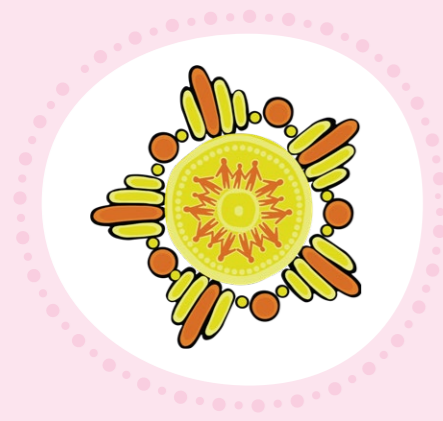
April commenced her role in 2018 and was given further tenure in late 2021 when the role was enshrined in Legislation. Commissioner Lawrie holds a Social Work Degree which she attained in 1990 with her early career focusing on front line child protection work and Aboriginal community-controlled foster care services. From there, she moved into management roles in Aboriginal social welfare policy and programs, later taking on a range of Aboriginal Executive Leadership roles in South Australian Government Agencies such as health, justice and education.

Over the last 30 years, Commissioner Lawrie has contributed to the formation of Aboriginal policy at the State and National level, excellence in service innovation, and Aboriginal community development.

Commissioner Lawrie believes that Aboriginal children and young people need to be supported with platforms to elevate their voices. Commissioner Lawrie is also active in Aboriginal Lands Rights and Native Title for the Far West Coast Aboriginal Community.

SNAICC

National Voice for our Children, Our Ways – Strong Ways – Our Voices, National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family Safety Plan Engagement



SNAICC is the national non-government peak body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children. They work for the fulfilment of the rights of our children, to ensure their safety, development, and well-being.

Since 1981, SNAICC has been a passionate national voice representing the interests of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families. At the heart of SNAICC's work is championing the principles of community control and self-determination as the means for sustained improvements for children and families – whether in child protection and wellbeing or early childhood education and development. Today, SNAICC is the national peak body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and for the sector supporting these children. Their work comprises policy, advocacy, and sector development. They also work with non-Indigenous services alongside Federal, State and Territory Governments to improve how agencies design and deliver support and services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families.

Under the guidance of a ministerially appointed Steering Committee, SNAICC is developing a National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family Safety Plan, which will guide a whole of society approach to addressing the unacceptable rates of violence against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children.

Amanda Rishworth

Minister for Social Services



Amanda Rishworth was elected to the federal parliament as the Member for Kingston in Adelaide's southern suburbs at the age of 29.

Raised in Adelaide, Amanda attended local state schools before graduating with a Bachelor of Psychology Honours from Flinders University and a Master's Degree in Psychology from Adelaide University.

Prior to becoming Minister for Social Services in 2022, she served as a parliamentary secretary in the Gillard government in the areas of disabilities, carers, environment and water. In opposition, Amanda served as an assistant minister in the education portfolio, Shadow Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Defence Personnel, and Shadow Minister for Early Childhood Education and Youth.

Before entering politics, she practised as a psychologist working with General Practitioners in the delivery of mental health care to the community.

Her diverse portfolio encompasses issues such as the safety of women and children, social security, delivering on an early year's strategy, providing support for pensioners, improving the lives of Australians living with disability, and tackling the harm caused by online wagering.

Amanda is passionate about improving the lives of everyone living in Australia and contributing towards a more inclusive and equitable society.

Jackie Bray

Chief Executive of the Department for Child Protection



Among Department for Child Protection Chief Executive Jackie Bray's highest priorities is addressing the overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in care. She believes that ensuring family-led decision-making is embedded across her department's practice is key to keeping children and young people safe, and providing them the best possible support to help them thrive.

Jackie is steadfast in her dedication towards pursuing initiatives to assist families to safely care for their children at home wherever possible, through partnerships with community, government and stakeholders. She is passionate about ensuring that the voices of children, young people and families are central to her department's everyday work, along with ongoing efforts to strengthen support for foster and kinship carers – a vital pillar of the child protection system.

Before starting with the department in 2023, Jackie was the inaugural Head of the Office for the Early Years, which was set up to lead universal early years services across government and non-government organisations and the broader early childhood sector.

Jackie has worked in the public and private sector across several senior executive positions both in the United Kingdom and South Australia. This includes UK Health Services, Department for Families and Communities and as the Deputy Chief Executive in the Department for Correctional Services.

Sandy Pitcher

Chief Executive of Department of Human Services SA



Sandy is an accomplished public-sector leader, with experience leading agencies in both Victoria and South Australia. Where she has made a significant contribution to public policy and outcomes. Sandy is currently the Chief Executive of the Department of Human Services, South Australia, following her role as Deputy Under Treasurer in August 2022.

She was the inaugural Secretary of the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing in Victoria, an agency which includes child protection and women's policy.

Throughout 2020, Sandy led the Victorian COVID-19 response, returning the state to COVID-19 zero. Previously, Sandy was the Chief Executive of the SA Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (2015-2018), connecting people to parks and delivering on the state's ambitious Climate Change agenda.

Sandy worked at the UK's Commission for Racial Equality and her first role in SA was as Director of the South Australian Office for Women.

In 2012, Sandy won the Telstra Businesswoman of the year 'Community and Public Sector' category.

Regan Mitchell

Head of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Strategy, Our Watch



Regan is a proud Wiradjuri/Ngunnawal woman born and raised in Cowra NSW.

