## Program

### Day 1 | Thursday, 2 November 2017

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<th>Time</th>
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<td>8am - 8.40am</td>
<td>Registration and tea/coffee</td>
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<td>8.40am - 8.55am</td>
<td><strong>Welcome</strong>: Dr Reeny Jurczyszyn, Chair of Interagency Child Protection Symposium Committee</td>
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<td>8.55am - 9.05am</td>
<td><strong>Welcome to Country</strong>: Songwoman Maroochy</td>
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<td>9.05am - 9.15am</td>
<td><strong>Opening address</strong>: Hon. Shannon Fentiman MP, Minister for Communities, Women and Youth, Minister for Child Safety and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence</td>
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| 9.15am - 10am | **Rupture and repair, the clinical and cultural interface of addressing Indigenous childhood trauma**: Dr Marshall Watson (FRANZCP-Cert. Child Adol. Psych, Cert. Forensic Psych), Clinical Lead for the South Australia Forensic Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) and Consultant Psychiatrist with the CAMHS Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Team  
**Close of session**: Dr Reeny Jurczyszyn |
| 10am - 10.30am | Morning tea                                                            |
| 10.30am - 12.15pm | **Being, belonging, becoming: realising young people’s potential through healing and connection**  
**Chair and lead of session**: Lucas Moore, Coordinator CREATE Foundation  
**Belonging and Becoming**: TJ Carruthers, Young Consultant CREATE Foundation  
**Healing Foundation - Strong communities strong children**: Lisa Hillan, Director Programs and Knowledge Creation, Healing Foundation and Sarah Kanai, Deputy Director Programs, Healing Foundation  
**Belonging to me, belonging to us**: Rose Pearse, foster carer and FAST representative, Foster Care Queensland  
**Belonging**: Jodi Baird, Case Officer/FAST co-ordinator, North Queensland, Foster Care Queensland  
**Who's your truth speaker - partnering with the advisor**: Dr Gerald Featherstone, CEO, Kummara  
**Positivity through creativity**: Bridget Garay – Program Manager, Creative Tracks  
**Close of session**: Lucas Moore |
| 12.15pm - 1pm | Lunch                                                                   |
| 1pm - 2.45pm   | **Behind closed walls: Protecting young people from digital dangers**  
**Chair of session**: Andrea Lauchs, Director Communications, Education and Sector Development Queensland Family and Child Commission  
**Session lead**: Lindy Tews, Senior Operational Support Officer, Child Abuse and Sexual Crime Group, State Crime Command, Queensland Police Service  
**The online reality for young people – The changing online landscape; Social media and young people’s social identity**: Zara Ward, Advisor, Out of the Dark project, Queensland Family and Child Commission  
**Technology facilitated crimes against children, the QPS response**: Detective Senior Sergeant Cameron Burke, Operation Leader, ARGOS |
Youth in a digital world - From an education perspective: Samantha Curran, Senior Advisor Cyber Safety and Reputation Management Team, Information and Technologies Branch, Department of Education and Training

Panel discussion: Protecting young people from digital dangers

Panel lead: Andrea Lauchs, Director Communications, Education and Sector Development, Queensland Family and Child Commission

Panel members: Detective Senior Sergeant Cameron Burke, Operation Leader, ARGOS; Zara Ward, Advisor, Out of the Dark project, Queensland Family and Child Commission; Samantha Curran, Senior Advisor Cyber safety and Reputation Management Team, Information and Technologies Branch Department of Education and Training; Sophie Morson, Team Leader Program and Partnership Child Youth and Mental Health Service.

Close of session: Lindy Tews

2.45pm - 3.15pm  Afternoon tea

3.15pm - 4.45pm  My home is not with a family – The new era of residential care

Chair and lead of session: Dean Keep, Regional Manager, Brisbane and South West Regions, Next Step After Care Service Queensland, Youth Choices, Life Without Barriers

History of residential care and a snap shot of current arrangements: Susan Goodrich, Manager Child Protection and Adoption Design and Commissioning, Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Service; Toni Cash, Manager Complex Case Advice and Practice Support (CCAPS), Practice Connect Service Delivery and Practice, Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Service

Hope and Healing Framework: Lindsay Wegener, Executive Director Peakcare

Working together - achieving therapeutic outcomes through collaboration. A case study: Melissa Branjerdporn, Professional Development Coordinator, Evolve Therapeutic Services, Brisbane North, Child and Youth Mental Health Service

Appreciative Inquiry – Former youth worker and young person’s lived experience in residential care: Katie Stanford, Practice and Program Specialist, Out Of Home Care, Life Without Barriers; Joel Berkout, Program Manager, Life Without Barriers; Bonnie, Young Person; Caitlin, Young Consultant, CREATE Foundation

Close of session: Dean Keep

Day 2 | Friday, 3 November 2017

8am - 8.30am  Registration and tea/coffee

8.30am - 8.40am  Welcome: Dr Reeny Jurczyszyn, Chair of Interagency Child Protection Symposium Committee

8.40am - 8.50am  Opening address: Cheryl Leavy, Deputy Commissioner, Queensland Family and Child Commission

8.50am - 9.30am  The teenage brain: Nathan Wallis, Director of X-Factor Education, facilitating the application of neuroscience to practice

Close of session: Dr Reeny Jurczyszyn
9.30am - 11am

**Education**

*Set for life – The enduring asset for our young people in out of home care*

Chair of session: Brett Weeden, A/Executive Director, Student Protection, State Schools – Operations

Session lead: Dr Reeny Jurczyszyn

Queensland is interested in trauma aware schooling!

