



Palliative Care
Victoria

PCV 2026 Summit

EVERY VOICE COUNTS:

Collaborative Approaches to Palliative Care

Friday 15 May 2026
Centrepiece, Melbourne Park





ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Palliative Care Victoria acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people of the Kulin Nation. We pay our respect to their Elders past, present and future.

Further, Palliative Care Victoria acknowledges Traditional Custodians of Country where palliative care services are delivered throughout Victoria, and recognises the continuing connection to lands, waters and Communities.

PALLIATIVE CARE VICTORIA'S INCLUSIVITY PROMISE

Palliative Care Victoria is committed to creating a welcoming, safe, and respectful environment for all. We value the diversity and intersectionality that exists in our communities, and we embrace people's background, culture, faith, identity, and lived and living experiences. We promise to actively promote inclusion within the palliative care sector and the wider community.



Our commitment to diversity includes a deep respect for LGBTIQ+ people and communities, acknowledging the intersections of multiple minoritised identities that exist. This means our work towards inclusion is ongoing, as we strive to ensure our organisation is a place of safety, affirmation, and respect. We commit to advocate with, and alongside, these communities.

Welcome



Welcome to the PCV 2026 Summit. Today, we gather under the theme 'Every voice counts'. As we navigate the demands of a growing and ageing population, this event provides an opportunity to break the silos of care, and renew our focus on ensuring that high-quality, compassionate care is accessible to all Victorians.

Throughout the day we will explore the power of collaborative approaches across the disability, First Nations, and aged care sectors. Our 10 specialised concurrent sessions have been designed to prompt and challenge thinking, and to highlight the practical initiatives making a tangible impact today.

Today's Summit is a rare opportunity to connect with sector colleagues, and look toward the future of palliative care in Victoria. I encourage you to use this time to forge new relationships, share your expertise and listen deeply to the diverse perspectives on offer. To make this a little easier we have given each attendee a different coloured lanyard according to the palliative care consortium geographical area.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment to palliative care. Whether you are here as a health care professional, aged care or disability worker, community leader, First Nations health worker, educator, person with lived experience or volunteer your presence strengthens the collective impact of our sector.

I look forward to sharing the day with you.

A/ Prof Violet Platt
CEO, Palliative Care Victoria

Lanyard Colours

-  Barwon South West Region
-  Eastern Metro Region
-  Gippsland Region
-  Grampians Region
-  Statewide

-  Hume Region
-  Loddon Mallee Region
-  North and West Metro Region
-  Southern Metro Region
-  Outside of Victoria

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Master of Ceremonies

This year we are delighted to welcome A/Professor Jaclyn Yoong as MC of the PCV 2026 Summit. She brings a wealth of palliative care experience along with her vivacious and engaging style.



A/Professor Jaclyn Yoong

A/Professor Jaclyn Yoong is a Medical Oncologist and Palliative Care Physician from Melbourne. She works (too much) at Northern Health and Monash Health, and is in constant pursuit of the ideal life-work balance. Her primary work-related interests are in lung cancer care and effective integration with palliative care. More recently she has also become interested in integrated palliative care for patients with progressive neurological disease. When she's not working, she enjoys motorsports and thinks life shouldn't be taken too seriously, because, after all, laughter is the best medicine.

Program

Session	Time	Presenter
MC Welcome	9:00am - 9:10	Assoc Prof Jaclyn Yoong Medical Oncologist and Palliative Care Physician Northern Health and Monash Health
Welcome to Country	9:10 - 9:20	Colin Hunter Jr Jr Wurundjeri Elder
Formal Event Opening	9:20 - 9:40	The Hon. Harriet Shing Minister for Health Victorian Government
Keynote 1	9:40 - 10:05	Assoc Prof Mark Boughey Victorian Chief Palliative Care Advisor Department of Health, Victoria
Keynote 2	10:05 - 10:30	Kat Hooper Proud Worimi decedent First Nations Palliative Care Nurse Practitioner Queensland Health Department
Keynote 3	10:30 - 10:55	Dr Jane Tracy Associate Investigator Murdoch Children's Research Institute
Morning Tea		Room
Concurrent Sessions	11:30 - 1:00pm	1. Palliative Care Contemporary Issues » Voluntary Assisted Dying » Grief and Bereavement The Grand Hall
		2. Pathways to the Dreaming Studio 1-2
		3. Supporting People with Disability in End-Of-Life Planning and Care THQ Small
		4. Dementia and Palliative Care: Enabling Person-Centred Support THQ Large
		5. When a Client Dies: Supporting Grief in Caring Roles Studio 3

Session	Time	Presenter	
<i>Lunch</i>			<i>Room</i>
Concurrent Sessions	1:45 - 3:15	6. Palliative Care Population Approaches	The Grand Hall
		» Multicultural Perspectives on End of Life	
		» Caring for Those Who Care	
		7. Building Cultural Connections Through Mentoring and Support	Studio 1-2
		8. Supporting the Disability Workforce	THQ Small
		9. A Palliative Approach to Complex Dementia Care	THQ Large
		10. When a Client Dies: Supporting Grief in Caring Roles (repeat of morning session)	Studio 3
<i>Afternoon Tea</i>			
Keynote 4	3:35 - 4:00	Adj Assoc Prof Stephen Macfarlane Head of Clinical Services Dementia Support Australia	
International Keynote	4:00 - 4:50	Prof Kimberly Acquaviva University of Virginia	
Official Summit Close	4:50 - 5:00	Assoc Prof Jaclyn Yoong	
Rainbow Hour	5:00 - 6:00pm	Introduced by Joe Ball Victorian Commissioner for LGBTIQA+ Communities	

Keynote Presentations

Keynote 1: Every voice can count: Shaping a future for palliative care

Associate Professor Mark Boughey

Director of Palliative Care, St Vincen'ts Hospital Melbourne
Victorian Government Chief Palliative Care Advisor

My role as Victorian Chief Palliative Care Advisor has given me a unique insight into the way in which the many threads of many voices, representing our communities and the sector working in and around palliative care, have come together to create a new refreshed palliative and end of life care framework. What does this mean and what can we glean as I dig into the Framework, sharing my insights and learnings to envision that future.