Regan has spent the last ten years as a front-line domestic violence specialist at a Redfern-based, grassroots NGO providing long term, intensive and culturally responsive casework to women and children experiencing domestic violence and abuse. Her role involved managing a domestic violence service site and working closely with the Executive leadership team across the organisation, to educate and empower staff and communities to end gender-based violence.

Regan is a fierce advocate for prevention, gender equality, attitudinal and systemic change around domestic and family violence and abuse. She is highly recognised in the sector and community as a skilled source of knowledge and expertise in the complex intersections and nuances that exist for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women experiencing gender-based violence.

Regan has recently joined Our Watch, a national leader in the primary prevention of violence against women and their children in Australia. As Head of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Strategy she provides important cultural insight that informs Our Watch's strategies, plans and policies appropriately to prioritise ending violence towards Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children.

Regan has recently held positions as the Chair of Wirringa Baiya Aboriginal Women's Legal Centre, Executive Council member of Aboriginal Women's Advisory Network (AWAN) and is currently a member of the DVNSW Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Steering Committee.

Shona Reid

Guardian for Children and Young People



Eastern Arrernte woman, Shona Reid, is South Australia's Guardian for Children and Young People and Training Centre Visitor, appointed to promote and advocate for the rights of children and young people in care and IN youth detention.

For over two decades, Shona has devoted her knowledge, experience, professional and personal life to the advancement and rights of Aboriginal children, young people, families and communities. For 15 years, she worked across the child protection, young offending and the out-of-home care sector, predominantly in regional and remote areas, including the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands. In recent years, she has focused her expertise on governance and accountability across the APY and Far West Coast regions of South Australia.

Prior to becoming SA's Guardian, Shona was CEO at Reconciliation SA, and held various roles in public service, including at the Legislative Council - Parliament of South Australia, Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation, Ministerial Offices and various iterations of the now Department for Child Protection. In early 2020, she was awarded a Distinguished Alumni Award from Flinders University for service to Aboriginal Children, Young People, Families and Communities.

Dana Shen

Director, DS Consulting and Mindfulness Meditation Teacher



Dana Shen (Sumner family) is Aboriginal/Chinese and a descendant of the Ngarrindjeri people in South Australia and has a passion for working with Aboriginal people and communities.

Dana has over 20 years' experience working across the public and not for profit sectors in the areas of health, families, and child protection.

In 2020, Dana began a different journey completing a two-year mindfulness meditation teacher's course with Jack Kornfield and Tara Brach. Since then, Dana has shared this with organisations and communities in South Australia and brought a strong First Nations and Ngarrindjeri lens to mindfulness practice.

Hon Kyam Maher MLC

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs
Attorney-General

Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector



Kyam is the Leader of Government Business in the Legislative Council, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, and Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector.

He is a proud Aboriginal man who is honoured to serve as the Aboriginal Affairs Minister in both the Weatherill and Malinauskas Labor Governments, guiding important reforms such as being the first State in Australia to commence Treaty negotiations with Aboriginal Nations and implementing a Stolen Generations reparations scheme.

Kyam is particularly passionate about ensuring that all South Australians are afforded the dignity that good, meaningful jobs provide, and that all South Australians can share in the opportunities and benefits this State offers.

A Graduate of Adelaide University, he holds degrees in Law and Economics and practised as a lawyer with the Crown Solicitor's Office before working in politics.

After growing up in country South Australia, mainly Mt Gambier, Kyam now lives in the southern suburbs of Adelaide with his wife Carmel, three boys, a cat, and a growing flock of chooks.

Kyam enjoys spending time in regional SA, cycling (slowly), mowing the lawn and has a particular fondness for a good sausage roll.

Adjunct Professor Muriel Bamblett

Adjunct Professor
CEO of Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency



Muriel Bamblett is a Yorta Yorta and Dja Dja Wurrung woman who has been employed as the CEO of the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency since 1999. Muriel is active on many boards and committees concerning children, families and the Indigenous community, including Chairperson of the Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care (SNAICC), the peak Australian agency for Indigenous child and family services; the Aboriginal Children's Forum; the Coalition of Peaks Joint Council on Closing the Gap and the Aboriginal Justice Forum.

Muriel's contribution to her community and to Victoria has been recognised with her being awarded the Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in 2019 for distinguished service to the Indigenous community in Victoria, as an advocate for the self-determination and cultural rights of children.

Natalie Lewis

Commissioner of the Queensland Family and Child Commission



Natalie Lewis is a Gamilaraay woman and the Commissioner of the Queensland Family and Child Commission. Her career spans more than 25 years across youth justice, child and family services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs. She was the CEO of the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Protection Peak for 8 years and has held numerous appointments on Boards and Councils that have driven significant reform in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child protection and family services sectors.

Natalie is fiercely committed to progressing a transformational reform agenda to ensure that children's rights are upheld in Queensland and nationally.

Catherine Liddle

Chief Executive Officer, SNAICC – National Voice for our Children



An Arrernte/Luritja woman from Central Australia, Catherine has been a leading advocate in upholding the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples on a national, regional and local level. Catherine has held senior management positions in First Nations organisations including First Nations Media and Jawun Indigenous Corporate Partnerships, as well as within the Northern Territory Education Department, the ABC and NITV/SBS.

A journalist by trade, Catherine's motivation has always been to drive change that leads to positive outcomes and options for First Nations people. Over the past 10 years she has led multidisciplinary teams, overseen workplace transformations, and advocated for policy reform. Catherine is the CEO for SNAICC – National Voice for our Children, the national non-governmental peak body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children that works for the fulfilment of the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, in particular to ensure their safety, development and wellbeing.