Dr Judith Howard, B.Ed. M.Ed Guidance and Counselling, Ph.D Senior Lecturer, Queensland University of Technology

Panel: Trauma Informed Education

Panel lead: Brett Weeden, A/Executive Director, Student Protection, State Schools – Operations

Panel members: Dale Murray, Director of Edmund Rice Education Australia and Director of Youth Plus Foundation; Nathan Wallis, Director of X-Factor Education, facilitating the application of neuroscience to practice; Murray Geddes, Principal, Lookout Centres, South Eastern Victoria; Dr Judith Howard, Senior Lecturer, Queensland University of Technology.

Close of session: Brett Weeden

11am - 11.30am

**Morning tea**

11.30am - 1pm

*‘Needs not deeds’ - responding to behaviours to reduce the criminalisation of young people in the child protection system*

Chair of Session: Cheryl Leavy, Deputy Commissioner, Queensland Family and Child Commission

Session lead: Zara Berkovits

The Queensland context: Cheryl Leavy, Deputy Commissioner, Queensland Family and Child Commission

Thinking mind, reptilian brain – A mindful approach to behaviours change and healing: Gregory Nicolau, Chief Executive Officer and lead Consultant Psychologist, Australian Childhood Trauma Group

Challenges from the frontline: Catherine Moynihan, Official Solicitor and Director of Legal Services/Investigations, Office of the Public Guardian

Close of session: Catherine Moynihan

1pm - 1.40pm

**Lunch**

1.40pm - 3pm

**Safety: The good, the bad and the ugly of safety planning**

Chair of session: Dr Ryan Mills, Deputy Director, Paediatrics, Logan Hospital, Metro South Hospital and Health Service and Clinical Chair, Statewide Child Protection Clinical Partnership, CHQ HHS

Session lead: Toni Cash and Susan Goodrich, Department Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services

Case study: This case example will assist participants to consider what safety planning looks like at its best and to think through some of the challenges of this way of working, including developing some strategies for your own work in your agency.

Susan Goodrich, A/Manager Child Protection and Adoption Design and Commissioning, Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Service; Toni Cash, Manager Complex Case Advice and Practice Support (CCAPS), Practice Connect Service Delivery and Practice, Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services.

Workshop: Pop up speakers – Warren Clegg, A/Senior Service Support Officer, Brisbane Region Placement Services Unit, Residential Team, Department Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services; Leonie Flitcroft, Practice Development Manager, Residential Care and Transition Services, Mercy Community Services; Acting Senior Sergeant Michelle Piket, Upper Mount Gravatt Station, Queensland Police Service; Rebecca Wilkins, Team Leader, Evolve Therapeutic Services Brisbane North.

Close of session: Ryan Mills

3pm - 3.15pm

Wrap up and close of symposium: Dr Reeny Jurczyszyn, Chair of Interagency Child Protection Symposium Committee
Biographies

Interagency Child Protection Symposium Committee

Dr Reeny Jurczyszyn
Chair of Interagency Child Protection Symposium Committee and Program Manager, Child Protection and Forensic Medical Service, Lady Cilento Children’s Hospital
Speaker day 1 and 2

Dr Reeny Jurczyszyn has been a social worker for more than 18 years. Working within Queensland Health and the Department of Justice, Reeny has extensive experience in working with vulnerable and disadvantaged population groups, particularly with children and their families. In 2014, Reeny was appointed the Program Manager of the Child Protection and Forensic Medical Service at the Lady Cilento Children’s Hospital and has been working to establish this service. Reeny further completed a PhD in the area of Transition from out-of-home care at Griffith University in 2013, and has been published in the area of higher and further education as a means of reducing the legacy of disadvantage for those who have been in out-of-home care. Reeny is a board member of the CREATE Foundation and has had diverse roles in the community, which have included assuming kinship care of family members after exiting the out-of-home care system.

Zara Berkovits
Policy and Advocacy Leadership, Queensland Family and Child Commission
Session lead

Zara Berkovits is the Manager of Policy and Advocacy Leadership for the Queensland Family and Child Commission. Zara has worked in the child protection field for more than 10 years, undertaking a range of roles to promote and advocate for the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. Zara has led system reviews, program design and practice support to help improve responses for children, young people and families. She continues to promote positive change through influencing policy and systems in relation to the youth justice, child protection and family support systems in Queensland.