Keynote 2: Footsteps Forward – Grief, Loss, and Trauma for First Nations Peoples

Kat Hooper

First Nations Palliative Care Nurse Practitioner, Queensland Health Department

Kat Hooper will explore the idea that integrating Cultural Safety into end-of-life care requires a deep understanding of Sorry Business, and Sad News, and importance of Cultural Authority, Nation Building and Connection to Country. By acknowledging the cumulative and Collective Grief experienced by First Nations communities, this presentation explores how practitioners can provide Culturally Safe care.

Keynote 3: End of Life Matters: What is important to me?

Dr Jane Tracy

Associate Investigator, Murdoch Children's Research Institute

In this presentation, Jane explores key factors in healthcare—particularly end-of-life care—for people with intellectual disability and associated communication impairments. This population often faces significant barriers to accessing quality care. The session will examine practical strategies to reduce these barriers and support equitable access to comfort, dignity, and person-centred care at the end of life.

Drawing on her personal experience, Jane will share insights from end-of-life care within her own family. She will also reflect on what she would want for her son, a man living with physical, cognitive, and communication impairments, highlighting the importance of thoughtful, respectful and compassionate care.

Keynote 4: Palliative Care in Dementia

Adjunct Associate Professor Stephen Macfarlane

Head of Clinical Services, Dementia Support Australia

Terminal agitation is common near the end of life and can cause restlessness and distress. In people with advanced dementia, it is often mistaken for usual dementia-related behaviours, which can delay recognising that someone is dying and make care planning harder. Clear recognition helps ensure timely, appropriate end-of-life care.

Keynote 5: Being Seen, Known, and Safe: Providing LGBTQIA-Inclusive Palliative Care

Professor Kimberly Acquaviva

University of Virginia

In this presentation, Kimberly Acquaviva reflects on her professional and personal experiences with palliative care as a queer woman, and on what it means to provide LGBTQIA-inclusive palliative care. Through her stories, she emphasises that healthcare organisations need to do more than just saying they welcome LGBTQIA+ individuals and their loved ones. Organisations need to ensure that LGBTQIA+ individuals are seen, known, and respected. She will also offer practical strategies about how participants can use Palliative Care Victoria's new resources to transform the care they provide.



Concurrent Sessions

Morning Sessions (11:30am - 1:00pm)

1. Palliative Care Contemporary Issues

Room: The Grand Hall

Voluntary Assisted Dying

Join our panel of experts as we discuss contemporary issues about Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD), explore how things currently are and anticipated changes due in 2027.

Panel Chair

Emeritus Prof Margaret O'Connor AM
Monash University

Panel Members

Kelly Rogerson
CEO, Palliative Care South East

Holly Pitt
Nurse Unit Manager, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre

Nicky Stitt
VAD Care navigator, Victorian Statewide VAD Care Navigator service

Grief and Bereavement – perspectives from the frontline

This panel will explore access to services and support pathways for staff as well as those in our care.

Panel Chair

Katrina Recoche
Senior Lecturer, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Monash University

Panel members

Meg Moorhouse
Clinical Lead Bereavement Team, Melbourne City Mission

Jo Wood
Clinic Coordinator/Clinical Supervisor, Swinburne Wellbeing Clinic for Older Adults -
Swinburne University

Frances Saunders
CEO, are-able

2. Pathways to the Dreaming

Room: Studio 1-2

Hear from leaders in the First Nations Community about a range of cultural considerations and approaches in palliative and end of life care.

Andrea Casey and Jay Hamann – Aboriginal Liaison Officers will discuss providing Culturally Safe end-of-life care to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients with sensitivity to the cultural, spiritual and family-centred needs of patients.

Empowerment and re enablement in Palliative Care – Balancing hope and reality

Kat Hooper

First Nations Palliative Care Nurse Practitioner, Queensland Health Department

Cultural safety as a Non-Negotiable Standard of Care. Kat Hooper will discuss use of storytelling as Healing and Education.

Cultural Considerations for Palliative Care Plan

AJ Williams-Tchen

Aboriginal Cultural Consultant, Girraway Ganyi Consultancy

AJ Williams-Tchen will introduce the PCV Project for culturally safe palliative care planning with First Nations people living in Victorian Residential Aged Care Facilities.

Pathways to the Dreaming: End of life care through an Aboriginal Lens

Andrea Casey

Aboriginal Health Unit Project Officer, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre

Jay Hamann

Aboriginal Hospital Liaison Officer, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre

Andrea Casey and Jay Hamann – Aboriginal Liaison Officers will discuss Providing culturally safe end-of-life care to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients requires sensitivity to the cultural, spiritual and family centred.

