



At Risk Forum 2017 Presenters

Debbie Brooks - Lifeline

Debbie currently holds the position of Accredited Trainer in Mental Health First Aid and DV-Alert for Lifeline. Debbie also works at a Homelessness entry point in an initial assessment and referral role for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Debbie has extensive experience in the youth work sector, particularly in homelessness, having worked for more than 10 years as a youth worker in the Bayside / Kingston area. Debbie then spent three years in the training sector teaching Community Services and Youth Work subjects in addition to teaching the Certificate IV in Mental Health. Whilst Debbie was working as a trainer she continued to work in the mental health sector for MIND Australia.

Starlady – Zoe Belle Gender Collective (ZBGC)

Starlady joined the ZBGC team in 2016 as the Youth Project Officer. She holds a number of community volunteer positions, including with VAC's transgender and gender diverse working group and the Victorian Government Trans Expert Advisory Group. She recently relocated to Melbourne after seven years living in central Australia delivering youth focused hairdressing and fashion workshops in remote Indigenous communities. Whilst living in the Northern Territory she played a key role in advocating for LGBTIQ communities and the development of organisational inclusive practice. She has a strong passion for intersections between culturally & linguistically diverse (CALD) and same sex attracted, intersex & gender diverse (SSAIGD) communities.

Michelle Graeber - Anxiety Recovery Centre Victoria

Michelle has more than 28 years' experience working in the private and not for profit sector largely in the disability and mental health sectors. Michelle is passionate about providing quality community education and service delivery for everyone. She also believes that we all have the responsibility to work better together to provide a more inclusive, responsive and sensitive community service system. For the past 10 years Michelle has been the CEO of the Anxiety Recovery Centre of Victoria which is a leading state-wide information, support and referral service for anyone living with an anxiety disorder including parents, families and professionals working in the area. Michelle has been actively involved in training volunteers, students, health and mental health professionals liaise with schools and educators in the area of anxiety. Michelle has been and continues to be a strong advocate for the mutual self-help support model in the delivery of mental health programs. She is a qualified suicide prevention trainer and advises at various levels of Government and Advisory Boards.

John Chellew – Bayside School Refusal Clinic

John Chellew has a Bachelor of Social Work and a Postgraduate Diploma in Family Therapy. John is a Clinician, Speaker and Trainer in School Refusal and has more than 20 years' professional experience in Child and Adolescent social work. John is the leading School Refusal Social Worker in Melbourne and an Accredited Mental Health Social Worker. Prior to establishing the Bayside Refusal Clinic John's background experience has been in community, educational and public mental health settings, including several years' experience within the Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service at Monash Health; with Headspace Elsternwick and has most recently been employed as a school counsellor at the Caulfield Park Community School (now Oakwood School). As a clinical Child, Adolescent and Family Social Worker John is passionate about helping young people and their families achieve better emotional and mental health.