

Sexual Lives & Respectful Relationships

2019

END OF YEAR REPORT



Sites at a glance

South East Melbourne

South East Melbourne had a very productive year with presentations, a program delivery to 6 participants, 2 new Peer Educators and Program Partners trained and many of their members being featured and recognised externally for their work and commitment, for example Sarina as Hero for sexual and reproductive health in WHISE's sexual and reproductive health awareness week and Ross as an actor in one of the new SL&RR brain injury stories. In 2020 they will be presenting at Having A Say conference in Geelong in February, and have plan to deliver the SL&RR program. A busy year ahead!

Gippsland

Gippsland have revamped their site with 5 new Peer Educators and Program Partners trained in 2019. In 2020 they plan to continue this and deliver the SL&RR program in Sale and Traralgon and present at the Having A Say conference in February.

Bendigo

Being a few years since their last SL&RR program, Bendigo Peer Educators Bec, Kat and Yvette refreshed their knowledge at the central training over May-June. We are excited to watch what they do in 2020.

Western Melbourne

After many years working with SL&RR, the Western site Peer Educators are shifting their focus to other advocacy projects with cohealth. We look forward to hearing what they accomplish.

Sydney West

After a busy 2018, the western and south western Sydney sites merged and have remained connected in other advocacy work and their SL&RR work.

Blue Mountains

As one of the newest SL&RR sites, they have had a busy year with 5 people training to be Peer Educators and Program Partners, and then delivering a program to 4 participants.

Synapse

2019 saw the development and implementation of the SL&RR brain injury program. Eight new stories were collected and filmed, 7 people were trained to be Peer Educators and Program Partners and the site piloted the SL&RR:BI

program to 3 participants. To top it off, they have done great work to contribute to conference presentations, such as the 2019 Social Policy Conference, and are planning for more presentations in 2020.

Quick monthly overview

January

Training for the Blue Mountains site & Synapse sites

February

Linda, Patsie and Amie presented on SL&RR at WWILD's Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Round Table in QLD

March

The SL&RR team organised the 'Sexuality rights for people with disabilities' masterclass at Deakin University with overseas keynote speaker Associate Professor Michael Gill from Syracuse University in the US and Paul Milner from the Donald Beasley Institute.

Amie visited the VIP:RR program in Sweden

April

May

SL&RR Training at Deakin University in Waurn Ponds commenced
South Eastern Melbourne site delivered the SL&RR program

June

Central SL&RR Training at Deakin University in Waurn Ponds finished ten people trained

July

Patsie embarked on a 6 month Academic Study Program in New Zealand.

August

Patsie attended the 2019 IASSID conference in Glasgow and a paper co-authored by Amie and Patsie on our LGBTIQ work.

September

Amie and Danny Li from the SL&RR Synapse site presented at the 2019 Social Policy conference in Sydney. Amie was awarded the Early career researcher award!

Blue Mountains delivered the SL&RR program

October

November

Linda, Amie and Monica presented at DARU's roundtable 'advocacy sector conversations' forum on the SL&RR program.

December

Patsie returned from New Zealand

Janice Slattery presented the [add in Leadership conference]

New publications

Linda featured in an [article](#) by the Disability Services Consulting group titled 'R-E-S-P-E-C-T, Sex and Intellectual Disability'

An article titled *Promoting Sexual Rights* in [Disability Link magazine](#) about the March masterclass 'Sexuality rights for people with disabilities'

A book chapter titled *Peer Education: A platform for sexuality rights advocacy for women with intellectual disabilities* was published in *Global Perspectives on Disability Activism and Advocacy* edited by Karen Soldatic and Kelley Johnson. Amie and Patsie wrote the chapter that featured sections written by Emily Ardley, Shea McDonough and Linda Stokoe. (1)

A journal article titled *Gender, sexuality and relationships for young Australia women with intellectual disability* by Amie O'Shea and Patsie Frawley in *Disability and Society Journal*. (2)

A journal article by Patsie Frawley and Amie O'Shea titled *Nothing about us without us: sex education by and for people with an intellectual disability in Australia* in a special issue on crippling sexuality in Sex Education Journal. (3)

A book chapter titled *Issues of sexuality and relationships in Integrating theory, research and practice* by Johnny Matson. (4)

A book chapter in the *Handbook of Intellectual Disabilities. Autism and Child Psychopathology Series* titled *Issues of Sexuality and Relationships*. (5)

Coming publications include:

A book chapter titled *The Rubix Cube* by Sarina Rakidzic with Amie O'Shea in *Cultural Sensitive and Responsiveness for Mental Health Workers* by Vicki Hutton

A literature review titled *Critical Appraisal of Sexuality and relationships programs for people with acquired brain injury* by Amie O'Shea, Patsie Frawley, James William Leahy, and Huong Dieu Nguyen accepted by Sexuality and disability journal. (6)

A book chapter titled *"That's my story": Transforming sexuality education for and with people with an intellectual disabilities* in *Routledge Handbook of Disability and Sexuality*, edited by Russell Shuttleworth and Linda R Mona. (7)