Stan Grant

Journalist, Author, Moral Philosopher, Film Maker and Communicator



Stan Grant has had a groundbreaking four-decade career as one of Australia's most awarded journalists. A Wiradjuri, Kamilaroi and Dharawal man, Stan has blazed a trail for First Nations journalists. In a career of firsts, he was the first Indigenous Political Correspondent, the first Indigenous Foreign Correspondent, and the first Indigenous person to present a prime-time commercial television news and current affairs program. He was a senior correspondent for American news giant CNN, and has reported from more than seventy countries, while living in London, Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Doha, Hong Kong and Beijing. His list of awards includes three-time winner of Australia's highest journalism honour the Walkley Award.

Stan is fascinated by global affairs, politics, philosophy, theology and science - particularly the baffling, engrossing world of quantum physics. He is committed to questions of justice. He has been a passionate and courageous advocate for the rights of First Nations people, at times incurring vicious racist attacks and threats of violence against himself and his family. Stan demands we do better. Rather than seek to divide he seeks to bring peace and unite. He believes we should love and embrace even those who may hate us, yet never lose sight of our moral duty to always stand with those afflicted. He believes the language of politics fails us and increases hostility and is dedicated to finding new words and new ways for us to meet each other beyond our differences.

Kim Mulholland

Coach, Consultant and Practitioner - InvolveGen



Kim Mulholland is a descendent of the Larrakia and Yanyuwa people of the Northern Territory, and is recognised as an emerging leader in Aboriginal Social & Emotional Wellbeing, and a specialist in Intergenerational Trauma recovery and healing. Through his business InvolveGen, Kim operates as a consultant, workforce trainer and practitioner in Cultural and Spiritual Wellbeing.

Craig Rigney

Chief Executive Officer of KWY Aboriginal Corporation



Craig Rigney is a proud Ngarrindjeri/Kurna man born in Gawler, SA. Craig is dedicated to eliminating all forms of violence against women and children and stemming the flow of Aboriginal children and families entering the child protection system. Over 13 years, he has grown KWY from a team of 2 to over 100 staff, providing holistic Aboriginal-led responses for families and communities

Initially working with men who use violence against women, Craig has built KWY to become a leading ACCO working holistically with Aboriginal families, women, children, and the wider community to seek better outcomes in Aboriginal health, wellbeing, cultural connection and safety. Craig's vision is for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to thrive by being connected to culture and to be empowered by Aboriginal (family) led decision making.

Craig is a member on multiple National and State based committees including but not limited to:

- National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Council on Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family Safety Plan.
- Our Watch: Men and Masculinities in Primary Prevention Technical Advisory Group
- SAACCON
- Board Member of Junction Australia

WELCOME TO COUNTRY PRESENTERS

Uncle Mickey Kumatpi Marrutya O'Brien



Uncle Mickey Kumatpi Marrutya O'Brien is a respected Senior Aboriginal Man and descendant of the Kurna (Adelaide Plains) and Narrunga (Yorke Peninsula) peoples.

For many years Uncle Mickey has been sharing cultural engagement, a role handed to him by his Father, Uncle Lewis Yarlur Purka O'Brien. It's a position he has accepted with great pride, honour and deep respect. This position has allowed him to travel Australia-wide, living and working in several Aboriginal Communities, delivering much sought-after programs with long-term benefits. In addition, Uncle Mickey is an active and passionate advocate and spokesperson for Aboriginal people, sitting on a range of Boards and advisory panels.

"I enjoy sharing cultural knowledge and providing Welcome to Country with people, not at people," expresses Uncle Mickey.

When he's not sharing his valuable cultural knowledge, he's receiving recognition for his contributions, having been an Australia Day Service Award recipient, for his work as a volunteer on advisory groups, and a recipient of the Rotary Club Courtesy Award, for Community involvement working with youth.

For the past 22 years, Uncle Mickey has been a foster-parent to four children and two grandchildren and is currently working as a Facilitator of Cultural Learning.

My Father has told me "Aboriginal people have always welcomed people to this Country, we just never told them to go home."

Aunty Rosalind Coleman



Rosalind Coleman is a proud Kurna & Narungga woman, who is happily married with five wonderful children and fifteen amazing and precious grandchildren.

Living in the Northern suburbs of Adelaide, her background is working in education. Now working for herself within the family business full-time alongside my husband, Basil. Her greatest passion is to help & assist young people, family groups and community to reach their full potential. She does this through multiple supports within her community and she prides herself on her leadership role within the Aboriginal Berean Community Church which is located in Cheltenham.

Aunty Ros is also a Life coach with NLP, however, her greatest passion is teaching discipleship training and supporting and encouraging young women within the Christian faith and Community.

She is also currently the Deputy Chair on Kurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation (KYAC) as well as active in other Community Organisations.

Gracie Gollan-Ritchie and Sienna Watts



Gracie and Sienna are best friends and sista girls who have been doing Welcome and Acknowledgements together supporting each other for years.

Gracie is a Kurna, Narungga, Ngarrindjeri and Wirangu girl and Sienna is a Yamatji, Noongar, Mara and Alawa girl.

They are both 11 years old, born 3 months apart and have been best friends since they were born. They both love dancing, singing, shopping and anything beauty and makeup.

When the girls grow up, Gracie wants to be an Architect and Sienna wants to be an Artist, Doctor and Interior Designer so watch this space. The girls dream about working together and living together when they are older.

