Suicide prevention training for the LGBTIQ+ populations.

Presented by Shayne Connell, EVP LivingWorks, and Marc Bryant, Director of Suicide Prevention APAC and Tamara Bezu, LivingWorks Support Specialist.

Suicide is a significant issue for the LGBTIQ community due to the impacts of discrimination, yet reseach shows LGBTIQ individuals may not feel comfortable or safe accessing mental health or support services due to actual experiences or fear of discrimination, violence or care not meeting their needs. For this reason, friends and non-biological chosen family play a significant role in providing support, and peer support is essential for suicide prevention for LGBTIQ communities.

With this in mind, the Australian National Suicide Prevention Trial offered the opportunity for LivingWorks to collaborate with LGBTIQ organizations to explore and address barriers to training, and build cultural and psychological safety for LGBTIQ people in training workshops. The goal was to ensure that LGBTIQ individuals have the necessary knowledge, skills, and confidence to provide suicide prevention for their peers and that suicide prevention programs are inclusive, accessible, and relevant. The presentation will discuss the work done so far and the potential for scaling this program nationally and globally.