National Convention Centre Canberra. 31 Constitution Ave, Canberra ACT 2601

Day One WEDNESDAY 10 JUNE 2026

HEALTH in DIFFERENCE 26

TIME		BALLROOM	SWAN	MURRAY	FITZROY
8:30 - 9:00am	**WELCOME**	Welcome to Country: Aunty Violet Sheridan, Ngunnawal Elder. Welcome to Health in Difference: Carolyn Gillespie, Chair, LGBTIQ+ Health Australia Introduction by MC, Wayne Herbert.			
9:00 - 9:20 am	**OPENING PLENARY**	Dr Liz Develin, Deputy Secretary, Primary Care, Community & First Nations Group, Department of Health, Disability and Ageing. Hon Mark Butler, Minister for Disability and the National Disability Insurance Scheme, Minister for Health and Ageing. Hon Ged Kearney, Assistant Minister for Social Services, Assistant Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence.			
9:20 - 10:00 am	**PLENARY**	Meaningful Reconciliation Journeys: Conversations with William Trewlynn, Co-Founder and Managing Director YarnnUp. Wayne Herbert, Deputy Chair, LGBTIQ+ Health Australia.			
10:00 - 10:45 am	**PLENARY PANEL**	30 Years of Health in Difference. Panel discussion with reflections by Prof. Michael Kidd OAM FAHMS, Chief Medical Officer for Australia; Professor of Global Primary Care and Future Health Systems, University of NSW and University of Oxford			
10:45 - 11:00 am		MORNING TEA			
CONCURRENT ABSTRACT SESSIONS		**Reimagining LGBTIQ+ Health Through Community Leadership and Co-Design.**	**Safety, Access and Affirmation in Youth Mental Health**	**Inclusive Approaches to Domestic and Family Violence Prevention**	
11:05 - 11:20 am		Organisational perspectives on LGBTQ+ community-controlled approaches to mental health (THE KIDS RESEARCH INSTITUTE AUSTRALIA)	Bathroom insecurity and mental health in trans youth (AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH CENTRE IN SEX, HEALTH & SOCIETY)	Allyship in action: trans and gender diverse inclusion in gender-based violence prevention (ZOE BELLE GENDER COLLECTIVE)	**WORKSHOP** Quality LGBTIQA+ primary healthcare: A deeper look at competencies of care (DR RUTH MCNAIR AM)
11:25 - 11:40 am		Co-creating knowledge and solutions with care-experienced rainbow young people in Aotearoa (WAIPAPA TAUMATA RAU / THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND)	'Life's not a mental health issue!': Re-imagining mental health in youth counselling (TWENTY10)	Changing with pride: developing a new national LGBTIQA+ primary prevention framework (OUR WATCH)	
11:45 - 12:00 pm		A mixed-methods evaluation of a co-design process for LGBTQIA+ health education (UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND)	Bridging gaps: co-designing digital mental health with CALD LGBTQ+ youth (UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY)	Family violence risk in Context for trans and gender diverse people (SAFE & EQUAL AND ZOE BELLE GENDER COLLECTIVE)	
12:00 - 12:15pm		Codesigning in line with the needs of asexual and aromantic people (ACE AND ARO COLLECTIVE AU)	Enhancing LGBTIQA+ affirming youth mental health across the headspace network (HEADSPACE)	DV, gay men and introducing a triple-track approach to provide them support (CHURCHILL TRUST)	
12:20 - 1:00 pm		LUNCH			
1:05 - 1:40 pm	**PLENARY PANEL**	From Insight to Impact: New LGBTIQA+ Approaches to Ending Violence			
WORLD CAFE		Getting It Right: Safeguarding, Standards and Workforce Capability	Access, Inclusion and Trust in Preventive Health	Inclusive Care and Communities as Pathways to Belonging	