Having the opportunity to support each other in a dual welcome and acknowledgement is an opportunity for them to build confidence in their speaking as well as practice their cultural responsibility as first-born daughters and future matriarchs. They are always encouraged to stand up, be strong in themselves and be proud of their culture.



TRAINING & CONSULTANCY

Empower your team with KWY's expert training and consultancy services. Our training programs are designed to build cultural awareness, understanding, and competency, fostering safer and inclusive workplaces.

Our consultancy services provide tailored support and guidance to help organisations develop and implement culturally informed strategies and policies.

Partner with KWY to enhance your organisation's cultural capacity and create meaningful change.



We offer training packages in:

- **Cultural Understanding for Better Engagement (CUBE)**
- **Trauma Informed Culturally Responsive (TICR)**
- **Complex Case Management**
- **Cultural Understanding for Recruitment & Retention**
- **Bespoke training packages available at request**



FIND OUT MORE AT [KWY.ORG.AU/CONSULTANCY](https://www.kwy.org.au/consultancy)

DAY ONE

WEDNESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER

DAY ONE

8AM

Registrations Open

8 – 8.45AM

Smoking Ceremony

Uncle Mickey Kumatpi Marrutya O'Brien

9 – 9.15AM

Welcome to Country

Uncle Mickey Kumatpi Marrutya O'Brien

9.15 – 9.30AM

Official Opening

Hon Katrine Hildyard MP

Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family & Sexual Violence

9.30 – 10.15AM

Keynote Speaker

Micaela Cronin

Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commissioner

Lessons from the Commission's First Yearly Report to Parliament

The past two months have seen the release of 3 very significant reports: the Senate Inquiry into missing and murdered First Nations women and children, the Commission's first Yearly Report to Parliament and the Rapid Review into Prevention Approaches, all of which were built upon the National Cabinet in May. The Commissioner will explore these three reports and how governments can better support First Nations communities to address, and respond to, domestic, family and sexual violence.

WEDNESDAY 25 SEPTEMBER

10.15 – 11AM

Morning Tea

11 – 11.45AM

Keynote Speaker

Dr Tracy Westerman AM

Managing Director, Indigenous Psychological Services

Founder and Executive Chair, the Westerman Jilya Institute for Indigenous Mental Health

How collective racial trauma is the missing piece of the puzzle in the prevention of Indigenous family violence.

Our best opportunity for the prevention of violence is to better understand the unique causal contributors that separate Aboriginal perpetrators from their non-Aboriginal counterparts. Prevention should ultimately answer 'The Why' of violence risk, and 'mainstream theory' which has consistently failed that benchmark. Aboriginal victims of violence, it is then argued also have unique characteristics that are fuelled not only by a unique offender-victim dynamic but also socio-historical factors which will be explained as collective racial trauma, and more specifically, the collective fawn trauma response.

It will be argued that racial trauma should be considered as a separate trauma category because racial identity is both inescapable and enduring. Racial fawn trauma is COLLECTIVE rather than individual – and we need to understand that, for Aboriginal victims of violence it is the fear of the very systems that are supposed to be there to protect that contribute to violence escalation particularly in our highest risk communities. When Indigenous victims fear systems more than their perpetrators, how do therapists and counsellors manage these dynamics?

The data problems and absence of data will be explained, and arguments made for the fact that these are significant contributors to our ability to ‘close the gap’.

Dr Westerman will unpack unique theories and models based on 25 years of clinical practice with Aboriginal clients and answer these questions and more.

11.45AM – 12.15PM

Q&A

Dr Tracy Westerman AM

12.15 – 1.15PM

Lunch & networking time

1.15 – 2.45PM

Panel Discussion

Theme: ‘Stories of Strength: Informing evidence-based practice’

Panellists

Commissioner Micaela Cronin
Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commissioner

Dr Fiona Arney
Director, Arney Chong Consulting

Alwin Chong
Director, Arney Chong Consulting

Fiona Cornforth
AFHEA, MAICD, BMgt, MMgt (Merit)

MC

Craig Rigney
CEO of KWY Aboriginal Corporation

2.45 – 3.15PM

Keynote

April Lawrie

Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People and proud Mirning and Kokatha woman

| Holding on to Our Future

Holding on to Our Future is the Final Report of the Commissioner’s Inquiry into the removal and placement of Aboriginal children in South Australia. One in 10 Aboriginal children in South Australia are in state care. If nothing changes, in South Australia, 140 in every 1000 Aboriginal children will be in state care. This growth must stop. It must be reversed. This report is about truth telling. It’s time to start listening. The time for change is needed now.

3.15 – 4PM

Afternoon tea

4 – 4.45PM

Engagement Session

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family Safety Plan

Presenter

Belle Arnold
Manager, Domestic and Family Violence Prevention and Response, SNAICC – National Voice for our Children

Under the guidance of a ministerially appointed Steering Committee, SNAICC is developing a National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family Safety Plan, which will guide a whole of society approach to addressing the unacceptable rates of violence against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children.

This standalone Plan will be the first of its kind. It comes from decades of advocacy from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women, communities and services. These voices have long been calling for a national plan dedicated to the safety of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children.

The Family Safety Plan will be shaped by the voices and views of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. The Family Safety Plan will address family in a First Nations context and acknowledge the diversity within our families. It aims to elevate the voices of the diverse experiences of our people.

As part of the Our Ways – Strong Ways – Our Voices National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family Safety Plan Engagement, SNAICC will be hosting an engagement session to hear from services that provide domestic, family and sexual violence response services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The session will present early findings from engagement sessions and seek feedback from participants on what’s currently working well and what needs to change to enable effective supports and services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This will be an interactive session that will include a range of engagement activities and breakout discussions for participants.

