



Meet the team

Nicole Coad - Practice Manager

Nicole has over 20 years' experience working with people throughout the disability, mental health and child and youth health sectors. Nicole is registered with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) as a nurse and has worked across community and clinical settings. Nicole is very proactive within the LGBTI community and is a member of the LGBTI Advisory Committee for the Banyule City Council. She has actively assisted in identifying opportunities for council to better support LGBTI families in the municipality and improve social inclusion. Nicole has held management roles at Mind for many years and prides herself on her ability to support staff and ensure clients receive a quality service. Nicole is passionate about ensuring all members of our community have access to mental health services, and this is at the forefront of her practice.

Liz Baker - Occupational Therapist

Liz is an AHPRA registered occupational therapist, with a background in community mental health work. Liz also has experience in youth work, running LGBTI groups to support young people to develop social and educational connections to their community. Liz has worked with clients from various age, cultural and social backgrounds, in both individual and group settings. As an occupational therapist, Liz believes in taking a holistic approach when working with clients to support them towards living the life they choose by utilising and building on their strengths. As a member of the LGBTIQ+ community, Liz is passionate both about being involved in such an important service and about providing services for our community.

Merinda Brown - Psychologist

Merinda is an AHPRA registered psychologist with a broad background in social welfare and community services, having previously worked in community mental health, homelessness, disability and family violence. Merinda holds a Master of Counselling Psychology from La Trobe University and is skilled in the delivery of therapeutic strategies from a variety of approaches. Merinda has a firm belief in holistic and integrative approaches to mental health care, particularly those that utilise the strengths and resources available to clients. Merinda is skilled in the assessment and treatment of a range of mental health problems, including anxiety and mood disorders, trauma, relational issues and alcohol and other drug addiction. Merinda has experience working with members of the LGBTIQ+ community in counselling and advocacy roles, and is trained in the delivery of therapeutic services from a variety of frameworks, including acceptance and commitment therapy, schema therapy, cognitive behaviour therapy and interpersonal psychotherapy. As a queer woman, Merinda is committed to addressing systemic gaps in mental health service delivery for the LGBTIQ+ community.



Kate Cooke – Mental Health Nurse/Psychodramatist

Kate is registered with the AHPRA and is an Australian credentialed nurse. She has many years' experience in both public and private psychiatry and most recently 11 years at Spectrum; the statewide personality disorder service in Victoria. Kate is also a certificated psychodramatist and an advanced trainee in mentalization-based treatment. Both these therapeutic models are highly versatile and applicable to the spectrum of psychological, psychiatric, social and emotional difficulties experienced in the LGBTIQ community. Kate is excited to work at the centre as she is motivated to work with body-mind processes and their relationship to an integrating self and identity.

Tim Cronin – Psychologist

Tim is a registered psychologist with training in clinical psychology and a background in research in LGBTIQ+ mental health. Tim is experienced in working with people across the lifespan using evidence-based treatments including, cognitive behavioural therapy, acceptance and commitment therapy, and compassion focused therapy. He is interested in working with individuals, couples, incorporating family and carers into assessment and treatment and facilitating group programs. While Tim has experience in working with a range of clinical presentations, specific interests also include, anxiety disorders, obsessive compulsive disorder, hoarding, mood disorders, work and relationship issues, parenting, chronic pain, and issues relating to gender and sexuality. Tim is a member of the LGBTIQ+ community, and advocates for the community through his research in LGBTIQ+ mental health and wellbeing. Tim is supportive and compassionate in his approach, and works in collaboration with clients to increase their wellbeing and resilience using a holistic, strengths-based approach.

Elke Hupfauf - Psychologist

Elke is an AHPRA registered psychologist trained in counselling psychology; she also has extensive training in relational gestalt psychotherapy and ACT. With over 13 years' experience working with clients presenting with mental health and psychiatric issues, she has worked in government, healthcare, public and private sectors as a social worker and, more recently, as a psychologist. As a psychologist, Elke has worked in clinical inpatient and outpatient mental health settings with a range of psychiatric and mental health disorders, and in a private practice specialising in treating anxiety-related difficulties. Elke has worked with clients from varied age groups and different cultural and social backgrounds, as well as members of the LGBTI community. She has a special interest in LGBTI resilience, anxiety, trauma, self-harm and interpersonal interactions, including couples/family issues. Elke loves a challenge, is passionate, friendly, egalitarian and works with individuals/couples to assess their specific needs to tailor a suitable, evidenced-based therapeutic strategy to achieve a higher level of wellbeing.

Robyn Ming - Psychologist

Robyn is a clinically trained psychologist with experience working in the healthcare and public sectors, as well as private practice. Robyn is fully registered with AHPRA and is a member of the Australian Psychological Society. She is a registered allied health professional, eligible to provide services under the Medicare Better Access initiative and WorkSafe Victoria. She is experienced in the assessment and treatment of a wide range of mental health issues, including anxiety and mood disorders, LGBTI related issues, alcohol and other drugs, psycho-oncology and chronic illness, post-traumatic stress and adjustment disorders, as well as Axis II disorders. Robyn's passion is to improve psychological wellbeing within the LGBTI community and she is a strong advocate for an increase in services to be made available to those in need.



Josh Muller - Psychologist

Josh is a registered psychologist passionate about LGBTQIA+ health and wellbeing. A member of the Australian Psychological Society, with a background in counselling psychology and wellbeing research, Josh incorporates the latest research in positive psychology, neuroscience, and human sexuality research to benefit his clients. He predominantly employs acceptance and commitment therapy, while flexibly drawing from cognitive behavioural therapy, solution-focused therapy, and elements of narrative and schema therapy. He is a proud member of the National LGBTI Health Alliance, volunteers at Victorian Aids Council, and is on the committee for the Melbourne Bisexual Network. Josh's approach prioritises the client-counsellor relationship and working with clients to achieve meaningful change. His sessions are active, collaborative and dynamic, adapting work to fit the client's needs.

Lisa Torney - Sex and Relationship Therapist

Lisa is a sex and relationship therapist who has a strong commitment to working with people to improve their sexual and interpersonal relationships and believes we all deserve healthy, happy sex lives. Lisa has a Master of Sexual Health Counselling from Sydney University and is a mental health accredited social worker. Lisa is the Victorian Branch President of the *Society of Australian Sexologists* and has over 20 years counselling experience as a social worker and through her private practice. Lisa recognises that discussing sexual and relationship issues can sometimes be challenging and provides a relaxed environment for people to explore ways to have more pleasurable experiences. Lisa is a kink friendly, sex positive practitioner who understands that sexuality can be expressed in unique and complex ways. Lisa's approach is non-judgmental and accepting of all experiences, identities, expressions, orientations and has a passion for supporting the emotional wellbeing of the LGBTI community.