



## Expression of Interest

# Better Together 2021 Disability Caucus Speakers

### Table of Contents

General Information .....	1
Large Font Information .....	4
Easy Language Information .....	9

### About The Equality Project and the Better Together Conference

The Equality Project is a national health promotion organisation bringing together Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex and Queer (LGBTIQ+) people with our allies across the social justice movement, to promote a better, more just, and fairer society for all Australians. Our mission is to create a space for LGBTIQ+ advocates and organisations to work together, build bridges, and speak with a common voice.

Better Together is our national conference. In order to facilitate a conversation about LGBTIQ+ rights in Australia we need to have a platform to share our ideas and experiences and ask the hard questions about how we can move forward and tackle what's important. The conference aims to explore current issues facing the LGBTIQ+ movement with the primary purpose of creating a truly intersectional discussion about achieving meaningful social change to create a fairer, more equal and more just Australia. Over the last two years, over 2,500 people from across the LGBTIQ+ sector and allies have attended our national conferences and regional symposiums. Delegates include people from health organisations, disability services, the Deaf community, non-government as well as government bodies, the corporate sector, indigenous, multicultural and multifaith communities.

“Our vision is a world that values and affirms LGBTIQ+ people as full citizens.”

Our mission is to create spaces for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex and Queer communities, organisations, advocates and allies to work together, build bridges, and speak with a common voice, through national and regional conferences and training events.

Our goal is to create a truly intersectional discussion about achieving meaningful social change to create a fairer, more equal and more just Australia through a national conference we call Better Together.

## **What is a Caucus?**

A Caucus is open to the general community to participate in the discussion of LGBTIQ+ issues that they identify with and offer a space for their input and collaboration. Individuals should participate only in a caucus that they identify with.

We have been holding Caucus gatherings since our inaugural Better Together conference in 2018. A Caucus is a meeting of individuals and groups from each section and intersection of the LGBTIQ+ community. Its purpose is to:

- Create a safe/brave space to discuss the important issues that matter to each group or community;
- Identify what has worked/is working and celebrate the achievements;
- Identify the challenges and explore possible solutions to creating change;
- Build on existing networks, share ideas and establish new connections;
- Foster the creation of a new network, support group and/or advocacy group;
- Establish the foundation for strategies for change or an action plan to address identified issues;
- Explore ways to support other LGBTIQ+ communities and how to be better allies;
- Create new alliances towards a movement for change within and outside of the community.

The Disability Caucus is a unique opportunity for LGBTIQ+ people with disability from all across Australia to come together in a safe, inclusive space.

## **Purpose of Caucus Speakers**

As part of the Disability Caucus, we'd like to give leaders, advocates and innovators from the community an opportunity to speak for 6 minutes to share information about their programs, innovations or advocacy efforts. Disability Caucus Attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions.

Expressions of Interest are welcome from all, we are particularly interested in content such as:

NDIS engagement, including Independent Assessment  
Respecting the autonomy of LGBTIQ+ people with intellectual disability  
Bodily autonomy – Intersex & CRPD  
Experiences of inclusion and exclusion in the wider LGBTIQ+ community  
Accessing mainstream services  
Sex & relationships  
Transitioning for LGBTIQ+ people with disabilities  
Multicultural, multifaith community  
Intersectionality

## **Details**

The Disability Caucus will be held 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021, from 9am – 12:30pm at Ucity Function Centre, 43 Franklin Street, Adelaide. It is anticipated that the speaker session will start at approximately 10:45am, however you are welcome to attend the whole caucus.

All speakers will be voluntary and not entitled to remuneration, however a 2-day pass to the Better Together conference will be provided.

## **How to Apply**

If you are interested in speaking at the Disability Caucus, please email:

Your name, pronouns and contact details

A brief outline of what you will be speaking about

Resume

You are welcome to apply in whatever way suits you – over the phone, via audio message or video clip. If you need support to apply, please let us know using the contact details below.

## **Process**

Applications will close 14<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

Successful applicants will be contacted by a member of the Disability Caucus team.

Unsuccessful applicants will be informed via email.

**Please send your completed expression of interest by 3pm on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021 to:  
Emma O’Loughlin at The Equality Project**

**Email:** [disability@theequalityproject.org.au](mailto:disability@theequalityproject.org.au)

## **Large Font Information**

### **About The Equality Project and the Better Together Conference**

The Equality Project is a national health promotion organisation bringing together Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex and Queer (LGBTIQ+) people with our allies across the social justice movement, to promote a better, more just, and fairer society for all Australians. Our mission is to create a space for LGBTIQ+ advocates and organisations to work together, build bridges, and speak with a common voice.

Better Together is our national conference. In order to facilitate a conversation about LGBTIQ+ rights in Australia we need to have a platform to share our ideas and experiences and ask the hard questions about how we can move forward and tackle what's important. The conference aims to explore current issues facing the LGBTIQ+ movement with the primary purpose of creating a truly intersectional discussion about achieving meaningful social change to create a fairer, more equal and more just Australia. Over the last two years, over 2,500 people from across the LGBTIQ+ sector and allies have attended our national conferences and regional symposiums. Delegates include people from health organisations, disability services, the

Deaf community, non-government as well as government bodies, the corporate sector, indigenous, multicultural and multifaith communities.

“Our vision is a world that values and affirms LGBTIQ+ people as full citizens.”