Conferences and presentations

January- Sarina and Amie presented at the University of Melbourne Medical Students conference

February- Amie, Linda and Patsie presented at [WWILD](#) Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Round Table in QLD

August- Patsie presented at the 2019 IASSID conference in Glasgow, a symposium on sexuality rights

September- Amie and Danny Li from the Synapse site presented at the 2019 Australian Social Policy Conference

November – Linda, Amie and Monica presented at [DARU's Sector conversations forum](#)

December- Patsie Frawley gave evidence at the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of people with disabilities. Her presentation can be accessed [here](#) in Day 8 part 1:

Projects and research

The SL&RR team has been involved in projects including:

- Development and implementation of the SL&RR Brain Injury program, stories, and manual
- Whatever it takes: a project in partnership with [1800RESPECT](#) about using accessible resources with women who access violence and abuse response services
- Experiences of LGBTBIQ people with disabilities: a project in partnership with [Pride Foundation](#) about improving understanding about the experiences of LGBTBIQA+ people with disability
- Co-developing sexual health information with LGBTIQ people with intellectual disabilities in partnership with Thorne Harbour Health and Inclusion Design Labs.

New sites

We have expanded our community this year to include the SL&RR Blue Mountains Site, and the SL&RR:BI Synapse site.



New Peer Educators

Congratulations to the following people who trained as Peer Educators in 2019

Holly Devery	Blue Mountains
Paul Jarnet	Blue Mountains
Donna Markwick	Blue Mountains
Beth Minster	Gippsland
Emily Seton	Gippsland
Julie Brasington	Gippsland
Danny Li	Synapse
Gabby Vassallo	Synapse
Danette Rowse	Synapse

New Program Partners

Congratulations to the following people who trained as Program Partners in 2019

Sarala Porter	Blue Mountains
Cherie Brandon	Blue Mountains
Georgia Goff	Gippsland
Rachael Nichols	Gippsland
Axel Anthonisz	Synapse
Sharon Giang	Synapse
Sonya Green	Synapse
Sonya Finlayson	Synapse

Remembering Jackie Kauren



In August we lost Jackie Love. Jackie was closely connected with the South East Melbourne site and was preparing herself to be trained as a Peer Educator. A fierce voice, Jackie had tremendous pride for herself and encouraged people to stand up for their rights.

We will remember Jackie's determination and drive. She has inspired us to continue to be strong advocates for the rights of women with intellectual disability to be safe from violence and abuse and be in relationships they want. She will be dearly missed.

If you would like to speak with someone about this, you could call Monica on 03 5227 3020, or Amie on 03 5247 9273 or Lifeline on 13 11 14

Designed by Sarina Rakidzic - SL&RR Peer Educator



SEXUAL ABUSE

Because everybody deserves to be loved



SL&RR (Sexual Lives and Respectful Relationships) is a peer-led relationships and sexuality program for people with intellectual disability

South
Eastern
Melbourne
Network



Here you can find the full references of the publications listed:

- (1) Frawley, Patsie, and Amie O'Shea. 2019. "Peer education: a platform for sexuality rights advocacy for women with intellectual disabilities." In *Global Perspectives on Disability Activism and Advocacy*, edited by Karen Soldatic and Kelley Johnson. United Kingdom: Routledge.
- (2) O'Shea, Amie, and Patsie Frawley. 2019. "Gender, sexuality and relationships for young women with intellectual disability." *Disability & Society*. Available from:
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/09687599.2019.1647148?needAccess=true>
- (3) Frawley, Patsie, and Amie O'Shea. 2019. "'Nothing about us without us': Sex education by and for people with an intellectual disability in Australia." *Sex Education* (upcoming special issue: Crippling Sex Ed). doi: 10.1080/14681811.2019.1668759. Available from:
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/14681811.2019.1668759?scroll=top&needAccess=true>
- (4) Wilson, Nathan, Patsie Frawley, Amie O'Shea, Vanessa Thompson, Judith McKenzie, Callista Kahonde, David Charnock, and Dilana Schaafsma. 2019. "Issues of Sexuality and Relationships." In *Intellectual Disability: Integrating theory, research and practice*, edited by Johnny Matson, 989-1010. New York: Springer. Available from:
<https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783030208424>
- (5) Wilson N.J., Frawley, P., Schaafsma, D., O'Shea, A., Kahonde, C., Thompson, V., Mckenzie, J & Charnock, D. (2019) Issues of Sexuality and Relationships. In: Matson J. (eds) Handbook of Intellectual Disabilities. Autism and Child Psychopathology Series. Springer, Cham
- (6) O'Shea, Amie, Patsie Frawley, James Leahy, and Huong Nguyen. (in press). "A critical appraisal of sexuality and relationships programs for people with acquired brain injury." (accepted by *Sexuality & Disability*)
- (7) O'Shea, Amie, and Frawley, Patsie. "'That's my story': Transforming sexuality education for and with people with an intellectual disabilities." In *Routledge Handbook of Disability and Sexuality*, edited by Russell Shuttleworth and Linda R Mona.