

USQ ALLY

Network Newsletter



Issue #28 August 2018



Happy August All! I trust you're all nose to the grindstone at the moment, being the season of assignments. I hope you're all surviving and even thriving. In this month's edition of the newsletter, look out for information on the Brisbane Pride Festival coming up in September. There will be an invitation to the USQ Ally Network to join in some of the festivities too, so watch this space!

Please don't forget that we are always on the look out for interesting articles, information about events and professional development opportunities to include in the Ally newsletter. Please email ally@usq.edu.au to share your points of interest.



Ally

Wednesday 5th September, 12.30-1.30pm

Ipswich Campus Room I402

Guest Speaker: Jessica Stephens

Do you remember being a teenager and feeling different? Struggling to find a place in the world is hard enough, let alone knowing that your sexual or gender identity isn't "normal". Compound this with other minority stressors; ATSI, CALD, cognitive and mental health issues, as well as anti-social and criminal behaviours.

Jess Stephens has worked with Queensland's most troubled youth for 5 years in the Townsville and Brisbane youth detention centres. Realising an invisibility of LGBTQI issues for young people and staff, she helped develop LGBTQI Inclusive Framework and a Transgendered Policy to help protect the rights of trans* youth in detention. She also travels the state to deliver LGBTQI+ Awareness training to educate staff.

Jess will be talking on the intersect between LGBTQI issues and the over-representation of LGBTQI youth in the juvenile justice system, and the unique challenges for young people in the Youth Justice system, specifically whilst in detention.

To register your interest in attending at USQ Springfield please email ally@usq.edu.au. If you are unable to attend in person you can register for the online webinar [here](#).

LGBTIQ+ Awareness Training

We are pleased to advise that there will be another training opportunity coming up soon! Participants will be eligible to become formally recognised as a USQ Ally.

When? Friday 12th October, 12-2.30pm

Where? Online webinar

How? Register [here](#) or email Ally@usq.edu.au for more information



If you are reading a hard copy of this newsletter and wish to access the links, please go to <https://www.usq.edu.au/current-students/support/lgbtiq-community> where this and past editions are posted.

In the News

'Personally Sorry': NSW Police Commissioner Apologises to the 78ers

A group of '78ers have heard New South Wales Police Commissioner Mick Fuller deliver an apology for the police violence that marred the original Mardi Gras march on June 24, 1978. [MORE](#)



Australian Christian Lobby petitions against 'gay conversion' therapy ban

The Australian Christian Lobby (ACL) has launched a petition calling on federal Labor not to ban the harmful practice of "gay conversion" therapy. [MORE](#)

Catholic Church takes historic step in embracing LGBTIQ Community

The Catholic Church will take an historic step towards embracing the LGBTIQ community at the World Meeting of Families in Dublin later this month. [MORE](#)



Major \$716,000 grant to fund research into mental health needs of indigenous LGBTI Youth

We know that being Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, being young, and being LGBTI are all risk factors for poor mental health and suicide—but what happens when you are a member of all three of these groups? [MORE](#)

Guna Yala: The islands where women make the rules

In the small indigenous territory of Guna Yala off Panama's eastern coast, a flourishing 'third gender' community is defying stereotypes and venerating women. [MORE](#)



Events and Entertainment

Brisbane Pride Festival

The Official Brisbane Pride Festival Launch Party will take things to a whole new level in 2018, uniting with Brisbane Festival to take over King Street, Bowen Hills for the ultimate celebration of love in the form of a free street-party extravaganza on Saturday, 8th September. [MORE](#)



Support Services

Bulk-billing LGBTIQ-friendly GP in Toowoomba

headspace Toowoomba has a bulk billing GP who works alongside their LGBTIQ group. She has a lot of experience with **headspace** centres and clients, and particularly with young people who are transgender. There are no wait times for appointments. Dr Violeta is available Mondays and Wednesdays at **headspace** and bookings can be made on 4639 9000.



QLife/Diverse Voices

QLife is Australia's first nationally-oriented counselling and referral service for people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and/or intersex (LGBTI). QLife provides nation-wide, early intervention, peer supported telephone and web based services to people of all ages across the full breadth of people's bodies, genders, relationships, sexualities, and lived experiences.

3:00pm to midnight in your state, around Australia, every day.

CALL 1800 184 527

ONLINE CHAT

PFLAG

A support group for the family and friends of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Agender and other diverse people.



Toowoomba

Phone: 0478 735 242

Email: pflagtoowoomba@gmail.com



Brisbane

Phone: 0400 767 832

<http://www.pflagbrisbane.org.au/contact-us>



Ipswich

Supporting our GLBTIQ community, their families and friends

<https://www.facebook.com/pflagipswich>

My Big Gay Family My Big Gay Family is a safe, inclusive space to explore and celebrate the depth and diversity of all LGBTIQ families. **Informed. Connected. Empowered.**



The Pinnacle Foundation

The Pinnacle Foundation has been established to provide scholarships to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Intersex and Queer students who are marginalised or disadvantaged.

[READ MORE](#)



Open Doors

Open Doors provides Advocacy and support

services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual and/or transgender, Intersex and queer (LGBTIQ) young people aged 12 to 24 and their families who live in South East Queensland.

<http://www.opendoors.net.au/>

Relationships Australia—Rainbow Program

Relationships Australia, Ipswich and Toowoomba, now provides The Rainbow Program,

striving to support the mental health and wellbeing of people of diverse bodies, genders and sexualities, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender & intersex (LGBTI) people, as well as those questioning their gender identity or sexual orientation. Includes counselling and support groups. <http://www.raq.org.au/services/rainbow-program>



Our House Our Haven Inc. is a brand new registered charity organisation based in Ipswich. They are a nurse-led clinic providing care, psychotherapy and different treatment options for chronic and crisis mental health clients. Where staff are trained in supporting those who identify as LGBTIQ+ <https://www.ohoh.org.au/>

