

Nomination for Chairperson: Scott Furlong

Proposed by: Gai Ferrario

Seconded by: Monique Ferrario

How and when did you become engaged with QHVSG?

I am currently acting as the Chairperson for QHVSG, I first became aware of the organisation some time ago whilst working as detective with the Homicide Investigation Unit. In 2013, I became a member and joined the Board of Management. In 2017, I again joined the Board of directors and am now fulfilling the role as the Chairperson. 2. As a Board member, what contributions will you make to the organisation, in line with our 2016-2019 Strategic Plan that will have a positive impact on the quality of life for our members.

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Strategic planning develops strategy through a formalised planning process. Strategic planning focuses on the whole of the organisation and provides for workplace objectives, provides direction and how the strategy will interact within the operating environment to achieve the organisations goals. It is important that members of the board understand strategic planning is a process that deals with multiple variables and uncertainty with a need to constantly rebuild meaning to enable the organisation to face the future and provide meaningful support for our members. As a member of the board it is vital to engage, in the development of the organisations objectives and development of the strategic plan to formulate and implement strategies to be able to achieve the objectives, identify the risks and opportunities the organisation needs to respond to, keep on track ensuring the unit is reaching its stated objectives and priorities and provides a basis on which the unit can measure its performance by VAQ.

What is your background and how can your talents and skills (professional and/or personal) benefit the organisation and its members?

Throughout my adult life I have engaged in a process of self-development both in my professional career as a police officer and in my personal vocation as a volunteer for the Queensland Homicide Victims' Support Group (QHVSG). Professionally I have 18 years' experience as an operational police officer. I am currently the Officer in Charge of the largest single Criminal Investigation Branch in the QPS. I have undertaken this role since October 2016 and it requires, I strategically orientate, plan and manage the unit comprising 60 plain clothes officers. This role requires a substantial level of professional reflective practice to develop strategies to provide workplace objectives, direction, and purpose, and help determine how the QPS strategy will interact within the operating environment to achieve the organisation's goal. These skills will transfer to my membership as a member of the board of Directors for QHVSG.

Nomination for Secretary: Monique Ferrario

Proposed by: Lorna Lutherborrow

Seconded by: Gai Ferrario

How and when did you become engaged with QHVSG?

I first became a member of QHVSG when my 36 year old brother Mitchell was murdered in April 2009. In my first year as a member, I became a Team Leader on the Gold Coast, which is a position I still hold today. I feel extremely privileged to support our members in memory of my brother and find a great deal of comfort in surrounding myself with people who unfortunately find themselves in a similar situation.

As a Board member, what contributions will you make to the organisation, in line with our 2016-2019 Strategic Plan that will have a positive impact on the quality of life for our members?

It was a fantastic opportunity to be involved with the development of the Strategic Plan for 2016 - 2019. I wish to continue the hard work that the Board of Directors has contributed to the organisation in continuing to work towards the strategic direction of QHVSG.

As a Team Leader and member, I am aware of the importance of peer support - the very foundation on which QHVSG was founded. I would like to continue engaging with members to involve them in the decisions that impact the organisation and provide them with opportunities to help build a strong support network of peers.

I am also extremely committed to raising awareness in the community, supporting our education programs and providing advocacy for our members, all of which are in line with the Strategic Plan.

What is your background and how can your talents and skills (professional and/or personal) benefit the organisation and its members?

I am a professional Early Childhood Educator and have managed my own successful business for the past 19 years. In my job I nurture, educate and care for children, follow legislations and policies and liaise with families to develop the best outcomes for their children. Additionally, I participate in professional development training and undertake all of the financial and administrative work that comes with running your own business.

I have great communication skills and always work to a high standard, whether that be individually or in a team environment. I also have the ability to make decisions and solve problems, as well as develop and implement plans to achieve the best outcomes possible.

I joined the QHVSG Board of Directors in 2015 as a General Member, also serving on the Support and Regional Development Committee. In 2016 I served as the Honorary Treasurer and I have served as the Board of Directors Secretary for the last two years.