4.45 – 5PM

Wrap up

Craig Rigney

DAY TWO

THURSDAY 26 SEPTEMBER

DAY TWO

THURSDAY 26 SEPTEMBER

8.45 – 9AM

Welcome to Country
Aunty Rosalind Coleman

9 – 9.15AM

Welcome Address
Minister Amanda Rishworth
Minister for Social Services

9.15 – 10.15AM

Panel Discussion

Theme: 'Making Our Way Through Systemic Change'

Panellists

Sandy Pitcher
Chief Executive of Department of Human Services SA

Jackie Bray
Chief Executive of the Department for Child Protection

Shona Reid
Guardian for Children and Young People

Regan Mitchell
Head of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Strategy, Our Watch

MC

Craig Rigney
CEO of KWY Aboriginal Corporation

10.15 – 10.45AM

Morning tea

10.45AM – 1PM

Breakout Sessions

1 – 1.45PM

Lunch & networking time

1.45 – 4PM

Breakout Sessions

4 – 4.30PM

Afternoon tea

4.30 – 5PM

Calm and collected: Bringing rest after a big day

Dana Shen
Director, DS Consulting and Mindfulness Meditation Teacher

After a full day of information, Dana Shen will guide participants through mindfulness meditation techniques designed to bring a sense of calm and balance. This session offers a chance to unwind, providing a space for rest and reflection. Dana will introduce accessible practices that can be used in everyday life to help manage stress and cultivate a more mindful approach to the demands of working in the social services sector. Participants will leave with practical tools to support their well-being, both personally and professionally.

A Deadly Approach to Healthy Respectful Relationships

Presenters

Paula Mason

Senior Program Manager,
Family Violence Initiatives,
VACCA

Tamara White

Principal Advisor, Centre For
Evidence and Implementation

Shkita Jones

Project Officer, Family
Violence Initiatives, VACCA

Healthy Respectful Relationships (HRR) Education for young mob - is critical to end cycles of violence in our Community. However, these programs are not tailored for delivery to Aboriginal young people, and are rarely designed, developed or delivered by Aboriginal organisations. Given the over-representation of our young people disengaged from school, they often miss out on learning about respectful relationships in the mainstream education setting.

Answering these challenges is the Deadly Lovin' program, an evidence-informed and culturally responsive approach that delivers information to young people in ways they understand by people they trust, and helps interrupt the cycle of family and domestic violence in the community. Deadly Lovin' is a HRR learning package specifically developed for Aboriginal young people aged 12 to 17, initially funded by Dhelk Dja through Family Safety Victoria, and developed by VACCA in partnership with Centre for Evidence and Implementation (CEI).

The Deadly Lovin' toolkit equips Child, Youth and Family practitioners with key practices, techniques, activities and educational materials to deliver individualised and tailored HRR programs for young people they work with. A rapid evidence review by CEI found no published HRR programs specific to Aboriginal young people that could be used for working with mob in a collaborative and culturally safe way. VACCA identified the need for a specific package which was relevant, flexible, and delivered in culturally safe ways.

Bringing together evidence-informed practice with cultural knowledge and on-the-ground experience, VACCA and CEI developed learning modules across six topics delivered in a train-the-trainer model for youth and family practitioners. The package includes eLearning materials, two days of facilitated training, toolkit-style manuals, as well as extra resources equipping future Deadly Lovin' facilitators to deliver sessions with everything they need—including confidence. Deadly Lovin' is now proudly supported by Paul Ramsay Foundation for roll-out until July 2025.

Healing families in remote Indigenous Communities

Presenters

Helen Westbury

Executive Manager, Yalu
Aboriginal Corporation

Litisah Baker

Program Manager,
Community Care, Yalu
Aboriginal Corporation

Wesley Dhurrkay

Team Leader, Community
Care, Yalu Aboriginal
Corporation

Yalu has developed a service that encompasses intensive family support for vulnerable families. The service is culturally appropriate and developed from 'lived experience' but challenges the normalisation of DFV and lateral violence.

There are no programs in East Arnhem that support men who engage in family violence and their families. Yalu is leading a co-design mental health program that includes cultural truths to enhance our wrap-around service delivery model to vulnerable families at risk. Local research demonstrates that family violence by men is rooted in the absence of cultural learnings because of intergenerational trauma that has led to the disconnection to Yolngu culture which holds women and children as sacred. The mental health modules include anxiety and depression, anger management, suicide and trauma, which will support the training of male 'peer educators' to deliver the learnings broadly to disengaged males. However, the modules will also be used to build skills, resilience and confidence in young women.

Yalu supports the upskilling of local Yolngu staff. We are a small but dynamic and influential organisation with 61 employees, of which 97% are Indigenous and 96% are local Yolngu. Fifty percent of the Yalu Aboriginal Board are emerging leaders under the age of 30, and two of our Program Managers presenting are Yolngu emerging leaders who started as community support officers 3 years ago and worked their way up with mentoring and commitment to training.

The presentation will cover:

- Recognition of need
- The co-design process
- Cultural testing and protocol development
- Outcomes so far
- Future for establishing codesign men's change behaviour program that includes family healing and men's parenting program, support to find employment including starting a local Yolngu disaster/emergency management team: and
- How we support and grow our team.