Continued

3. Supporting People with Disability in End-of-Life Planning and Care

Room: THQ Small

Consideration of end of life when living with a disability

Uli Cartwright

Advocate

Mary Henley-Collopy

Consultant

Uli Cartwright will be speaking to a person with lived experience, considering end of life when living with a disability. Uli will provide perspectives on the lasting impact and burden that death has on people with lifelong Disability and what healthcare professionals should keep in mind when speaking to someone about death and dying. Uli will then be interviewed by Mary Henley-Collopy (as a person with lived experience of disability) to dive deeper into the topic.

Supporting ACP for people with disabilities

Dr Catherine Joyce

National Manager, Advance Care Planning Australia

Dr Catherine Joyce, National Manager from Advance Care Planning Australia, will discuss how Advance Care Planning can support people with disabilities. This will explore the role of disability services, challenges faced by providers, work currently being undertaken in this area and some practical take away messages.

Complexities of supporting people at end of life

Panel chair

Janet McLeod

Complex Health Team Lead, Melba Support Services

Panel members

Jill Carter

Clinical Nurse Consultant, Barwon Health

Carina Valenti

House Supervisor, Home@Scope

This panel discussion will then explore the complexities involved in supporting people at the end of life who live with disabilities. Jill Carter from Palliative Care at Home with Carina Valenti from Scope will explore several situations where teams collaborated to ensure best outcomes for the person in their home environment. This panel will be moderated by Janet McLeod from Melba Support Services.

4. Dementia and Palliative Care: Enabling Person-Centred Support

Room: THQ Large

Dr Aaron B. Wong

Clinical Director Supportive & Palliative Care, Eastern Health

Carol Barbeler

Palliative Aged Care and Disability Resource Nurse, Gippsland Palliative Care Consortia

This session will explore how palliative care can support a person living with dementia within an aged care environment underpinned by person centred care principles. Dr Aaron Wong, Geriatrician, Palliative Care Physician, and Cynthia Goh, Palliative Care Fellow, will discuss what considerations and challenges to expect across the care continuum as well as offer 12 Top Tips for clinical practice. Carol Barbeler, experienced Palliative Aged Care Clinical Nurse Consultant, will then lead attendees through two interactive case studies based on real scenarios to illustrate how these principles can be applied in day-to-day practice.

5. When a Client Dies: Supporting Grief in Caring Roles

Room: Studio 3

Chris Hall

CEO, Grief Australia

Eszter Cowle

Specialist Grief Practitioner, Grief Australia

Grief in caring roles is often unspoken, shaped by professional boundaries, repeated loss and the quiet expectation that you will keep moving. This workshop creates a safe, practical space for palliative care workers, disability support workers and volunteers to name what they are experiencing, build coping skills and find pathways to support. Drawing on current grief research, the session addresses disenfranchised grief, cumulative loss and the particular pressures of caring roles. You will leave with four evidence-informed tools you can use immediately and a clear map of the support available to you.



Afternoon Sessions

Afternoon Sessions (1:45pm – 3:15pm)

6. Palliative Care Population Approaches

Room: The Grand Hall

This session will feature two panel discussions: one on multicultural perspectives on end-of-life care and the other on caring for those who care. Drawing on both professional expertise and lived experience, panellists will explore the needs, challenges, and opportunities for better supporting these communities.

Multicultural Perspectives on End of Life

Panel Chair

Dr Medha Gunawardana

Manager Community Strengthening, Australian Multicultural Community Services Ltd

Panel members

Hayat Doughan

Ageing Well Lead, Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria

Biliana Trickovic

Project Manager, Serbian Community Association of Australia Inc.

Alice Wang

Clinical Services Manager, Australian Vietnamese Women's Association

Caring for Those Who Care

Panel Chair

Kate Johnson

CEO, CF Together

Panel members

Megan McAlpine

General Manager, Carer Advisory, Response and Innovation, Carers Victoria

Margaret Allan

Counsellor, Melbourne City Mission

Sandra Leone

Advocate



7. Building Cultural Connections through Mentoring and Support

Room: Studio 1-2

Aboriginal Cultural Mentoring and Support

AJ Williams-Tchen

Aboriginal Cultural Consultant, Girraway Ganyi Consultancy

Cultural Connection Art Therapy Workshop

Sammy Trist

Indigenous Artist & Cultural Educator, Gunuwarra Art & Education

Andrea Cowling

Aboriginal Elder

AJ Williams-Tchen will provide an overview of Aboriginal mentoring and Support before Sammy Trist from Gunuwarra Art and Education takes attendees through a Cultural Connection Art Therapy Workshop.



Continued

Afternoon Sessions Continued

8. Supporting the Disability Workforce

Room: THQ Small

Maria Heaton

Intellectual Disability Palliative Care Lead CNC| District Palliative Care Team, South Eastern Sydney Local Health District

Nadia Garcia

Director, Disability Health, Yooralla

Panel discussion

Carolyn Gill

Head of Clinical Practice, Scope Australia

Liz Jesudason

Senior Clinical Practice Advisor, Scope (Aust) Ltd

Julie Duke

Clinical Practice Advisor, Scope Australia

Three sessions will delve into how best to help the disability workforce to achieve best outcomes for people when delivering palliative care.

1. Maria Heaton from UNSW will be providing a discussion virtually on inequities for people with disabilities accessing palliative care and the impacts on the workforce. Maria will speak from both a personal and professional perspective.
2. Nadia Garcia from Yooralla will talk about the background and development of an Assessment and Referral Tool designed to identify deterioration in people living in supported accommodation. Nadia will discuss the identified need for such a tool and some of the challenges associated with its evolution. Future directions will then be explored.
3. Our last panel will discuss the role of supported decision making with end-of-life care. Carolyn Gill, Liz Jesudason and Julie Duke from Scope will explore some of the challenges in providing palliative and end of life care in supported living situations. How the wishes of the person can be in conflict with organisational policies and procedures and the impacts of this.