Toni Cash
Manager Complex Case Advice and Practice Support (CCAPS), Practice Connect Service Delivery and Practice, Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Service
Speaker day 1 and 2

Toni Cash is a social worker who graduated from the University of Queensland in 1986. She has worked in the area of Child and Family Welfare for more than 30 years, primarily in the area of statutory child protection. Toni has extensive experience in a range of positions within the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services (DCCSDS), including both practice and policy positions. Toni also has experience working in the non-government sector, particularly as the Programs Manager of Alternative Care for Save the Children in Queensland. Her programs included two residential services for young women in care of the state, a Supported Independent Living Program and the Outreach On-call Service, and leadership of the Wynnum-Redlands Integrated Care and Support Initiative (WRICSI) – a partnership initiative supporting vulnerable young people. Toni is currently the Manager of Complex Case Advice and Practice Support (CCAPS), a specialist service located within Practice Connect, DCCSDS. Toni has a long held interest and experience in the specialty area of sexual abuse and brings to this position extensive experience in this area, including investigation and assessment, counselling and therapeutic intervention, as well as court and tribunal experience. Toni has a passion for professional development and reflective practice and integrated partnership in the area of child protection. This is demonstrated in a number of initiatives currently undertaken by CCAPS, including the development of Safety and Support Networks with High Intensity Responses.
Dr Jan Connors
Director Child Protection and Forensic Medical Service, Lady Cilento Children's Hospital

Doctor Jan Connors has been a qualified registered medical practitioner since 1981. She has worked in paediatrics since 1984, gaining a Diploma in Child Health from the Royal College of Physicians in the UK, and subsequently became a Paediatric Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) in 1991. Jan is a member of the Chapter of Community Child Health within the RACP and has worked in the area of Child Development and Behavioural Paediatrics for many years.

Jan completed a Master of Public Health through the University of Queensland in 2003 and a Master of Forensic Medicine through Monash University (Melbourne) in 2015. In 2015, she further gained a Fellowship of the Faculty of Clinical Forensic Medicine within the Royal College of Pathologists Australasia. Jan has worked in the area of Child Protection as a consultant paediatrician since 2000. She was the Director of the Mater Children's Hospital Child Protection Unit from 2006 – 2014, and is currently Director of the Child Protection and Forensic Medical Services for Children's Health Queensland. Jan has appeared in various court jurisdictions in the capacity of expert witness in relation to child protection matters on numerous occasions since 2000.

Laura Easterbrook
Clinical Nurse Coordinator– PLATFORM 18, Child Protection and Forensic Medical Service, Children's Health Queensland

Laura Easterbrook trained as a children’s nurse in Southampton in the UK, where she studied a Post Graduate Diploma in Children’s Nursing. Laura has a background of working in a therapeutic residential service in the UK, providing care to young people on child protection orders. Laura moved to Australia in 2007 and since this time has worked at the former Mater Children’s Hospital Emergency Department and in the Mater Child Protection Unit, Child Protection and Forensic Medical Service at Lady Cilento Children’s Hospital and has recently been appointed as clinical nurse consultant at the Sunshine Coast Hospital Health Service. She has a particular interest in working with children and young people who have been sexually assaulted and has been involved in service improvement activities in this area. Laura is also part of the team commissioning the Platform 18 Service. Platform 18 will be the first dedicated ‘transitioning from care’ health service in Australia for young people transitioning and exiting out-of-home care, and is designed to improve access to health services, connect with the primary care sector and provide young people with important health information. Platform 18 aims to bridge the gap in health outcomes for this group of young people by offering a nurse-led program that provides a range of services including immunisations, sexual health screening and comprehensive health assessments.

Susan Goodrich
Manager Child Protection and Adoption Design and Commissioning, Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services

Sue Goodrich is a social worker who graduated from The University of Queensland in 1997. Since then, Sue has worked in a diverse range of roles within the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services, in Child Safety Service Centres, as well as regional and statewide project, program and practice positions, including Project Manager for one of the Carmody Recommendations, the Out of Home Care audit. More recently, Sue was the Manager of the Placement Services Unit in the Brisbane region, before moving into Child Protection and Adoption Design and Commissioning, with a focus on foster and kinship care. Sue is passionate about improving the outcomes for children and young people in out-of-home care, particularly within the placement system. Sue enjoys leading practice and systems reform in work units, and developing key partnerships to enhance collaborative work.
Detective Sergeant Kurt Hering
Child Trauma Unit, Child Abuse and Sexual Crime Unit, State Crime Command, Queensland Police Service

Kurt Hering is a Detective Sergeant of the Queensland police attached to the Child Trauma Task Force (CTTF), State Crime Command. He has been a police officer for 20 years and has a strong investigative background in child protection, working in regional areas throughout Queensland. Since the inception of the CTTF in 2013, Detective Sergeant Hering continues to manage investigations providing specialist investigative and operational assistance to regional investigators on sudden unexplained deaths of children and serious injuries resulting from suspected child abuse and neglect.

Carissa Inglis
Senior Team Leader, Foster Care Queensland Inc.

Carissa Inglis graduated with a degree in social work in 2001 and has worked in the child protection field since this time. Carissa’s journey started in Child Safety services in New Zealand where she worked as an equivalent CSO for two years, and then as a team leader for a team that included both Child Protection and Youth Justice matters.

Carissa moved to Australia in 2005 and after a small stint in Child Safety services, Carissa moved to the Out of Home care sector, firstly as a team leader for a Fostering and Kinship Care service, and for the past 11 years for Foster Care Queensland where she currently holds the position of Senior Team Leader.

Carissa is passionate about child protection services and sees it as a privilege to have been part of the committee that has helped bring this conference together.

