



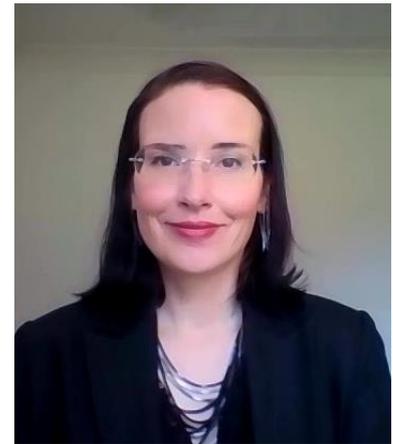
Nomination for Chairperson: Samara McPhedran

Proposed by: Monique Ferrario

Seconded by: Gai Ferrario

How and when did you become engaged with QHVSG?

I first became engaged with QHVSG in 2016, as part of my research and community outreach activities for the University I worked with at the time. That led to the development of a close partnership with QHVSG and to a number of mutually beneficial collaborations, including research projects, seminars, conference presentations, and workshops. I joined the Board in 2018, serving as an Ordinary Member, and was asked to serve as Chairperson early in 2019. I have served in that role ever since.



As a Board member, what contributions will you make to the organisation, in line with our 2016-2021 Strategic Plan that will have a positive impact on the quality of life for our members?

Since 2019, I have had the honour of serving QHVSG in the role of Chairperson of the Board of Directors. Over that time, I have provided stable leadership that has steered us through a number of different challenges. My goal is to balance our plans for growth and new activities with always making sure that, in everything we do, our focus stays squarely on the people who have lost their lives to homicide and their loved ones who are left behind. I have worked closely not only with my Board colleagues but also with our CEO, to help build solid communication, a shared view about where we want to go in the future, and ensure that the Board and the QHVSG staff who are there on the ground all have the same understanding about where we are heading. I have always done my best to meet members, talk about what the Board is doing, and – most importantly – listen to what you have to say about your organisation and what you want and need from us. This is the approach I will continue to take if you see fit to elect me as Chair for the year ahead.

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

I am an experienced leader who has worked in research, policy, and program management positions within government and academia, as well as in the private sector. I have a track record of leading diverse teams of people, thinking strategically about the direction those teams go in, and negotiating effective solutions to difficult problems. I am experienced in advocacy and advisory positions, with an extensive track record of providing evidence-based advice to decision-makers to shape policy change. I have sat on a number of high-level advisory groups, including state and federal Ministerial panels, and I am often invited to provide advice to government about violence prevention and related challenges. I am comfortable working with politicians, public servants, and the media, and have been doing this for many years. During my time as QHVSG Chair, I have used these skills to build our profile, represent us to government, and open new doors and opportunities for our organisation at both state and federal levels. I have a strong commitment to building and strengthening collaborative relationships between different groups, and a history of establishing and expanding networks across multiple sectors. I will continue to share these skills with QHVSG to enhance our existing focus on building the best possible support for members, educating the wider community about homicide and its impacts on families and communities, and developing services and driving reform to help homicide survivors. I also hold a PhD in Psychology, a Bachelor of Arts (with Honours), a Bachelor of Laws, and a Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice. From 2018-2020 I was the Founding Director of the Griffith University Homicide Research Unit.



Nomination for Deputy Chairperson: Leanne Pullen

Proposed by: Gary Pullen

Seconded by: Angela Head

How and when did you become engaged with QHVSG?

I became engaged with QHVSG in 2012 when our son Tim was declared a victim of homicide after he had been listed as a missing person. Even though six people were charged and imprisoned over Tim's homicide, his remains have never been located.

Our Family has appreciated immensely the support provided by QHVSG and my way of paying it forward was to become involved with this necessary but sadly growing organistaion.

I have a little verse by Lisa Harlow which I believe epitomises the 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 2016-2021 Strategic Plan that will have a positive impact on the quality of life for our members?

I am proud to have been involved in the planning process of the 2016 – 2021 Strategic Plan and am proud of being part of the team to already implement this and look forward to being able to move forward in a positive manner with the organistaion and continue to implement these strategies.

My main focus and passion is providing support to our members, especially those living in rural and regional areas. I am a team leader who provides peer support to our members. Peer support is so valuable as it is those who have sadly travelled a similar journey who truly understand.

The networks that I have, both locally and afar are beneficial to the Peer Support Program.

I am fortunate to organise and be a part of an amazing support group in Mackay. It never ceases to amaze me how a group of people whose paths would possibly have never crossed, have come together under such tragic circumstances and gone on to forge such valuable friendships. Under the circumstances, I am truly blessed.

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

I am both passionate and compassionate and show 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 about and proud of my family and am so blessed to have their love, friendship and support.

I was extensively involved in raising funds for and awareness of The Royal Flying Doctor Service from 2006 – 2012 through The Spirit Of Queensland Awards and my dedication and passion saw hundreds of thousands of dollars raised to help purchase life saving aeromedical equipment for RFDS aircraft. My connection with the RFDS provided a valuable contact for QHVSG where our peer support volunteers were provided with important training and support which in turn will be beneficial to all of our members, especially rural and regional members.

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

My passion definitely lies within being able to support our members by being an advocate for them and a confidante. As a team leader I am dedicated to making sure that our support meetings are successful and encourage members to attend. 2020 has proved to be a trying year for so many on so many levels and I have tried my hardest to stay in contact and support our members.

As well as organising support meetings, I organise our Awareness Day where we plant Daisies in honour of



our loved ones at the Mackay Botanical Gardens. I organise our Memorial Service and social events such as our Christmas get together.