I am a dedicated and keen fundraiser and I volunteer at numerous fundraising barbecues and events. I have been involved in the organisation and creation of many events in my time with QHVSG, namely the 2015 Brisbane Walk for Support and Family Fun Day, the 2016 International Women's Day breakfast, numerous Gold Coast Awareness Day, Walk for Support and Family Fun Day's, the Annual Night of Recognition and Christmas Celebration, the QHVSG Children's Christmas Party and the Men's Weekends. I feel a great sense of pride in being able to give something back to the organisation and its members. I enjoy organising events for our members to participate in and to help raise public awareness for QHVSG.

I am a committed and hardworking Team Leader and have supported many QHVSG members through peer support, Court support and facilitating the monthly Gold Coast Peer Support Group meetings.

I was recognised for my volunteer efforts in 2013 when I was honoured to be awarded the QHVSG Volunteer of the Year.

I am passionate about supporting our members and giving them a voice. I am an enthusiastic advocate for members needs and I will always stand up for what I believe is in their best interest.

Nomination for Treasurer: Jonty Bush

Proposed by: Monique Ferrario

Seconded by: Gai Ferrario

How and when did you become engaged with QHVSG?

I became a member of the QHVSG following the homicides of my sister and father, in late 2000. I became a volunteer approximately two years after that, and then accepted a part time position as a staff member in approximately 2003. I was appointed as CEO of the QHVSG in 2007, and in 2009 was named Young Australian of the Year for our work including the development and promotion of the One Punch Can Kill anti-violence campaign. I resigned from the QHVSG in 2010 to embark on a career with the Department of Justice and Attorney General.

As a board member, what contributions will you make to the organisation in line with our 2016-19 strategic plan that will have a positive impact on the quality of life of our members?

I am familiar with and supportive of the Support; Education and Reform arms of the QHVSG and wish to work with the agency to further develop these services.

Having worked in Queensland's criminal justice system now for fifteen years I have a sound understanding of the strategic policy, support service and academic influences and can bring this knowledge in my role on the Committee of Management.

I am currently employed with the Department of Justice and Attorney General, as a Director leading the Keeping Communities Safe priority, an *Advancing Queensland focus* area. Whilst I need to be cognisant of and manage potential or perceived conflicts of interest if I were to be selected as a board member, I believe I can bring a unique experience and skill set to the QHVSG.

What is your background and how can your talents and skills benefit the organisation and its members?

Following the homicides of her nineteen-year-old sister and father, Jonty, aged 21, joined with the Queensland Homicide Victim Support Group (QHVSG) to support other families bereaved by violence and raise awareness surrounding victim's rights. Jonty has advocated for the rights of victims of violent crime for more than 15 years. She was appointed as CEO of the QHVSG in 2007, and in 2009 was named Young Australian of the Year for her work including the development and promotion of the One Punch Can Kill anti-violence campaign.

Jonty has a Bachelor of Business Management and a Masters in Criminology and Criminal Justice. She has held various roles within state and local Government, including an appointment to Queensland's inaugural Sentencing Advisory Council and has continued to work and support government and community organisations with anti-violence and crime prevention strategies.

Jonty is currently an Ambassador for the Sunshine Coast Family Contact Centre.

Jonty appears as a motivational speaker throughout Australia. Speaking with organisations, community groups, schools and collectives around the impact of violence, and how one person can make a difference, she is regularly quoted in print media, appears in radio and television programs, and has had a number of opinion pieces featured in print and online.

Amongst her list of achievements, Jonty has climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Africa and has trekked on behalf of White Ribbon through the Kokoda trail to raise awareness for domestic violence.

Nomination for General Member: Leanne Pullen

Proposed by: Gary Pullen

Seconded by: Vicki Blackburn

How and when did you become engaged with QHVSG?

I became involved with QHVSG in 2012 after our son Tim became a homicide victim. Even though six people were sentenced in relation to Tim's homicide, Tim's remains have never been located.

Our family has immensely appreciated the support provided by QHVSG. I have a little verse by Lisa Harlow which I believe epitomises the wonderful care given by QHVSG - " Thanks for showing me that even on the darkest, rainiest days, the sun is still there, just behind the clouds, waiting to shine again."

As a board member, what contributions will you make to the organisation in line with our 2016-19 strategic plan that will have a positive impact on the quality of life of our members?

I believe that the Strategic Plan for 2016 - 2019 compiled after much thought and effort is being implemented and QHVSG is moving forward in a very positive manner. My main focus and passion is providing peer support for members especially those living in rural and regional areas.

Since 2017 I have been involved with the No Body No Parole Legislation and would like to be able to advocate in different areas for victims' families.