Dean Keep
Regional Manager, Brisbane and South West Regions, Next Step After Care Service Queensland, and Youth Choices, Life Without Barriers

Dean Keep is a registered Psychologist who joined Life Without Barriers (LWB) in 2014 as the Regional Manager in Queensland. He currently oversees the out-of-home-care service for Southern Queensland, Youth Choices Program and the NEXTSTEP After Care Service. Dean has more than 15 years’ experience working in statutory child protection in Queensland at all levels of operations from caseworker through to director roles. Dean provides leadership in a challenging context where he utilise his skills, knowledge and experience to support teams working with children and young people, their families and carers. Now, with the new NEXTSTEP program operating since March 2015, Dean has been working closely with others in implementing this new program across the state to better support young people who have left care.

Judi Kraus
Divisional Director, Child and Youth Mental Health Service (CYMHS)

Judi is a credentialed mental health nurse with a broad range of experience in general nursing, midwifery and mental health. She has worked across a range of settings including rural, regional and metropolitan, in both hospital and community teams and in mental health education and corporate senior project roles. Judi has diverse management experience spanning adult, Indigenous, child and youth and community mental health teams. Judi has worked within Children’s Health Queensland’s CYMHS service for 13 years and in the Director role since December 2009.

Judi has a Masters in community mental health and further post graduate qualifications in family therapy and health management. Her areas of particular interest include family based interventions, the impact of trauma and attachment on young people and CYMHS service development and sector leadership. Judi is also a staunch advocate for young people within the child protection and youth forensic systems to have equitable access to specialist mental health care.
Dr Ryan Mills
Deputy Director, Paediatrics, Logan Hospital, Metro South Hospital and Health Service
Clinical Chair, Statewide Child Protection Clinical Partnership, Children’s Health Queensland
Speaker day 2
Ryan is a General Paediatrician and Child Protection Advisor. He is a Senior Staff Specialist at Logan Hospital, including outreach to Beaudesert Hospital. In child protection, Ryan has been the Queensland Health core representative for the Logan Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN) team for more than 10 years. Ryan has a clinical and research interest in the long term outcomes for children who experience abuse and neglect, working in partnership with colleagues at The University of Queensland. Ryan has been the Clinical Chair of the Statewide Child Protection Clinical Partnership since January 2014. He is a member of the Board of Directors of Act for Kids, a non-government organisation focused on the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect.

Lucas Moore
Queensland State Coordinator, CREATE Foundation
Speaker day 1
Lucas Moore is the Queensland Coordinator for the CREATE Foundation, where he has spent the last eight years consulting and engaging with children and young people around their experiences of the care system. CREATE is the national peak consumer body representing the voices of children and young people in care and, in recent years, has become well known for its targeted advocacy about the need for young people transitioning from care to independence to be provided the same opportunities as other young Australians. Lucas believes children and young people’s opinions provide a crucial contribution to the design and delivery of any services hoping to meet young people’s needs. He feels grateful to have worked with so many courageous individuals who wish to speak up about their experiences.

Catherine Moynihan
Official Solicitor and Director of Legal Services/Investigations, Office of the Public Guardian
Speaker day 2
Catherine Moynihan is the Official Solicitor and Director of Legal Services/Investigations at the Office of the Public Guardian. Catherine manages a team of lawyers who act as child advocates for children and young people in care and lawyers who make legal decisions as substituted decision makers for adults with impairments, including child protection matters. Catherine is a lawyer with a keen interest in the rights of children and young people in the child protection system and has a passionate advocacy focus on the Charter of Rights. She was Youth Advocate at Legal Aid Queensland for eight years prior to her current role. Catherine was a Director on the research team that supported the recent Queensland Child Protection Commission of Inquiry. She is a Churchill fellow who has visited the UK and US on a research tour looking at participation and advocacy for children and young people in out-of-home care. Catherine is also a founding Director on the Board of the Child Protection Practitioners Association of Queensland and is a member of the Queensland Law Society’s Children’s Law Committee.
Jane Reid
Manager, Communications and Community Education, Communications, Education and Sector Development, Queensland Family and Child Commission

Jane Reid is the Manager of Communications and Community Education for the Queensland Family and Child Commission. Throughout her career she has worked in the fields of education, health and local and state governments. She has led the development of large scale, award winning, integrated social marketing campaigns to influence behaviour change in a variety of public health arenas, in particular responsible and problem gambling, and road safety. Jane led a Logan-based project to train early childhood educators to identify children with developmental vulnerabilities and build connections with primary and allied health providers, as well as building parental capacity to support children’s development. Jane has brought this knowledge and experience to the QFCC to lead the redevelopment of the Talking Families campaign. The campaign aims to encourage help seeking, help offering and help accepting, and to develop a program of work to raise awareness of online risks and build the capacity of children, young people, families and professionals to identify these and implement protective strategies.

Lindy Tews
Senior Operational Support Officer, Child Abuse and Sexual Crime Group, State Crime Command, Queensland Police Service

Speaker day 1

Lindy Tews is an Acting Senior Sergeant with the Queensland Police Service with more than 18 years of policing experience. Detective Tews is presently the Senior Operational Support Officer for the Child Abuse and Sexual Crime Group, a team of specialist investigators focused on supporting regional, interstate and international investigative capability in complex investigations of suspicious deaths, serious sexual abuse, and online exploitation of children. For the past 15 years, Detective Tews has specialised in the field of child protection in both regional and specialist settings, in particular the investigation of suspicious deaths, serious child abuse and neglect, as well as protracted and historical child abuse matters. Detective Tews has been involved in the review and evaluation of QPS practices in the broader child protection system and supported implementation of enhanced child protection investigative procedures service-wide. She maintains an active role in child protection training development and delivery for junior investigators across the state.