I offer court support to our members which I find extremely fulfilling being able to support our members during such a distressing time. Gary and I have participated in Detective training which I believe is a very worthwhile exercise as detectives are given a personal insight into the effect dealing with police has on a person when they have lost a loved one to homicide.

I fundraise by selling raffle tickets in a Community Fundraiser and Gary and I man a driver reviver once a year and raise funds and educate the public about QHVSOG.

Apart from offering support, my greatest achievement has been my involvement in the passing of the No Body No Parole Legislation. Gary and I were instrumental in having the legislation amended to include all perpetrators involved in a homicide rather than only those sentenced for homicide.

One of my most pleasurable and proud opportunities provided to me by QHVSOG was being able to help organise QHVSOG's 25th Anniversary Dinner with Monique Ferrario. Being a co-organiser of such an event in honour of the incredible founding members and what their foresight went on to become, was such an honour.

I believe my caring nature and dedication to support fellow members makes me a suitable candidate for serving on the Board of QHVSOG.



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.

I went to my first Peer Support Group meeting to support my mother and soon realised how beneficial the group would also be for me.

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 2016-2021 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 – 2021 and I look forward to working together with the 2021 Board of Directors on the incoming Strategic Plan.

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 them and the organisation and to provide them with opportunities to help build a strong support network of peers. I am also extremely committed to raising awareness in the community, raising funds, supporting our educational 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 20 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 since 2017.

I am a dedicated and keen fundraiser and volunteer at numerous fundraising barbecues with my mother Gai and other QHVSG members, raising funds and awareness for QHVSG. 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 while at the same time being able to help raise public awareness for QHVSG.

I have been involved in the organisation and creation of many events in my time with QHVSG, including 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, the Men's Peer Support Weekends and most recently, the 2020 online Memorial Day.



Earlier this year I was honoured to organise QHVSOG's 25th anniversary event 'A splash of silver' with Leanne Pullen. It was truly remarkable to look back at the hard work and dedication given by so many over the last 25 years and it's was a great privilege to honour our founding members and all those who have contributed to the organisation over the years.

I am a committed and hard working Team Leader and have supported many QHVSOG members through peer support, Court support and facilitating the monthly Gold Coast Peer Support Group meetings, along with my mother Gai.

I was recognised for my volunteer efforts in 2013 and 2018 when I was honoured to be awarded the QHVSOG 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 General Member: Ian Rowan

Proposed by: Monique Ferrario

Seconded by: Samara McPhedran

How and when did you become engaged with QHVSG?

Dr Samara McPhedran approached me to nominate in September 2019 and I have served on the Board since then.

As a board member, what contributions will you make to the organisation in line with our 2016-21 Strategic Plan that will have a positive impact on the quality of life of our members?

I bring over 40 years of experience in the business sectors of marketing, events, finance, strategic/operational planning, insurance and banking.

I have held senior positions in NFP charities with DGR status (CEO/GM positions) in community, health, public safety and emergency management. All of this can be focused to provide advice, support and governance in the services that QHVSG offer to the families of victims of homicide

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

In 1997 in the UK, my niece Kate Bushell was brutally murdered while walking her neighbour's dog, close to her home in daylight. It is still an unsolved case for the Exeter Police.

I vowed to honour her memory where and when I can and have been a White Ribbon ambassador for over 10 years and now Chair the new local Mackay White Ribbon committee. I started the charity "Safe Streets" in Brisbane working closely with the Queensland Police and am keen to continue serving QHVSG.

Currently I am the CEO of CQ Rescue providing emergency rescue services for seriously ill or injured people with the challenges of COVID-19, which can be useful in providing strategic input to QHVSG services.



Nomination for General Member: Julie Waters

Proposed by: Kristy Bell

Seconded by: Gai Ferrario

How and when did you become engaged with QHVSG?

I became a member of QHVSG in July 2011 when my son Damian Leeding was murdered.

Initially I went to the meetings for support. It soon became apparent to me that the organisation is unique in what it had to offer its members. I realised along my journey I would be able to support others going through this horrific journey.

Consequently, I have served on the Board a number of times.

As a Board member, what contributions will you make to the organisation, in line with our 2016-2021 Strategic Plan that will have a positive impact on the quality of life for our members?

I have previously served on the board of management in the capacity of general board member as well as the events committee. I have volunteered at fundraising events such as BBQ's and more recently with Court and peer support and will continue to do so.

I am committed to supporting the board and staff to achieve greater outcomes for our members in all facets of the organisation, be it support ,legislative reform, education programs, and research projects: building awareness and developing an inclusive strategy.

I am a keen advocate of law reform and will continue to support members by implementing new strategies for law reform on advocacy to achieve positive outcomes for our members.

I will continue to strengthen existing relationships, while forging new ones with community organisations and government.

I will help to develop new and innovative programmes to re-engage with our members to identify support mechanisms.

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

I am currently chairperson for the Body corporate committee where I reside in Currumbin, Gold Coast.

I have previously worked with the Guiding Movement as a Leader. I have also volunteered in many sporting groups such as Nippers, swimming, and soccer to name a few.

I have strong and various ties within the community and have utilised these to great success in helping to source and secure major prizes for our fundraising efforts.

I have previously helped with marketing and Communications Project group with QHVSG Brisbane family fun day and walk for support, International Women's Day Dinning with Daisies breakfast. Gold Coast Family Fun day, walk for support and Inaugural Annual Night of recognition and Christmas celebration, of which I will continue to do so along with Court Support.