1:40 - 1:55 pm		Strengthening safeguarding accountability through structured accreditation (AGPAL GROUP OF COMPANIES)	Intergenerational trauma in queer communities: a systematic review (UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG)	Occupational therapy's unique role in gender affirming care (ABILITY REHAB)	**WORKSHOP** Queering suicide prevention through creative practice (SWITCHBOARD VICTORIA)
2:00 - 2:15 pm		When faith and care intersect: improving LGBTIQA+ inclusion in faith-linked health services (AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH CENTRE IN SEX, HEALTH AND SOCIETY)	Family inclusion as protective factors for trans and gender-diverse young people (TRANSCEND)	A service delivery perspective on intersex, community-based peer support (A GENDER AGENDA)	
2:20 - 2:35 pm		The risk of getting it right: tensions in rainbow tick standards review (RAINBOW HEALTH AUSTRALIA)	Improving the sexual healthcare experiences of bi+ people in Australia (KIRBY INSTITUTE)	Presenter Panel and Audience Q&As	
2:35 - 2:50 pm		AFTERNOON TEA			
CONCURRENT ABSTRACT SESSIONS		**Peer Leadership in Practice and Impact**	**Access, Experience and Equity in Sexual and Reproductive Health**	**Rethinking Responses to Illicit Drug Use: Care, Meaning and Practice**	**Regulating Bodies, Language and Practice**
2:55 - 3:10 pm		Affirmation Station – A peer-led model for social gender affirmation (TRANSGENDER VICTORIA)	SRH literacy of LGBTQ+ women & TGD communities: a baseline report (ACON)	Substance use and cultures of care among members of the queer community. Exploring queer drug cultures with a crip, neuroqueer model of wild self-care (NATIONAL DRUG & ALCOHOL RESEARCH CENTRE, UNSW)	Use of the "I" in the LGBTIQ+ acronym in Australian health research (LA TROBE UNIVERSITY)
3:15 - 3:30 pm		From pilot to practice: Embedding continuity and personalisation in anonymous peer support (LGBTIQ+ HEALTH AUSTRALIA)	Across the margins: Sexual health of LGBTQA+ people with disability (WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY)	Understanding what makes alcohol and other drug treatment work for LGBTQ+ people (AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH CENTRE IN SEX, HEALTH & SOCIETY)	Regulating genital examinations and photography of children with IVSC (UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY SYDNEY)
3:35 - 3:50 pm		Affirmative care for trans and gender diverse people with disabilities (JAX BROWN)	Health equity for LGBTQIA+ reproductive care (SWITCHBOARD VICTORIA)	National insights into LGBTQ+ community-controlled mental health and AOD services. Establishing the landscape of LGBTQ+ community-controlled mental health and AOD service provision (THE KIDS RESEARCH INSTITUTE AUSTRALIA & AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH CENTRE IN SEX, HEALTH & SOCIETY)	Changing care, changing culture: Intersex young people in ACT. (CANBERRA HEALTH SERVICES)
3:55 - 4:15 pm		Presenter Panel and Audience Q&As	The need for targeted menopausal information and resources for gender diverse people (UNSW SYDNEY)	Presenter Panel and Audience Q&As	Presenter Panel and Audience Q&As
4:20 - 4:30 pm	**PLENARY**	Elevating LGBTIQA+ Voices in Men's Health and Masculinities Policy: David Casey, Director, Inclusive Health Policy, Population Health Division, Australian Government, Department of Health, Disability and Ageing.			
4:30 - 5:15 pm	**KEYNOTE**	Celebrating Our Diversity: Mitch Brown. Former AFL footballer and advocate for positive masculinity.			
5:15 -7:00 pm		**WELCOME FUNCTION** 30th Anniversary Celebrations of SWASH (Sydney Women & Sexual Health) Lesbian, Bisexual and Queer Women's Health Survey, and GBQ+ Community Periodic Survey. Poster Display.			