Detective Inspector Garry Watts
Operations Manager, Child Trauma and Sexual Crime Unit, Child Abuse and Sexual Crime Group, State Crime Command, Queensland Police Service

Garry Watts is a Detective Inspector with the Queensland Police Service with more than 35 years of policing experience. Detective Watts is presently the Operations Manager for the Child Trauma and Sexual Crime Unit for the Child Abuse and Sexual Crime Group. The Child Trauma and Sexual Crime Unit consists of specialist investigators providing specialist investigative support to regional investigators. The Child Trauma Unit focuses on complex investigations into suspicious deaths and serious trauma committed on infants and children. The Sexual Crime Unit focuses on the investigation of complex sexual and predatory offences committed on adults or children across Queensland. Detective Watts has been with the group for four years and prior to this was involved in the policing of outlaw motorcycle gangs within Queensland. Detective Watts has a regional criminal investigations background, working in the Logan District Criminal Investigation Branch for some 20 years.

Brett Weeden
Acting Executive Director, Student Protection, State Schools - Operations, Department Education and Training

Speaker day 2

Brett is currently the Director, Student Protection for the Department of Education and Training. Brett has been a teacher and school administrator for more than 20 years, and has previously been a Head of Department, Deputy Principal and Principal in both primary and secondary schools.
Honourable Shannon Fentiman MP
Minister for Communities, Women and Youth, Minister for Child Safety, Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence
Member for Waterford
Shannon Fentiman is Queensland’s Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, Minister for Communities, Women and Youth and Minister for Child Safety.
Shannon holds a Bachelor of Laws (First Class Hons) from QUT and a Master of Laws from Melbourne University. She was admitted as a Legal Practitioner in 2007.
Shannon is committed to social justice and throughout her career has worked to improve the lives of working people. She is passionate about fighting discrimination and unfairness at work and in the community.
A critical priority for Shannon is tackling domestic and family violence and violence against women more broadly, and she plays a key role in the Palaszczuk Government’s urgent efforts to end violence.

Songwoman Maroochy
Welcome to Country
Songwoman Maroochy is the Songwoman and Law-woman of the Turrbal People – the original inhabitants of Brisbane. She is a direct descendant of Daki Yakka – Chief of the Old Brisbane tribe - a man nicknamed ‘the Duke of York’ by the European settlers in the Moreton Bay area in the 1830s.
Songwoman Maroochy joins us to perform a Traditional Blessing of this gathering in accordance with the Turrbal traditional laws and customs.
The Traditional Welcome to Country is delivered in songs in Turrbal language. Songwoman Maroochy also shares some aspects of the Turrbal People history in Brisbane with guests.

Marshall Watson
Clinical Lead for the SA Forensic CAMHS services and consultant psychiatrist with the CAMHS APY Team
Dr Marshall Watson is a descendant of the Noongar people of the South West of WA. He is a child and adolescent forensic psychiatrist living and working in Adelaide, South Australia. He is the clinical lead for the SA Forensic CAMHS services and consultant psychiatrist with the CAMHS APY Team. Marshall’s area of professional interests include complex developmental trauma and juvenile offenders, and forensic risk assessment as it relates to Indigenous youth and juvenile sex offenders.

TJ Carruthers
Young Consultant CREATE Foundation
TJ is an 18 year old Bundjalung man who has been a CREATE Young Consultant since the age of 13, helping out with CREATE’s advocacy and speaking for foster kids around Queensland at a number of events, trainings and forums. He attended the national CREATE conferences in 2013 and 2015 and carried out various duties, including being a conference reporter and speaking on a panel. Since January this year, he has been volunteering on a weekly basis at Foodbank. TJ has had lots of interesting experiences in his life – he has been to seven countries, once did a backflip off Uluru and spent six weeks of Year 7 schooling in Africa.
Lisa Hillan  
Director Programs and Knowledge Creation, Healing Foundation

Lisa is a social worker with more than 20 years’ experience working with vulnerable communities in program design and delivery. She has been the Chair of the Child and Family Welfare Association of Australia; and Chair of the Child Protection Committee in Queensland. In 2006, Lisa completed a Churchill fellowship to study effective models of residential care.

For more than 10 years Lisa worked in Queensland and the Northern Territory in partnership with many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations to build their children and families sector. Since 2010, Lisa has been Director of Programs, Policy and Knowledge Creation at the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation. In this role Lisa is responsible for leading, policy and program development in trauma and healing and developing an evaluation and research agenda to create positive outcomes for the wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Sarah Kanai  
Deputy Director Programs, Healing Foundation

Sarah is a Bundjalung woman from the northern region of NSW. Sarah has 19 years’ experience working in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health in urban, rural and remote communities in service delivery and prevention of chronic disease.

Sarah has worked for government and not-for-profit organisations where she led programs to improve the overall quality of care at the primary health care level for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Since the start of this year, Sarah has been Deputy of Director of Programs at the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation. In this role Sarah manages and coordinates co-design processes and community development approaches to create healing and trauma informed practice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and agencies across the country.