What is your background and how can your talents and skills benefit the organisation and its members?

I am both a passionate and compassionate person showing great empathy towards others and always give 100% of myself to whatever I undertake. I have always been a carer and cared for my Mum until her passing in 2002. I am extremely passionate and proud of my family and am so blessed to have their love, friendship and support. From 2006 until 2012 I was involved in raising funds and awareness for the RFDS through the Spirit of Queensland Awards. During this time my dedication saw hundreds of thousands of dollars raised to help purchase lifesaving medical equipment for RFDS aircraft.

With a few valued friends, Gary and I have for many years manned a driver reviver to raise awareness and funds for the RFDS and have continued to do so for QHVSG as well.

Throughout our different journeys in life, Gary and I have been honoured by the people we have met and humbled by the stories to which we have been privy.

Apart from my family, my passion these days definitely lies within being able to provide support to our members and being a confidante and voice for them. I am dedicated to making sure that our support meetings are successful and always encourage members to attend. I have been able to extend my support by providing court support to families during the daunting, court process.

It never ceases to amaze me how a group of people are brought together by tragic circumstances but go on to forge strong, valuable friendships.

I believe my caring nature and dedication to supporting fellow members makes me a suitable candidate for being on the Board of QHVSG.

Nomination for General Member: Samara McPhedran

Proposed by: Gai Ferrario

Seconded by: Monique Ferrario

How and when did you become engaged with QHVSG?

I am part of a small team at Griffith University, specialising in the study of homicide. Around two years ago, I began working in close partnership with QHVSG on some research to improve homicide prevention policies and practices, and my relationship with QHVSG has grown from there. Through my engagement with QHVSG and its members, I am always reminded of how research can make a real difference in the world. Most importantly, being part of QHVSG means I have the honour and privilege of going beyond the statistics, and hearing the stories about people whose lives were taken from them, and about those people's loved ones and their journeys.

As a Board member, what contributions will you make to the organisation, in line with our 2016-2019 Strategic Plan that will have a positive impact on the quality of life for our members?

I am passionate about improving our data and evidence about homicide, in order to inform policies and strategies to reduce the occurrence of homicide and its impacts on individuals, families, and communities. I care deeply about ensuring that we fully understand the needs of families who have lost a loved one to homicide, and about making sure we are in a position to give families the best possible support. I can bring to the Board my extensive experience not only in research and analysis, but in policy development and evaluation. I also have a strong commitment to building and strengthening collaborative relationships between academia and the community sector, and a history of establishing and expanding networks across multiple sectors. I hope to contribute these skills to QHVSG to enhance their existing focus on education for members and for the wider community, and to open up new opportunities that will deliver positive outcomes for members.

What is your background and how can your talents and skills (professional and/or personal) benefit the organisation and its members?

I have a PhD in Psychology, as well as a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws. In my professional life, I have worked across many different sectors in a range of management and leadership positions. This includes state and federal government roles in health and social services, as well as running my own consultancy business. I have also sat on various Ministerial and other high-level advisory committees and provided expert advice to government. I frequently work with journalists to get the facts across about homicide, and to improve public awareness about homicide and its prevention. I will use the knowledge and networks I have gained from these experiences to contribute to QHVSG's strategic direction and its ability to deliver top quality support for members. I am also skilled at writing funding applications, which will allow me to contribute to QHVSG's fundraising activities. On a personal level, I will always strive to use my excellent problem-solving and analytical skills, as well as determination and compassion, to benefit QHVSG and its members.

Nomination for General Member: Damien Hansen

Proposed by: Scott Furlong

Seconded by: Lorna Lutherborrow

How and when did you become engaged with QHVSF?

In 2011 when I was appointed Officer in Charge of the Homicide Investigation Unit.

As a Board member, what contributions will you make to the organisation, in line with our 2016-2019 Strategic Plan that will have a positive impact on the quality of life for our members?

I am a member of the current QHVSF Board of Directors which has complemented the changes to deliver better services and support to members.

What is your background and how can your talents and skills (professional and/or personal) benefit the organisation and its members?

I have been a Police Officer for 32 years.

I have been the Officer in Charge of the Homicide Investigation Unit for over 7 years

I am a Board Member on other Queensland Boards

Master of Leadership and Management

University Lecturer