Indicates pre-recorded message or presentation

Day Two THURSDAY 11 JUNE 2026

HEALTH & AGEING in DIFFERENCE 26

TIME		BALLROOM	SWAN	MURRAY	FITZROY
8:30 - 9:15 am	**WELCOME**	Welcome to Country: Aunty Violet Sheridan, Ngunnawal Elder. Welcome to the ACT: Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA, Member for Kurrajong, Minister for Health, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Finance, Minister for the Public Service. MC, Wayne Herbert.			
9:15 - 10:00 am	**OPENING PLENARY**	Hon Sam Rae MP, Minister for Aged Care and Seniors. Welcome to Ageing in Difference, launch of Silver Rainbow and Silver Pride Navigator websites. Uncle Paul Calcott, Wiradjuri Artist. Art unveiling, with members of the Silver Pride Living Experience Advocacy Panel.			
10:00 - 10:45 am	**PLENARY PANEL**	30 Years of Community Driven Research.			
10:45 - 11:15 am		MORNING TEA			
11:15 - 12:15 pm	**PANEL**	Changing Landscape of National Data Collection.			
CONCURRENT ABSTRACT SESSIONS		**Belonging, Support and Suicide Prevention**	**LGBTQ+ women and gender diverse people - policy, research and care**	**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander LGTIQASB+ Experience, Ageing and Data Governance**	**Inclusive Care in Aged and Community Settings**
12:20 - 12:35 pm		Meeting them where they're at (ACON)	Exploring multi-response gender and sexual identity data in the SWASH survey (UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY)	Out Proud 'n' Blak: Aboriginal Rainbow Elders' experiences of discrimination in healthcare contexts and their perspectives on advancing culturally safer healthcare services in Australia, Victoria (THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE)	LGBTQ+ inclusion in residential aged care: findings from a national staff survey (AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH CENTRE IN SEX, HEALTH & SOCIETY)
12:40 - 12:55 pm		"It made me brave": Qualitative Evaluation of the InterLink Psychosocial Support Service (INTERACTION)	Transfemme: upskilling services that work with trans women and trans femme people (ACON)	A future for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander LGBTQA+SB research data (AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH CENTRE IN SEX, HEALTH & SOCIETY)	I asked for LGBTI+ inclusive aged care … and got it (VAL'S LGBTI AGEING AND AGED CARE)
1:00 - 1:15 pm		Acceptance and belonging for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander LGBTQA+ youth wellbeing (AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH CENTRE IN SEX, HEALTH & SOCIETY)	LGBTQ+ women: Reflections on policy, research, and community engagement (AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH CENTRE IN SEX, HEALTH & SOCIETY)	Dying alone and my pets eating me: Indigenous LGTQIASB+ ageing (WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY)	Over the Silver Rainbow (LGBTIQ+ HEALTH AUSTRALIA, MERIDIAN ACT)
1:20 - 1:35 pm		Legacies of community advocacy in LGBTIQA+ suicide prevention (SWITCHBOARD VICTORIA)	Facilitated Panel and Audience Q&A	Facilitated Panel and Audience Q&A	Facilitated Panel and Audience Q&A
1:40 - 2:20 pm		LUNCH (includes Qi Gong session in the ballroom)			
2:25 - 3:15 pm		**IN FOCUS** Equal Identities Report A human rights review of trans and gender diverse experiences in Australia (AUSTRALIAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION)	**IN FOCUS** Trans menopause roundtable (CENTRE FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH IN HEALTH, UNSW, AND ACON)	**IN FOCUS** All the ages we are: a creative dialogue in community care (MERIDIAN ACT)	**WORKSHOP** Human rights in ageing and aged care (LGBTIQ+ HEALTH AUSTRALIA)
3:20- 4:10 pm		**WORKSHOP** Strengthening LGBTQ+ cervical screening through inclusive media and community engagement in the national own it campaign. Improving LGBTQ+ cancer health literacy through can we: a community-driven digital platform (ACON)	**IN FOCUS** Finding LGBTI specialist aged care services: understanding the Specialisation Verification Framework (SILVER RAINBOW)	**PANEL** Pride in ageing by design: rural co-design, ecosystems, and inconvenient community-led outcomes. Pride in ageing: a rural and regional approach to tackle social isolation (SWITCHBOARD VICTORIA)	**WORKSHOP** Evaluating proposals to regulate medical practices on people with IVSCS (INTERACTION)
4:10 - 4:20 pm		AFTERNOON TEA			
4:25 - 5:05 pm	**KEYNOTE**	We Are Ancient: Zoe Terakes. Writer, actor, commentator, and advocate for trans rights and visibility.			
5:10 - 5:40 pm	**PLENARY**	Health in Difference Communiqué and conference close.			
5:40 - 7:30 pm		AGEING IN DIFFERENCE WELCOME FUNCTION			

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Day Three FRIDAY 12 JUNE 2026