Rose Pearce  
Foster Carer and FAST Representative, Foster Care Queensland

Rose Pearse became a foster Carer in 2006. She had spent the previous 20+ years working in music and was managing the contemporary music portfolio for the Queensland Government. Music had taken her around the world, including to remote Indigenous communities and red carpet events, but it was working with young people, guiding them in developing their talents and creating opportunities with them, that drives her. Becoming a foster carer has been both a turning point and a game changer. Eleven years on, music is strictly for fun and her commitment to the caring role remains strong, despite the many challenges that being part of the child protection system brings.

Jodie Baird  
Foster carer, Foster Queensland

Whilst living in the mining town of Mount Isa back in 1999, Jodie and her husband became foster carers, which began their journey through the Child Protection System.

Jodie quickly developed positive relationships with staff at Child Safety, which lead to her involvement in training of other carers. In 2002, Jodie volunteered as a FAST Representative with Foster Care Queensland so she could continue helping fellow carers to navigate their way through the system, and also to be a support person, which is something Jodie really enjoys.

In 2007 when Foster Care Queensland was looking for a Case Officer to manage the North and Far North Regions, it was a good fit for Jodie, so she accepted the position and was able to establish an office in Townsville.

Jodie is passionate about her role at FCQ. She believes strongly that every child has the right to feel safe, have a sense of belonging and self-worth and that kinship and foster carers who care and provide for the children are supported, so they can meet the needs of the children in their care.
Dr Gerald Featherstone
CEO Kummara

Dr Gerald Featherstone is a Bundjalung man and proud father of one. He has worked for Kummara as a social worker in many roles since moving from Queensland Health and Education Queensland to the NGO sector in 2003. Gerald was then asked to take over as Kummara’s CEO in 2009. Since that time he has been involved in the development of Kummara Association Inc. and their services whilst simultaneously carrying out research on Aboriginal parenting capturing specifically those aspects that create strong and well-functioning families.

Bridget Garay
Program Manager, Creative Tracks

Bridget Garay is a Torres Strait Islander woman who has extensive experience in the Arts industry spanning 20 years and is well respected as an arts worker within the sector. This is complimented with her highly developed facilitation, community engagement and leadership skills. Bridget is currently working as the Regional Manager for the Creative Tracks Program, an initiative of Human Ventures. Creative Tracks is a performing arts based program bringing “positivity through creativity” to four Indigenous communities across Queensland. She believes that both individuals and communities should have access to knowledge that creates pathways to empowerment.

Andrea Lauchs
Director Communications, Education and Sector Development Queensland Family and Child Commission

Andrea Lauchs is committed to improving outcomes for vulnerable children and young people across Queensland. Andrea joined the Queensland Family and Child Commission in August 2015. Prior to this appointment, she held many positions during the 20 years employed in the human services industry. Andrea is an experienced practitioner, holding positions in both the government and non-government sector in child protection and youth justice. She has experience working in multiple jurisdictions, including the United Kingdom and New South Wales. Prior to commencing with the QFCC, Andrea was employed by the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services for more than 11 years.

Over the last seven years, Andrea has specialised in practice improvement and program design in child protection. She has led the design and implementation of major child protection reforms in Queensland, such as the implementation of the Regional Intake Services, and the recent design and implementation of Family and Child Connect services - a key recommendation from the Child Protection Commission of Inquiry.

Zara Ward
Advisor, Out of the Dark project, Queensland Family and Child Commission

Zara Ward is passionate about influencing change and empowering others to realise their full potential. She is committed to promoting the wellbeing and interests of Queensland’s most vulnerable, including children, young people, refugees and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Zara graduated university with a Bachelor of Laws and a Bachelor of Politics, Government and International Relations. She joined the Queensland Public Service as a graduate with the Queensland Government Chief Information Office and was a key member of the youth-led, Out of the Dark Working Group. Zara harnessed her passion and enthusiasm and through hard work has recently joined the Queensland Family and Child Commission as an advisor for Phase 2 of the Out of the Dark project.
Cameron Burke
Detective Senior Sergeant, Queensland Police Service

Detective Senior Sergeant Cameron Burke joined the Queensland Police Service in 1989 and is currently the Operations Leader at Argos within the State Crime Command’s Child Abuse and Sexual Crime Group. He is responsible for the management of investigations involving organised criminal paedophilia and computer facilitated crimes involving child exploitation material. Cameron has 20 years as an appointed Detective and held various investigative responsibilities within regional Criminal Investigation centres with secondments to external agencies, including the Crime and Corruption Commission where he managed multidisciplinary teams conducting criminal paedophilia and organised crime investigations, with the last seven years committed to investigating crimes against children.

He is the recipient of a number of Service awards including the Queensland Police Service Valour Award, Queensland Police Service Medal, the National Service Medal and the National Police Medal.

Samantha Curran
Senior Advisor Cyber safety and Reputation Management Team, Information and Technologies Branch, Department of Education and Training

As the Senior Advisor in the Cyber safety and Reputation Management Team, Samantha has delivered cyber safety presentations to more than 50,000 state school students from Years 2 – 12, staff, and parents across Queensland. The Cyber safety and Reputation Management team also assist all Queensland state schools in handling online incidents involving or affecting students and the school community. Samantha has been a member of the Cyber safety and Reputation Management team for more than three years. Prior to working for the Department, Samantha worked in social media marketing and brings her knowledge and passion for social media and the power of online branding to the team.