Critical Whiteness Theory - A Sociological Answer for Admitting to Racialization and Whiteness in the Social Work Practice of the Protection of Children

Presenter

Dr Robert Martin (PhD)
CEO, Lifeline Regional SA & Far West NSW

In considering the vast over-representation of Aboriginal children and young people in alternative care in Australia, this presentation asks the provocative question: Why have child protection systems not freely, openly, and authentically admitted to racialisation and whiteness in social work practice with Aboriginal families?

It traces the origins of critical whiteness theory, and the way in which sociology has been informed by the civil rights movement in the United States; how it challenged policy makers and practitioners across the domains of child protection and family and domestic violence to radically readjust their own inherent values and attitudes towards

working with and alongside Aboriginal families and children; and how their own unchallenged biases and beliefs lead to poor decision-making and culturally unsafe outcomes for Aboriginal children and their families.

This presentation is provided from a non-Aboriginal perspective, from a practitioner and advocate who wishes to radically change the perspectives, attitudes and beliefs of non-Aboriginal social workers and child protection practitioners in such a way as to 'decolonise' their belief structures and modes of practice to incorporate Aboriginal ways of knowing and being.

Shared decision-making in practice – implementing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander led solutions through national governance structures

Presenters

April Lawrie
South Australian Commissioner for
Aboriginal Children and Young People

Natalie Brown
Our Booris, Our Way Implementation
Oversight Committee Chair

The presentation will include an overview of 'Safe and Supported' as a national shared decision-making structure, and briefly explore two issues as examples of how work led by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sector and community leaders will progress to implementation by governments through this structure.

Safe and Supported and shared decision-making

Safe and Supported is a framework outlining how governments, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders and the non-government sector will work together to ensure children and young people grow up free from harm and neglect. The Framework's Partnership Agreement commits to shared decision-making. This means Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, through a Leadership Group, have an equal decision-making role to governments in making decisions about implementation.

Delegated authority and minimum requirements

Delegated Authority

The Framework commits to progressive transformation of child protection systems to have First Nations self-determination at

their centre. As part of this, the Leadership Group is leading the development of a definition of 'delegation of legislative authority', which is the process to delegate one or more legislative functions or powers exercised by state/territory child and family safety departments to a 'prescribed delegate.' The presenter will talk about the importance of this work and discuss the Leadership Group's role in working as a unified voice representing communities and ACCOs in each jurisdiction.

Minimum Requirements

The Framework also commits to establishing and strengthening advocacy through Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Commissioners in each jurisdiction and developing minimum requirements for independent, effective and empowered National, State and Territory Commissioners for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and Young People, or similar roles. The presenter will talk to the strength of the South Australian model as an example of how this can look in practice, amid negotiations to get similar models implemented across all jurisdictions.

True partnership: getting kids back to family

Presenters

Elisha Garcia
Operations Manager, Kummara Limited

Sarah Crouch
General Manager Families Programs - Queensland, Infinity Community Solutions

True partnership between organisations involves a sharing of power, governance, authority, risk, resources, approaches and values. KICS is a unique partnership between Kummara Ltd, an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation, and Infinity Community Solutions, a mainstream bespoke Organisation, where true partnership and integrated delivery of services are provided across a range of kinship & foster care and family support services in South East Queensland. Collaborative approaches span from consultation, networking, coordination, cooperation and alliance to partnership. This presentation will share how the two organisations are delivering outcomes from a true and equal partnership approach that embeds combined delivery, management and governance, while contributing to the achievement of outcomes for the local community. We will share how the partnership works in practice—from contracts, governance, accreditation, management, staffing, resourcing and service delivery.

Many benefits and outcomes for children, young people, families and the organisations have been achieved through this partnership approach. True partnership takes time and effort and is often a significant factor that contributes to coordination or alliance being the preferred model of collaboration used by organisations. This presentation will further explore what this partnership has achieved, what the benefits are for both organisations and the community and the learnings to date. The success of this approach can be seen through the KICS Kinship & Foster Care Services, their use of family partnership, kin-finding and brokerage funding, to achieve increased numbers of children and young people being reunified or placed with kin, in line with the child placement principle for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander and mainstream communities. We will demonstrate what can be achieved, why this partnership approach is worth it and how to achieve it.

Learning from community voices about lateral violence and lateral empowerment

Presenters

Yvonne Clark
Associate Professor, Aboriginal Communities and Families Health Research Alliance (ACRA), SAHMRI Women and Kids theme

Karen Glover
Principal Research Fellow, Aboriginal Communities and Families Health Research Alliance (ACRA), SAHMRI Women and Kids theme

Naomi Thornthwaite
Research Assistant, Aboriginal Communities and Families Health Research Alliance (ACRA), SAHMRI Women and Kids theme

Feda Ali
Research Assistant, Aboriginal Communities and Families Health Research Alliance (ACRA), SAHMRI Women and Kids theme

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth are vulnerable to racism, trauma, and Lateral Violence (LV) where negative feelings and behaviours are directed toward members within their own oppressed group having dire consequences on their social, emotional wellbeing (SEWB). Conversely, Lateral Empowerment (LE) is the collective prevention and repair of the effects of Lateral Violence, and promotes resilience and strength in young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Our research sought to gain greater insight into the understanding and experiences of Lateral Violence and Lateral Empowerment amongst Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people within Australia, to help shape and develop targeted interventions and resources for young people to help cope with and reduce Lateral Violence, and to harness Lateral Empowerment.

A scoping review of grey literature found the experience of Lateral Violence for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth is largely based upon internalised racism pertaining to Aboriginal identity. Strength-based gender-specific approaches which focus upon positive cultural experiences, the use of lived experience mentors and the inclusion of family was identified as the foundation for Lateral Empowerment. Community are taking an active role in addressing and preventing Lateral Violence through culturally informed practices and approaches based upon the truth-telling of Australia's colonial history. However, there remains the need for specific approaches directed at Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth to help prevent and address Lateral Violence and Lateral Empowerment.