AGEING in DIFFERENCE 26

TIME		BALLROOM	MURRAY	FITZROY
8:30 - 9:00 am	**WELCOME**	Acknowledgement of Country. MC, Wayne Herbert. Day Two Reflections, Nicky Bath, CEO, LGBTIQ+ Health Australia.		
9:00 - 10:00 am	**PLENARY PANEL**	Policy in Action: Implementation of the new Aged Care Act. Liz Hefren-Webb, Commissioner, Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission Liz Callaghan, Agency Executive Director, Office of the Inspector General of Aged Care Robert Fitzgerald, Age Discrimination Commissioner, Australian Human Rights Commission.		
10:00 - 10:30 am	**OPENING KEYNOTE**	Growing older, living fully: a special conversation. Joe Ball, Victorian Commissioner for LGBTIQA+ Communities Janet Rice, Former Greens Senator, facilitator, campaigner for justice, people, and the planet.		
10:30 - 11:00 am		MORNING TEA		
CONCURRENT ABSTRACT SESSIONS		**Peer-Led Approaches to Ageing and Wellbeing**	**Inclusive Aged and Palliative Care Practice**	**Intimacy, Dignity and Connection**
11:05 - 11:20 am		Tackling the loneliness void: LGBTI+ aged care peer visitors show the way (SWITCHBOARD VICTORIA)	Sexual orientation and gender identity assessment by palliative care providers: A systematic scoping review (ASHWIN KANIAH)	Fostering LGBTI+ senior connection in safe spaces (LIFEVIEW)
11:25 - 11:40 am		Our voices have changed the world: reflections from older LGBTI people (GLBTI RIGHTS IN AGEING)	Who gets the final say? LGTBQ+ voices in community end-of-life care (ACON)	It gets better with age: supporting sexuality and intimacy in aged care (SENSUAL POTENTIAL)
11:45 - 12:05 pm		Living Experience Advocacy Panel: Voices of LGBTI older people (SILVER PRIDE ADVOCACY NETWORK)	Safeguarding chosen families: strengthening autonomy for LGBTI older adults through enduring documents (ELDER ABUSE ACTION AUSTRALIA)	Four innovative ways to support intimacy in residential LGBTQI+ dementia care (TAILORED ART WORKS!)
12:05 - 12:20 pm		Living in the margins: supporting CALD/ LGBTI people in health, community and aged care services (LGBTIQ+ HEALTH AUSTRALIA)	Rainbow toolkit – guide to personalised palliative care for the LGBTIQA+ community (PALLIATIVE CARE VICTORIA)	Presenter panel and audience Q&A
12:30 - 1:30 pm		LUNCH		
CONCURRENT ABSTRACT SESSIONS		**Intersectional Experiences of Ageing**	**Ageing Voices and Lived Experience**	**Living With Dementia in LGBTIQ+ Communities**
1:35 - 1:50 pm		Towards an aesthetics of care - taking care of storytellers through ethical storytelling (MONTY KHIZAM)	Home based care for Margaret on her alzheimer's journey (CECILY GORDON)	Being LGBTIQA+ and living with dementia: accessing aged care in Australia (CHRISTINE HUNT)
1:55 - 2:10 pm		Autistic elders key differences requiring neuroaffirmative practice (CURTIN AUTISM RESEARCH GROUP)	Health and ageing for gender diverse folk – challenges, hopes, and fears (FRAN MULCAHY)	Best practice care model for LGBTQ+ people living with dementia (DEAKIN UNIVERSITY)
2:15 - 2:30 pm		Bridging the digital divide: intersectional communication strategies for older multicultural communities (POLARON CONNECT)	The evolution of empowered aged care for older LGBTI+ people: some reflections (VAL'S LGBTI AGEING AND AGED CARE)	Housing for LGBTQ+ people living with dementia (DEAKIN UNIVERSITY)
2:35 - 2:50 pm		Navigating the 'double jeopardy': housing insecurity and older LGBTQIA+ Australians (HOUSING FOR THE AGED ACTION GROUP)	Presenter panel and audience Q&A	Co-creation, co-research and participation of LGBTQ+ people, including those living with dementia: challenges, enablers and reflection (DEAKIN UNIVERSITY)
2:55 - 3:10 pm		Presenter panel and audience Q&A		Presenter panel and audience Q&A
3:15 - 3:35 pm		AFTERNOON TEA		
3:40 - 4:40 pm	**CLOSING PLENARY**	Fostering Intergenerational Resilience. Ageing in Difference Communiqué and conference close.		