Sophie Morson
Team Leader Program and Partnership, Child Youth and Mental Health Service

Sophie Morson is a psychologist who has worked for the Child and Youth Mental Health Service in Brisbane since 2000. During this time she has undertaken a range of roles including individual treatment of children and young people and their families, group interventions, training and capacity building for specialty areas including co-existing substance use, parental mental health problems, suicide prevention and mental health literacy. Since 2011, she has been the Team Leader of the Programs and Partnerships team, which aims to support staff and stakeholders of CYMHS. Children's Health Queensland undertake early intervention and integrated care for children and young people with mental health problems, and their families.

Lindsay Wegener
Executive Director, PeakCare Queensland

A social worker by profession, Lindsay Wegener has more than 35 years of experience working in the fields of child protection and youth justice. Lindsay commenced his career within the (then) Queensland Department of Children's Services and for the next 20 years continued his employment in the government sector holding senior policy, program development and operational director positions.

Lindsay then worked for several years in State Manager and director roles within non-government organisations providing a range of residential and specialist foster care services for children and young people. Following a four year period delivering consultancy services for both government and non-government agencies, Lindsay became the Executive Director of PeakCare, a Queensland child protection peak body, in 2011.

Lindsay is highly regarded as an experienced and innovative practitioner, policy-maker, manager, service administrator, educator and advocate.
Melissa Branjerdporn
Professional Development Coordinator, Evolve Therapeutic Services, Brisbane North, Child and Youth Mental Health Service

Melissa is the Professional Development Coordinator at Evolve Therapeutic Services (CYMHS) and specialises in therapeutic work with children and young people in out-of-home care. She is a social worker and holds a Masters in Counselling. Melissa brings 22 years of experience working across a range of government and non-government agencies, including Child Safety, residential care, crime prevention program development, sexual abuse counselling and youth justice/youth detention services. She has worked in Child and Youth Mental Health for the last 11 years, within the Evolve Therapeutic Services program for nine years and the Forensic CYMHS program for two years.

Katie Stanford
Practice and Program Specialist, Out-of-Home-Care, Life Without Barriers

Katie Stanford is a Practice and Program Specialist and has worked with children and young people in out-of-home care for more than 12 years.

An accredited trainer in various out-of-home care frameworks, Katie currently works with teams and individuals to improve outcomes for children and young people in care by implementing program initiatives and providing practice support to frontline staff.

With a history of working in and managing residential homes, Katie has a particular interest in residential care and uses her knowledge and skills in this area to guide practice, influence change and create opportunities for young people to have positive experiences and achieve success.

Speakers day 2 | Friday, 3 November 2017

Cheryl Leavy
Deputy Commissioner, Queensland Family and Child Commission

Cheryl Leavy is the Deputy Commissioner and joined the Commission in June 2017. She is passionate about promoting and advocating for safe, caring and connected communities and reducing the over-representation of First Australian Children in the child protection system. Cheryl has enjoyed a notable career working with both the private sector and across state and federal governments in the health, taxation, education and transport portfolios. She has served on several boards including as a representative of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

Nathan Wallis
Director of X-Factor Education, facilitating the application of neuroscience to practice

Nathan Wallis is a father of three, stepfather to two and foster father to many more. His professional background includes early childhood teacher, child therapist, social service manager, university lecturer and neuroscience trainer. Following his time at the University of Canterbury, he founded a private training consultancy with the goal of facilitating easy to understand professional development reflecting the latest neuroscience discoveries and their practical implications for everyday practice. Nathan is an advisor for the NZ Ministry of Education and an expert advisor for NZ Ministry of Vulnerable Children. Since then he has been in hot demand, delivering in excess of 150 presentations every year throughout Australia, New Zealand and the UK.

Nathan has an increasing media profile that includes national radio and TV appearances as a guest expert on parenting, teaching and the understanding the developing brain of young people. He is currently filming a neuroscience documentary to be screened in late 2017. He has produced two DVDs exploring how the brain works and how neuroscience can better inform our day to day interactions with Brain Development for Babies and The Teenage Brain. Inspirational and charismatic, Nathan’s keen ability to translate neuroscience into everyday life and practice engages all audiences.
Dr Judith Howard  
B.Ed. M.Ed Guidance and Counselling, Ph.D, Senior Lecturer, Queensland University of Technology  
Judith is a senior lecturer with the Queensland University of Technology after an extensive career with state schooling in Queensland. She has worked as a teacher, guidance counsellor and behaviour support specialist and held both regional and state positions overseeing work in the area of student behaviour support. Judith oversees teacher education at QUT regarding student behaviour support and, more recently, trauma-informed schooling. Her research interest examines the impact of complex trauma on the developing child and on school behaviours. She is particularly focused on the concerns of students from complex trauma histories and promotes an informed, neuroscience-based approach to student management and support - to which she believes every educator in every school needs access. She is currently involved with a project investigating the requirements for a state-side framework for trauma-informed practice in Queensland schools. Through her research, training seminars and consultancy with educators, she continues to encourage schools to adopt a neuroscience informed approach to the behaviour management and support of trauma-surviving students. Judith is the author of the popular book: ‘Distressed or Deliberately Defiant: Managing Challenging Student Behaviour due to Trauma and Disorganised Attachment’.