9. A Palliative Approach to Complex Dementia Care

Room: THQ Large

Meg Storer

Delirium/Dementia Nurse Practitioner Candidate, Royal Melbourne Hospital

Kaye Hose

Nurse Practitioner Older Persons Complex Care, Austin Hospital

Palliative Care Nurse Specialist, Palliative Care Advice Service

This session led by Meg Storer – Delirium/Dementia Nurse Practitioner Candidate and Kaye Hose, Nurse Practitioner Older Persons Complex Care, will explore how to meet the palliative care needs of a person with complex symptoms associated with dementia. Using examples from personal clinical experiences, they will discuss: • how to support Behavioural and Psychological Symptoms of Dementia (BPSD) using a palliative approach, • provide strategies when talking with patients, families and other care partners, and • who to contact for additional support when supporting a person in a community setting

10. When a Client Dies: Supporting Grief in Caring Roles

Room: Studio 3

Chris Hall

CEO, Grief Australia

Eszter Cowle

Specialist Grief Practitioner, Grief Australia

Grief in caring roles is often unspoken, shaped by professional boundaries, repeated loss and the quiet expectation that you will keep moving. This workshop creates a safe, practical space for palliative care workers, disability support workers and volunteers to name what they are experiencing, build coping skills and find pathways to support. Drawing on current grief research, the session addresses disenfranchised grief, cumulative loss and the particular pressures of caring roles. You will leave with four evidence-informed tools you can use immediately and a clear map of the support available to you.

Keynote Speaker Bios

Minister for Health



The Hon. Harriet Shing

Harriet Shing has served as a Labor Member for Eastern Victoria since 2014. She is honoured to represent this diverse and beautiful region in the Victorian Legislative Council.

In April 2026, Harriet was appointed Minister for the Health, Ambulance Services and Water.

Previously, Harriet has served as Minister for the Suburban Rail Loop, Housing and Building, Development Victoria and Precincts, Equality, Regional Development and Minister for Commonwealth Games Legacy. She was also the Parliamentary Secretary for Creative Industries, Digital Government, Equality, Water, Emergency Services, and Mental Health.

Before her election to the Victorian Upper House, Harriet worked as a lawyer. An accomplished negotiator and advocate, she has extensive experience in industrial relations, employment and discrimination law, and dispute resolution at State and Federal levels.

Harriet has worked as a senior policy adviser, lawyer, and industrial relations specialist in the Victorian private, public, and not-for-profit sectors. She has also served as a trustee director on the board of industry superannuation fund Vision Super.

As Member for Eastern Victoria Region, Harriet is committed to identifying and enhancing opportunities across the entire region that ensure our local communities thrive.

Having lived in Morwell with her lazy ex-racing greyhound and whippet, Harriet now resides at the other end of the electorate, close to where she grew up. This has given Harriet a unique insight into the many different communities and areas that make up the Eastern Victoria Region.

Keynote Presentations



Associate Professor Mark Boughey

Director of Palliative Care, St Vincen'ts Hospital Melbourne

Victorian Government Chief Palliative Care Advisor

Mark has over 36 years of experience in palliative care, with leadership positions within State & Territory, National, and international organisations and programs.

Mark continues to strive for palliative care excellence and its universal integration in health care, and wants people to feel valued and understood, and that their needs are recognised, and appropriately responded to.



Kat Hooper

First Nations Palliative Care Nurse Practitioner, Queensland Health Department

Kat Hooper a proud - Worimi, Kabi Kabi (Kubbi Kubbi) and Coconut Islander woman, who carries culture, community and ancestors with her in every aspect of her life and work.

A Nurse Practitioner with extensive experience across palliative care, chronic disease, primary health, rural and remote health, working in a statewide role with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Team at Queensland Health. Provides clinical leadership, cultural guidance, education, and community engagement to improve health equity and culturally safe care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across Queensland and internationally.

Kat is a respected author and contributed to numerous national and international projects. Her work bridges clinical excellence with cultural authority, ensuring that care at the end of life is not only evidence-based, but respectful, safe, and grounded in community values.

She's committed to strengthening systems so that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples can access high-quality palliative and chronic disease care close to home — particularly in rural and remote communities. Her leadership is defined by integrity, advocacy, an unwavering belief that culturally informed care is essential to dignity at every stage of life.



Dr Jane Tracy

Associate Investigator, Murdoch Children's Research Institute

Dr Jane Tracy is a retired medical practitioner whose professional career focused on improving the healthcare and health of people with developmental disabilities. Jane has an adult son with intellectual disability and cerebral palsy and so has both a professional and personal understanding of issues experienced by people with disability within the healthcare system and ways in which reasonable adjustments can be made to address the healthcare requirements of people with complex needs. She has had recent experience of excellent palliative care enabling pleasure, comfort and peace to a family member and welcomed the opportunity to contribute to this Summit.



Adjunct Associate Professor Stephen Macfarlane

Head of Clinical Services, Dementia Support Australia

A/Prof Steve Macfarlane graduated from Monash University in 1991. He is a geriatric psychiatrist and past Chair of the Faculty of Psychiatry of Old Age for the RANZCP. He has held Director positions in two public hospital aged psychiatry services in Melbourne, and has been Head of Clinical Services with Dementia Support Australia since 2016. He remains involved in medical student and postgraduate teaching. Steve has published over 50 peer-reviewed academic articles, has presented numerous times at international conferences, and has been active in Alzheimer's disease clinical trials for over 25 years, serving as lead investigator on a number of local, national and international studies. He continues to maintain a small private practice.