DAY THREE

FRIDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

8.45 – 9AM

Welcome to Country

Gracie Gollan-Ritchie and Sienna Watts

9 – 9.15AM

Welcome Address

Hon Kyam Maher MLC

*Minister for Aboriginal Affairs,
Attorney-General and Aboriginal man*

9.15 – 9.45AM

Keynote

Muriel Bamblett

*Adjunct Professor and CEO of Victorian
Aboriginal Child Care Agency and proud
Yorta Yorta and Dja Dja Wurrung woman*

Family Violence Our Way – a self-determined approach

The family violence crisis requires systems reform, acknowledging the role of racism in gendered violence and privileging Aboriginal solutions - A self-determined approach. This talk will focus on self-determination in action: what a future Aboriginal family violence support system should look like with a National transfer of Aboriginal decision making in Aboriginal hands. Muriel will critically reflect on her personal career journey, VACCA's 15 years of growth in delivering Family violence services and supports in Victoria and the knowledge and practice learnings from being the largest Aboriginal generalist and specialist Family Violence provider in Victoria. She will unpack

the changes we want to see on the journey to reform, the need to stop seeing Aboriginal people experiences as being the same as others and how we can do that; as well as highlighting best practice and VACCA, State and Federal approaches that demonstrate the Aboriginal way achieves better outcomes for women, children, men, Elders and Communities.

9.45 – 10.15AM

Keynote

Natalie Lewis

*Commissioner of the Queensland Family and
Child Commission and proud Gamilaraay woman*

Every Child. Every Right. Every Time.

The presentation will focus on the significance of the child placement principles as the primary legislative safeguard for the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children involved with statutory systems, and more broadly, why the promotion and protection of children's rights, beyond child protection systems, is the key to eliminating overrepresentation.

10.15 – 10.45AM

Morning tea

10.45 – 11.30AM

Keynote

Catherine Liddle

*CEO of SNAICC and proud Arrernte/Luritja woman***Safe and Strong Families –
Through the eyes of Aboriginal
and Torres Strait Islander Children**

The topic of family safety has been frequently highlighted in the media recently. Yet too often we are seeing that the perspectives of children – particularly Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children – are not given sufficient weight in analysis and decision making about how governments can support children and families to be safe and strong.

Catherine will discuss how a child-rights based approach to family safety is critical in ensuring that the voices and perspectives of children are heard in decisions made about their lives, and in line with commitments made by Australian governments to uphold children's rights.

In doing so, Catherine will highlight the relationship between domestic, family, and sexual violence (DFSV) and increased instances of removal into out-of-home care and contact with juvenile justice. Catherine will also discuss the impacts of trauma on the developing mind and body, and how child-centred approaches are fundamental in addressing trauma and supporting families.

Catherine will speak to the dire need for increased funding for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led preventative programs that focus on healing, and

supporting families before problems occur, to build inclusive solutions for families and communities.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and communities have the strength, skills, and knowledge to grow up their children safe and strong through child-centred approaches. The time is long overdue for governments to fund our solutions and in doing so empower our children to thrive strong in culture, family and community.

11.30AM – 12.15PM

Keynote

Stan Grant

*Journalist, Author, Moral Philosopher, Film Maker, Communicator and proud Wiradjuri, Kamilaroi and Dharrawal man***The price of dignity**

We live in an age where a life is measured in numbers: productivity, economic growth, closing the gap. But what about human dignity? Stan Grant spent much of his childhood in poverty, his family had no permanent home and his education was sporadic and disrupted. But he was steeped in his culture and was nourished by a strong extended Aboriginal family. He was raised with dignity. Stan argues that socio-economic equity is not the sole measure of human flourishing, dignity is essential for well-being. How do we build dignity in a world of moral atrophy where the human is expendable?

12.15 – 1PM

Lunch & networking time

1 – 2.15PM

Panel discussion**Theme: Reflections and Aspirations****Panellists**

Muriel Bamblett

Adjunct Professor and CEO of Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency and proud Yorta Yorta and Dja Dja Wurrung woman

Natalie Lewis

Commissioner of the Queensland Family and Child Commission and proud Gamilaraay woman

Catherine Liddle

CEO of SNAICC and proud Arrernte/Luritja woman

Kim Mullholland

*Coach Consultant Practitioner, IvolveGen and proud Larrakia and Yanyuwa man***MC**

Stan Grant

Journalist, Author, Moral Philosopher, Film Maker, Communicator and proud Wiradjuri, Kamilaroi and Dharrawal man

2.15 – 2.45PM

Afternoon tea

2.45 – 3.15PM

**Wrapping things up: Taking time
to reflect**

Dana Shen

Director, DS Consulting and Mindfulness Meditation Teacher

In this final session for the Summit, Dana Shen will lead attendees through a guided learning and reflection process on their experiences over the three days of the Summit. This session will provide a space for participants to process what they've learned, share insights, and consider how to integrate these new perspectives into their work and daily lives.