Our mission is to create spaces for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex and Queer communities, organisations, advocates and allies to work together, build bridges, and speak with a common voice, through national and regional conferences and training events.

Our goal is to create a truly intersectional discussion about achieving meaningful social change to create a fairer, more equal and more just Australia through a national conference we call Better Together.

### **What is a Caucus?**

A Caucus is open to the general community to participate in the discussion of LGBTIQ+ issues that they identify with and offer a space for their input and collaboration.

Individuals should participate only in a caucus that they identify with.

We have been holding Caucus gatherings since our inaugural Better Together conference in 2018. A Caucus is a meeting

of individuals and groups from each section and intersection of the LGBTIQ+ community. Its purpose is to:

- Create a safe/brave space to discuss the important issues that matter to each group or community;
- Identify what has worked/is working and celebrate the achievements;
- Identify the challenges and explore possible solutions to creating change;
- Build on existing networks, share ideas and establish new connections;
- Foster the creation of a new network, support group and/or advocacy group;
- Establish the foundation for strategies for change or an action plan to address identified issues;
- Explore ways to support other LGBTIQ+ communities and how to be better allies;
- Create new alliances towards a movement for change within and outside of the community.

The Disability Caucus is a unique opportunity for LGBTIQ+ people with disability from all across Australia to come together in a safe, inclusive space.

### **Purpose of Caucus Speakers**

As part of the Disability Caucus, we'd like to give leaders, advocates and innovators from the community an opportunity

to speak for 6 minutes to share information about their programs, innovations or advocacy efforts. Disability Caucus Attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions.

Expressions of Interest are welcome from all, we are particularly interested in content such as:

- NDIS engagement, including Independent Assessment
- Respecting the autonomy of LGBTIQ+ people with intellectual disability

- Bodily autonomy – Intersex & CRPD

- Experiences of inclusion and exclusion in the wider LGBTIQ+ community

- Accessing mainstream services

- Sex & relationships

- Transitioning for LGBTIQ+ people with disabilities

- Multicultural, multifaith community

- Intersectionality

## **Details**

The Disability Caucus will be held 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021, from 9am – 12:30pm at Ucity Function Centre, 43 Franklin Street, Adelaide. It is anticipated that the speaker session will start at approximately 10:45am, however you are welcome to attend the whole caucus.

All speakers will be voluntary and not entitled to

remuneration, however a 2-day pass to the Better Together conference will be provided.

## **How to Apply**

If you are interested in speaking at the Disability Caucus, please email:

Your name, pronouns and contact details

A brief outline of what you will be speaking about

Resume

You are welcome to apply in whatever way suits you – over the phone, via audio message or video clip. If you need support to apply, please let us know using the contact details below.

## **Process**

Applications will close 14<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

Successful applicants will be contacted by a member of the Disability Caucus team.

Unsuccessful applicants will be informed via email.

**Please send your completed expression of interest by 3pm on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021 to:**

**Emma O’Loughlin at The Equality Project**

**Email: [disability@theequalityproject.org.au](mailto:disability@theequalityproject.org.au)**



## Easy Language Information

The Equality Project is an Australian group that works with LGBTIQ+ people and our supporters. The Equality Project wants to make sure LGBTIQ+ people work together well so we can make things better for our community.

The Equality Project runs a national conference each year. It is called **Better Together**. The conference brings lots of different people together to talk about things that are important to LGBTIQ+ people. There are people from health organisations, community groups, and other people.

In 2021, **Better Together** will happen in Adelaide. The dates are Friday 18 to Saturday 19 June.

There will be some extra meetings on the day before the conference. This is Thursday 17 June. At **Better Together**, a special meeting is called a **caucus**.

There will be a caucus for LGBTIQ+ people with a disability. If you are an LGBTIQ+ person with a disability, you are welcome to come to this caucus.

At the caucus, we will talk about:

- The good things and the problems that LGBTIQ+ people with disability live with
- How we can work together to solve the problems
- How we can support each other
- How we can support other LGBTIQ+ groups

### Where and when is it being held?

The Disability Caucus will be held:

- At **Ucity Function Centre**, 43 Franklin Street, Adelaide.
- On **Thursday 17 June 2021**
- From **9am to 12:30pm**

### How can you get a ticket?

If you want to come to the caucus, the **Better Together** conference, or to both, go to <https://www.theequalityproject.org.au/conference-registration> or ask someone to help you.

## **Do you want to be a speaker at the caucus?**

As part of the Disability Caucus, people from the community will get a chance to speak for 6 minutes. These people will speak about their work, their community, their lives, and their ideas. If you want to be one of these speakers, you can apply to our team. We call this an **Expression of Interest**.

You can apply by sending an email to [disability@theequalityproject.org.au](mailto:disability@theequalityproject.org.au). In your email, tell us:

- your name
- a bit about yourself
- what you want to talk about.

If you want to talk on the phone, you can send us an email first. Tell us your phone number and we will call you.

Expressions of Interest are welcome from all. Here are some ideas about what to talk about:

- Your experience with the NDIS
- Being respected as an LGBTIQ+ person with intellectual disability
- Having control over your body
- Experiences of feeling included or not included in the LGBTIQ+ community
- Accessing services
- Sex & relationships
- Transitioning for LGBTIQ+ people with disabilities
- Multicultural, multifaith community
- Intersectionality

You need to email us **before 14 May 2021**.

Our team will contact you if you are successful or not.