Prof Macfarlane appeared as an expert witness before the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety on two occasions, and was co-editor of 'The BPSD Textbook,' the first comprehensive book to deal with the assessment and management of the behaviours and psychological symptoms of dementia. Steve was deeply involved in working with the Commonwealth to establish the national network of Special Dementia Care Units.

Steve has deep interests in ancient history and in film. He has two children in young adulthood, and enjoys spending time with his partner, Lulu.



Professor Kimberly Acquaviva

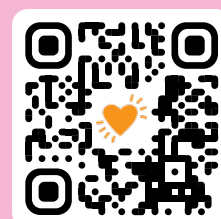
University of Virginia

Kimberly D. Acquaviva, PhD, MSW, CSE, FNAP is the Betty Norman Norris Endowed Professor at the University of Virginia School of Nursing. She also serves as a Faculty AI Guide for the Provost's Office/Center for Teaching Excellence. As a social worker, public scholar, and educator, her work focuses on advancing LGBTQ-inclusive hospice and palliative care, and facilitating dialogue about the use of AI in strategy, policy, advocacy, and higher education. Before she was recruited to UVA in August 2019, she spent fifteen years as a faculty member at the George Washington University School of Nursing and the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences. During her time at GW, she served as both founding faculty and the inaugural Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs in the School of Nursing.

A year and a half after she published LGBTQ-Inclusive Hospice & Palliative Care: A Practical Guide to Transforming Professional Practice in 2017, Kim learned that her wife Kathy had ovarian cancer. Kim and Kathy spent the next six months sharing their experiences via social media and giving people a sense of what it's like to be living while dying. Shortly after Kathy died in August 2019, a New Yorker documentary film was made about Kim, Kathy, and their son Greyson. Her latest book, The Handbook of LGBTQIA-Inclusive Hospice & Palliative Care, was published by Columbia University Press in October 2023.

Dr. Acquaviva has a Ph.D. in Human Sexuality Education from the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education, an M.S.W. from the University of Pennsylvania School of Social Policy and Practice, and a B.A. in Sociology from the University of Pennsylvania College of Arts and Sciences. She is an AASECT-Certified Sexuality Educator.

Scan here for all speaker bios



Victorian Commissioner



Joe Ball

Victorian Commissioner for LGBTIQ+ Communities

Joe Ball (he/him) is the Victorian Commissioner for LGBTIQ+ Communities. He is a proud transgender man.

The Commissioner advocates for the rights, safety and wellbeing of LGBTIQ+ communities. He is a longstanding LGBTIQ+ advocate who has had a 25-year career in disability, housing and homelessness, and social services.

Commissioner Ball was formerly CEO of Switchboard Victoria, where he oversaw the establishment of Rainbow Door, the Statewide family violence and mental health helpline. Joe is a member of the Expert Advisory Group for the Federal Government's 10-Year LGBTIQ+ Health and Wellbeing Plan, the Victorian Family Violence Reform Advisory Group, and has participated in leading advisory bodies including for Safe + Equal, 1800RESPECT and the National Suicide Prevention Governance Committee.

Throughout his career, Joe has drawn upon the strength and guidance of LGBTIQ+ history and the work and wisdom of courageous LGBTIQ+ activists who have paved the way.





**Palliative Care
Victoria**
Living, dying & grieving well

Tomorrow's Care Starts Today!

**Calls to Action
2026 State Election**



Tell your story here:



We are calling on the next Victorian Government to take immediate action to strengthen our state's palliative and end-of-life care system.

Sponsors & Exhibitors

Funding Partners



National Disability Services

National Disability Services (NDS™) is Australia's peak body for disability service organisations, and Australia's biggest and most diverse network of disability service providers. Our valued members collectively operate several thousand services for more than 300,000 Australians with disability and employ a workforce of more than 100,000 people.

NDS is committed to a sustainable and diverse disability service sector, underpinned by the provision of high-quality, evidence-based practices and supports that strengthen, safeguard, and provide greater choice for people with disability in Australia.



Nightlife

Nightlife supports people with a disability in their own homes, and our range of services builds on the success of our Mobile Night Support Service to include 24/7 supports that are flexible and responsive.

We care about what is important to you and your family and our unique supports focus on whatever it takes to maintain your preferred way of living.

We are proud to be a service started by people with a disability, their families and carers.

We continue to be social activists for change, valuing the lived experience of service users in everything we do.

Scholarships



Memory Lane – Royal Flying Doctor Service

Memory Lane is a program of the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) Victoria. It takes people in palliative or end-of-life care to a place that is meaningful to them, their family, or their friends. It is offered at no cost to the person, their family, or the referring organisation, thanks to the generosity of RFDS donors and the health care professionals who volunteer their time to make these visits possible.

Memory Lane helps people return to places they want to revisit, such as a favourite beach or cafe. Our journeys also include transport to important events including weddings, graduations, and footy games, or to places they have always wanted to go but didn't have the chance to visit when they were well. Most commonly, we help people go home one last time.

Using one of our two custom vehicles, we transport people by stretcher in a setting designed for comfort, safety, and privacy.

Supported Places

Thank you to the following organisations, who have provided supported place opportunities for health professionals across Victoria to attend the PCV 2026 Summit.

