

AGEING: THE GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

50th
AAG
CONFERENCE

08–10 NOVEMBER 2017

CROWN PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

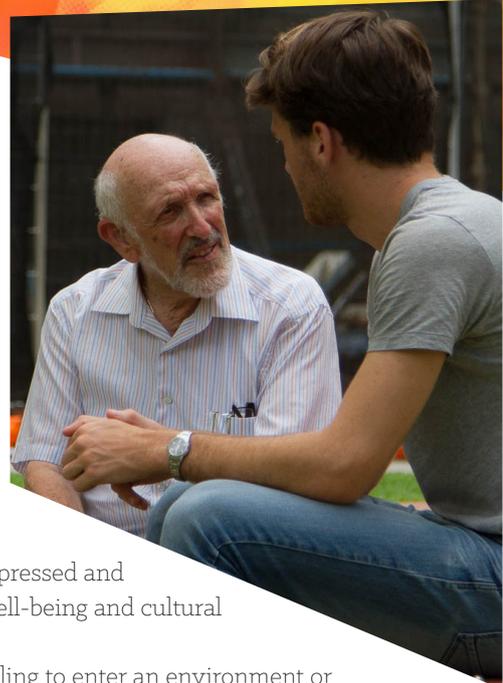
LGBTI ELDERS: IN THEIR OWN WORDS

WORKSHOP HOSTED BY

AAG's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex Ageing Special Interest Group (LGBTI SIG)

PRESENTED BY

June Lowe
GRAI (GLBTI Rights in Ageing Inc)



Until recently, LGBTI elders were invisible in aged care and in the community: their needs unexpressed and overlooked. With little past exposure, service providers are often unsure how to guarantee the well-being and cultural safety of this cohort

Historic marginalisation has left a legacy of insecurity for LGBTI elders that renders many unwilling to enter an environment or access a service which they believe is hostile or indifferent to their needs. A profound shift of organisational culture is needed to normalise diverse sexuality and gender within services, to achieve a setting where LGBTI elders are valued and respected and enabled to live openly if they so choose.

This workshop will present a panel of LGBTI elders, who will offer stories of their own life experiences and expectations of aged care and community services. These narratives will explore:

1. The psychological and social impacts of being an older member of the LGBTI community;
2. The impact of LGBTI elders' past histories of pervasive discrimination on their decision-making regarding access to services;
3. Ways in which service providers can reduce minority stress, ensure equal access, and create a stance of positive affirmation, enabling LGBTI clients to feel free 'to be themselves'.

The format models empowering care recipients to be directors of their own care. In itself, this offers a demonstration of good practice in constructive consultation and planning ways to meet clients' special needs.

Workshop participants will gain unique insights into the social histories of LGBTI elders, building empathy and motivation to foster inclusivity within their own workplaces.

After identifying LGBTI elders' concerns and expectations, workshop facilitator June Lowe will draw out key lessons for service providers, and explore some practical ways these issues can be addressed in both residential and home care service provision.



Tuesday, 7 November 2017



9:30am to 12:30pm



Crown Convention Centre Perth
Great Eastern Hwy
Burswood WA 6100



FREE

To book please visit www.aagconference.asn.au

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