3.15 – 3.30PM

Official close:

Craig Rigney

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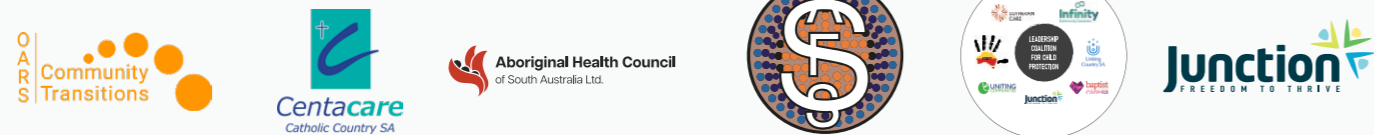
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FOCUS 20— AWARDS —24

GALA DINNER

The Flame of Change Unifying Support (FOCUS) Awards and Gala Dinner will showcase the work of individuals and organisations that work in the domestic and family violence, child protection, homelessness and disability sectors.

Featuring 7-piece band The Sound Factory, the FOCUS Awards Gala Dinner is a great opportunity to connect with leading organisations and individuals, celebrate excellence, and enjoy a fun, relaxed evening.

Location

Adelaide Oval, Ian McLachlan Room
War Memorial Dr, North Adelaide SA 5006

Time

6.30pm – 11.30pm

Dress Code

The FOCUS Awards Gala Dinner is cocktail themed.

Catering & Dietary requirements

The FOCUS Awards Gala Dinner includes a 3-course meal and 5-hour drink package. Dietary requirements need to be made 14 days in advance.

Tickets

Tickets sold separately from Summit registrations. Tickets are \$180 + GST and include a 3-course dinner, a 5-hour drink package, and live entertainment.

Entertainment

The Sound Factory


Sound Factory, proudly hailing from the vibrant heart of Kurna Yerta in South Australia, is a musical powerhouse ready to electrify the stage at the 2024 FOCUS Awards Gala Dinner!


A prominent band in the First Nations music scene, the band features an extraordinary lineup of talent: Tony Minniecon, Ada Parker-Minniecon, Ellie Lovegrove, Joe Rosmini, Carlo Rosmini, Mitch Rosmini, and Gavin Rosmini.


With their high-energy performances and remarkable versatility, Sound Factory effortlessly spans a wide range of styles—from soul, funk, and rock to pop—covering hits from the '60s to the present day.


Get ready to dance the night away!


FOCUS Award Categories

 Outstanding Achievement by a Small Organisation (under 25 staff)

 Outstanding Achievement by a Large Organisation (over 25 staff)

 Outstanding Achievement by an Individual in the Child Protection Sector

 Rosie Batty Award for Outstanding Work in the Domestic & Family Violence Sector

 Jo Shanahan Award for Outstanding Work in SAPOL

Support for families and children in South Australia

The Department of Human Services (DHS) offers a range of programs and services to support families and children across South Australia.



Aboriginal Language Interpreting Service (ALIS)

Access interpreting services for Aboriginal languages in various settings like court or hospitals.

Learn more: translate.sa.gov.au/ALIS

Metropolitan Aboriginal Youth and Family Services (MAYFS)

Supports Aboriginal young people with a focus on family connections, improved life outcomes and diversion from the youth justice system.

Learn more: dhs.sa.gov.au/MAYFS

Strong Families, Strong Communities

Family support services for families with children up to 17 years, prioritising young parents, adolescents with complex trauma, and Aboriginal families with multiple needs.

Self-refer: dhs.sa.gov.au/SFSC

Women's Information Service (WIS)

A free, confidential service that promotes women's choice and empowerment. Available online, by phone, or in person for a range of concerns.

Contact: wis.sa.gov.au

Parenting SA

Guides tailored for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families to support their parenting journey.

Explore: parenting.sa.gov.au/aboriginal-families

Safer Family Services

Delivers intensive family support, workshops, and initiatives to help families experiencing challenges to stay together, connected to family, community and culture.

More info: dhs.sa.gov.au/CFSS

Adults Supporting Kids (ASK)

Find local support and information to improve the safety and wellbeing of children. Resources available in Adnyamathanha and Pitjantjatjara languages.

Visit: adultssupportingkids.com.au

KIND program

Culturally sensitive early intervention for young people aged 10 to 18 who use violence in their relationships.

Contact: Kate Melvin, Senior Family Violence Clinician, 0427 521 808

More information



Visit the DHS website

Department for Child Protection

We value our partnership with Aboriginal people. Together, we are working to improve outcomes for Aboriginal children, young people, families and communities.

Did you know we are:

- ✓ Expanding the Aboriginal family group conferencing program so that more families can stay safely together
- ✓ Funding the establishment of the Peak Body for Aboriginal children and young people to privilege the voices of Aboriginal children and work with government to reduce over-representation
- ✓ Proposing to enshrine the full Aboriginal Child Placement Principle under the *Children and Young People (Safety and Support) Bill 2024* and embed the commitment that it be implemented to the standard of active efforts. This is alongside broader provisions that will help drive delivery of Closing the Gap
- ✓ Leading the public sector in investment in Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations and Aboriginal businesses
- ✓ Co-leading the National Aboriginal Action Plan with the Aboriginal Leadership Group, SNAICC and the Commonwealth Government

Our vision is for all children and young people to grow up safe, healthy, connected and feeling loved so they reach their full potential.



Government of South Australia
Department for Child Protection

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Be part of the conversation at
The KWY National Summit and beyond!

#KWYNationalSummit
#CreatingaSpaceforChange

Tag us @KWYAboriginalCorporation



CREATING A SPACE _____ FOR CHANGE

FEEDBACK

Your feedback is important to us.
Please use the QR code to submit your Summit feedback.





THE NATIONAL ABORIGINAL
CHILD SAFETY, FAMILY AND
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUMMIT

25—27 SEPTEMBER 2024