- Nightlife
- Murray PHN
- Western Victoria PHN
- Grampians Region Palliative Care Consortium
- Eastern Metropolitan PHN

Exhibitors



CCI Services

CCI Services helps thousands of not-for-profit sites around Australia improve their purchasing power by combining their collective buying strength to negotiate better pricing.

As a not-for-profit organisation ourselves, we understand the ever-increasing pressure to save money and provide the best service to the communities you serve.



Palliative Care Advice Service

The Victorian Palliative Care Advice Service is where anyone can speak with a palliative care nurse or doctor about any aspect of a life-limiting illness, offering free, confidential advice for all Victorians seeking information about life-limiting illness, palliative care or end-of-life care. The service is for non-emergency health advice only.

The aim of palliative and supportive care is to improve the quality of life for people and families living with life-limiting illness. If you are a doctor, nurse, healthcare worker or provider we can assist with symptom management, prescribing and decision-making.

When you contact the Victorian Palliative Care Advice Service, you will speak to a specialist palliative care nurse who will collect some basic information about you and the reason for your call. The nurse will provide you with specialist evidence-based information to help you or someone you care for.

All conversations, and any information that you provide, remain private, confidential and secure.

Call us to speak with a specialist palliative care nurse on: 1800 360 000

Palliative Care ECHO (University of Queensland)

Palliative Care ECHO® is a National Palliative Care Project, funded by the Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing. The free 1-hour virtual Palliative Care ECHO sessions provide interactive, case-based learning for health professionals from across Australia.

Each month a multidisciplinary palliative care specialist team presents on a palliative care topic and after an open discussion on the topic, a primary care health professional presents a case for further discussion. These interactive sessions connect health professionals from a broad range of disciplines nationwide.

Palliative Care ECHO:

- increases non-specialist health professionals' palliative care knowledge and confidence,
- provides specialist teams with insights into local service delivery, particularly in rural and remote areas,
- creates a virtual network to share palliative care knowledge, resources & experiences,
- increases local workforce capacity, thereby improving access to palliative care for communities with limited access to specialist services and,
- promotes peer support and engagement between services.

<https://uqecho.org/pallcare-echo/>

Exhibitors Continued



PEPA | IPEPA

Program of Experience in the Palliative Approach (PEPA) provides opportunities for all health professionals to develop capabilities in providing a palliative approach to care through participation in placements, workshops and a range of learning resources.

Indigenous Program of Experience in the Palliative Approach (IPEPA) is a grassroots approach to breaking down the barriers to palliative care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across Australia. Informed by Community for Community, IPEPA works to embed Australian First Nations knowledge across all our resources and to facilitate two-way learning.

PEPA|IPEPA also supports integration of learning into your work setting and promotes networks of support between specialist palliative care providers and non-specialist settings.

PEPA|IPEPA is implemented in all Australian states and territories.

These programs provide an ideal opportunity to learn from experienced specialist staff to enhance skills, knowledge and confidence in the palliative approach.

Contact us for more information - PEPA@svha.org.au IPEPA@svha.org.au



Victorian & Tasmanian PHN Alliance

The Victorian and Tasmanian PHN Alliance (VTPHNA) is a collaborative body of seven Primary Health Networks (PHNs) across two states that aligns efforts and drives primary care reform. Our vision is to expand the collective capabilities of Alliance PHNs, to achieve best possible health outcomes for local communities.

VTPHNA provides a platform for PHNs to coordinate state and region-wide projects, work cohesively across the sector, streamline operations, and enhance collective impact.

Alliance PHNs are collaborating on the Greater Choice for At Home Palliative Care measure to improve palliative care coordination. The program is funded by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing.



Victorian Palliative Care Consortia

Grampians, Gippsland, Barwon & North and West Metropolitan Palliative Care Consortia, in partnership with the Compassionate Alliance Victoria welcome the opportunity to connect with as many delegates as possible to discuss their respective program activities.

Palliative care consortia support palliative care providers to raise awareness of palliative care across health care providers, ancillary services, community groups and organisations, including residential facilities. They foster collaboration between service providers to maximise designated palliative care resources, reduce duplication of effort and promote consistency of practice, while also promoting end-of-life and palliative care education and training. Through their Clinical Advisory Group and broader clinical engagement activities, including liaison with Safer Care Victoria's Palliative Care Clinical Network, they help inform improvements to practice and advise the department on regional priorities for future service development and funding.

Coming soon at PCV

Paediatric Palliative Care

A beginners Guide

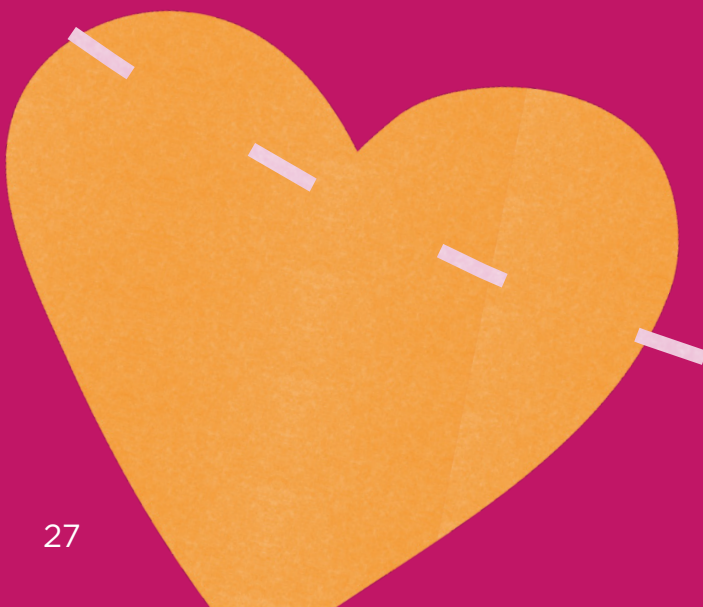
Tuesday 1st September 2026 2:00 – 4:00pm (online)

The Statewide Paediatric Palliative Care Service, in partnership with PCV, will present an introduction to caring for children with palliative care needs, including available avenues of support when a child is referred to your service. The session will also address family perspectives, sibling care, and the unique challenges faced by regional families.