Dale Murray  
(BA DipEd, MA Ed.), Director, Edmund Rice Education Australia Youth+ Institute (EREA Youth+)  
For more than 29 years Dale has worked in the area of flexible education provision. Firstly, as a teacher in the Centre Education Programme (the first Flexible Learning Centre in Queensland, Australia) then as the Principal, Flexible Learning Centre Network and now in his current role as Director, EREA Youth+ Institute.

EREA Youth+ provides socially inclusive educational environments for disenfranchised young people of high school age. The schools located around the nation work with community, NGOs, Catholic Education Offices and state and federal governments to re-engage young people who, for complex social reasons, are unable to maintain connection with mainstream education services.

Dale has a deep commitment to working with communities, government, families and young people in developing learning environments that offer those disenfranchised a socially inclusive pathway to positive futures. Dale is currently responsible for the development of a range of new educational initiatives around the nation. He is also CEO of the Youth+ RTO, industry partner on a number of ARC research projects and responsible for the Youth+ Institute partnerships.

Murray Geddes  
Principal of the South Eastern Victoria Region LOOKOUT Centre  
Murray Geddes is the Principal of the South Eastern Victoria Region LOOKOUT Centre. Established in November 2016, the LOOKOUT Centre is charged with improving outcomes for young people in out-of-home care. With over 1200 school aged out-of-home care students in the South East, his small but dedicated multi-disciplinary team covers an area stretching from Port Melbourne to Mallacoota. The LOOKOUT team works collaboratively with schools, carers, child protection, health and wellbeing staff and a host of other agencies in improving educational outcomes for kids in court ordered care.

Gregory Nicolau  
Chief Executive Officer and Lead Consultant Psychologist Australian Childhood Trauma Group  
Gregory Nicolau is a Melbourne-based Consultant Psychologist, Psychotherapist, Family Therapist and Supervisor with 32 years’ experience working with the most marginalised and vulnerable infants, children, young people and families in our community. He is the founder and current Chief Executive Officer of Australian Childhood Trauma Group which specialises in childhood trauma and attachment, providing therapeutic programs and support services to government and non-government agencies, schools, individuals and families. He has an exceptional reputation for managing complex cases and situations in a compassionate and focused manner. He is transparent in his interactions and is able to challenge as appropriate. He enjoys supporting people and is an excellent trainer, case supervisor and facilitator. Gregory is also CEO and co-founder of the start-up company Ripple Connect, an app development company focused on assessing and tracking outcomes for clients and customers and connecting people in the human services fields.
Warren Clegg  
Acting Senior Service Support Officer, Brisbane Region Placement Services Unit, Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services

Warren is a social worker who graduated from James Cook University in 2007. Since then, he has worked in the housing and homelessness area with complex needs clients before a shift to frontline child protection work with the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services. More recently, Warren has transitioned from service centre to Brisbane Regions, Placement Services Unit where he is working across the residential placement space and consulting around high risk young people within the Brisbane region. Warren is passionate about child protection work and, in particular, frontline service delivery for at risk young people.

Rebecca Wilkins  
Team Leader, EVOLVE Therapeutic Services (Brisbane North), Child and Youth Mental Health Service

Rebecca is a Team Leader with EVOLVE Therapeutic Services (Brisbane North), Child and Youth Mental Health Service, Children’s Health Queensland. Rebecca is a social worker with a Masters in Mental Health and a Specialist interest in Family Therapy and Psychotherapy. Rebecca has worked in Adult and Child and Youth Mental Health Services for approximately 20 years.

Acting Senior Sergeant Michelle Piket  
Upper Mount Gravatt Station

Acting Senior Sergeant Michelle Piket was sworn into the Queensland Police Service in 1990 and has worked in a variety of South Brisbane General Duties stations since. In 2000 she commenced duty at the Morningside Child Protection and Investigation Unit and has spent the past 17 years progressing to Detective Sergeant. Michelle is currently relieving as the Officer in Charge of the Upper Mount Gravatt Station. She has a keen interest in child protection and missing children in out-of-home care.

Leonie Flitcroft, Practice Development Manager, Residential Care and Transition Services, Mercy Community Services

Leonie Flitcroft is a Human Services Worker who graduated from Queensland University of Technology in 1998 with a Bachelor of Social Science. She has worked for more than 19 years in the area of child and family welfare, with nine of those years in the area of statutory child protection. Leonie has extensive experience in various positions within the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services (DCCSD) and the non-government sector. This has ranged from working with homeless young people in crisis intervention through to early intervention and mentoring programs. More recently, Leonie was a Care Team Leader within the Mercy Community Services residential care program with a focus on providing therapeutic care management and collaborative planning to children and young people placed in out-of-home care. Leonie is now the Practice Development Manager of the Residential Care and Transitional Services for Mercy Community Services. Leonie has a long held interest in and experience in the specialty area of providing therapeutic support to young children and sibling groups in residential care. Leonie is passionate about improving the outcomes for children and young people in out-of-home care through the development of best practice, professional development and collaborative partnerships.