Strategic Plan Update

As we look ahead to the second half of this year, we warmly invite our members to help shape the next chapter of Palliative Care Victoria. Your contributions will be invaluable as we refresh our Strategy and develop a contemporary four-year plan that continues to guide our work in service of the community and our membership. Together, we remain committed to our shared purpose: helping all Victorians live, die and grieve well.

We will be releasing a membership survey on the PCV website and send notifications in Newsflash in July 2026.





Join the Movement

What if no one had to face serious illness, dying, caregiving, or grief alone?

The Compassionate Victorian Alliance project, funded by The Wicking Trust, is bringing organisations, community groups, and businesses together to build stronger, more connected, and compassionate communities across Victoria.

We're currently seeking a small number of passionate partners to join our 12-month pilot, testing practical, scalable ways to embed compassion into workplaces, services, and everyday community life.

Whether you're just starting out or already doing incredible work in this space, there's a level of engagement to suit you.

This is your opportunity to:

- be part of a statewide movement grounded in global best practice
- strengthen support for people experiencing illness, death, and grief
- collaborate, learn, and lead meaningful change in your community

Together, we can build a future where care, connection, and compassion are everyone's business.

Contact

Bianca Hurle

The Compassionate Victorian Alliance Consultant

Ph: 0417 593 843

E: bianca@palliativecaresa.org.au

Cultural Considerations for Palliative Care Plan for First Nations People

LET'S YARN

Yingawugel bungim yiya Songlines for Deep Dreaming

What is it?

A plan that can be put in place to ensure that your cultural identity and cultural care needs are known, addressed and planned for your care.

Why it's important?

Your cultural needs are recorded so that you, your family, and the health professionals are involved in your care to know what you would like to happen in terms of your cultural needs, aspirations and support.

How you can help and be involved:

- We need to trial the Cultural Considerations plan on First Nations patients or residents, particularly for aged care patients.
- We need to trial the Cultural Considerations plan on First Nations patients in other areas of the healthcare; hospital and community too.
- We are wanting to work with Aboriginal Health Workers- hospital, community, aged care, GP clinics, outpatient settings
- Refer any other colleagues to us to contact
- We need your feedback on the Cultural Considerations Plan before and after

For further information please contact:

Amy Noble

Senior Project Officer, Palliative Care
Victoria

anoble@pallcarevic.asn.au
Mobile 0403 912 414

AJ Williams-Tchen

Aboriginal Cultural Consultant working with
Palliative Care Victoria

Girraway Ganyi Consultancy
girrawayganyi@gmail.com



PCV Membership

Individual Membership

Any person with an interest in palliative care can apply for membership. This includes health professionals, aged care staff, carers, family members, patients and others wishing to support our work.

We also offer discounted membership for students, and palliative care volunteers.

Organisational Membership

Organisations involved in the provision of palliative care services or related education, research or service planning/coordination may apply to become organisation members. This includes specialist palliative care services, regional health services, aged, community and disability services.

Why Join?

Becoming a PCV member connects you to a passionate community dedicated to excellence in care.

Stay informed with Newsflash

- Access to our weekly e-bulletin directly to your inbox, containing updates on palliative care research, policy, resources, and upcoming career and event opportunities.

Unified Voice

- Add your voice to the conversation, as we ensure that the priorities and challenges of the palliative care sector are heard at the highest levels of policy making.

Exclusive Member Savings

- Discounted access to PCV & Palliative Care Australia resources and events.

Professional Connection and Growth

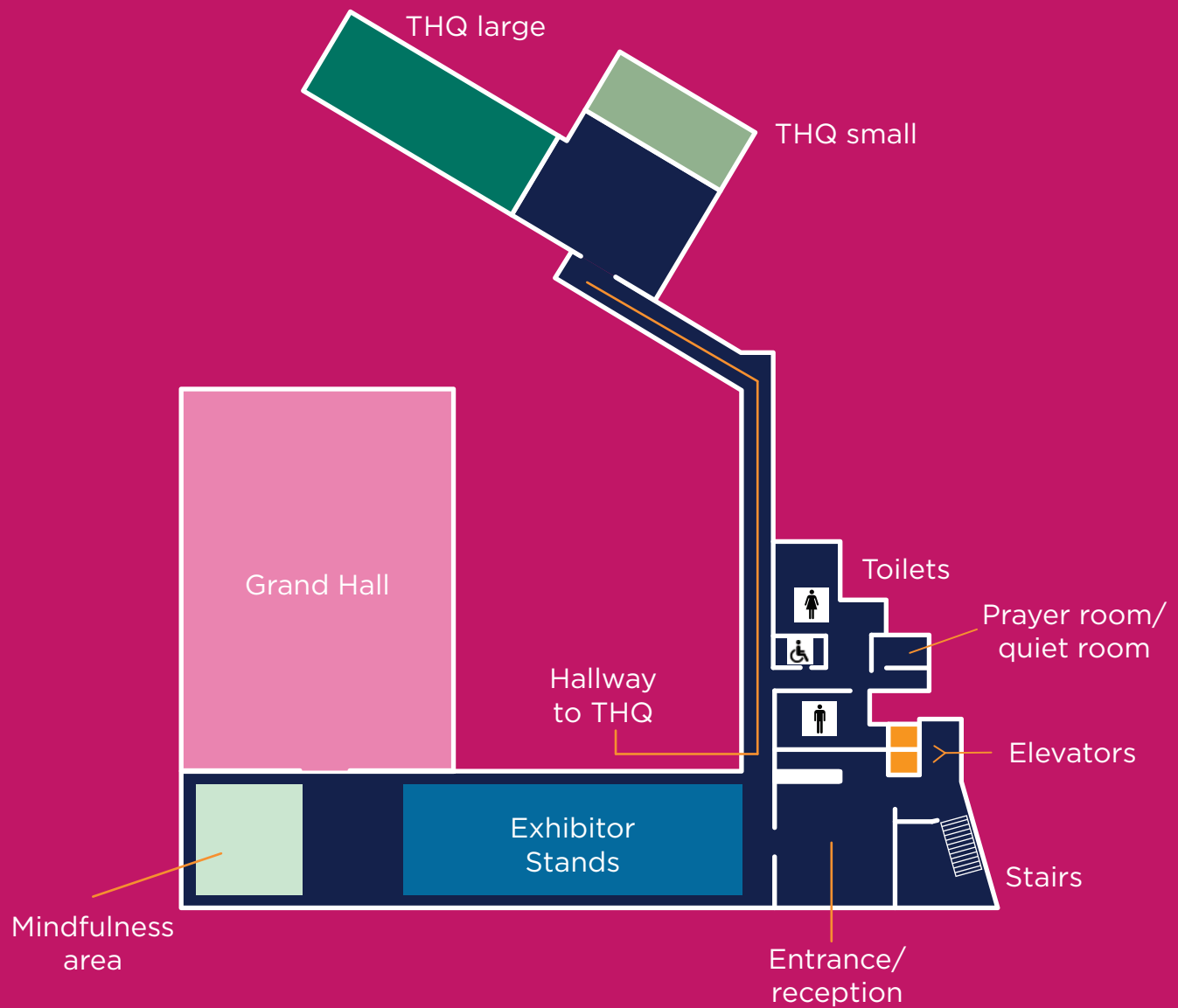
- Access Special Interest Groups, workshops and networking events. These forums offer a space to share expertise, solve problems and collaborate with peers across the sector.

Contact: info@pallcarevic.asn.au

Please note: Employees of organisation members are eligible to access all benefits under their employer's membership.

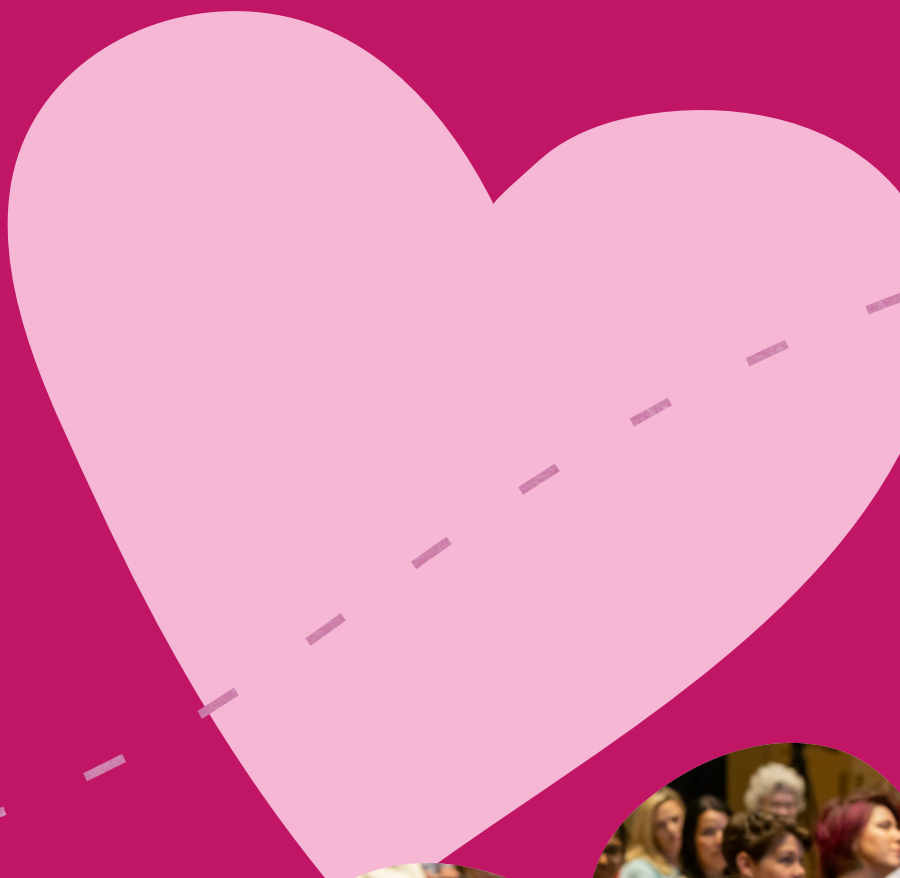
Map of Venue

Downstairs



Upstairs





Palliative Care
Victoria

PCV 2026 Summit

EVERY VOICE COUNTS:
Collaborative Approaches to Palliative Care

Friday 15 May 2026
Centrepiece, Melbourne Park