

Eddie's Story - Be part of a story you'll love to tell

Edward Solien is the Reconciliation, Diversity & Inclusion Manager at Wesley Mission Queensland. Watch the video on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/7WgwtXBusRA>.

Video transcript

Hi. My name is Eddie Solien, Manager of Reconciliation, Diversity and Inclusion for Wesley Mission, Queensland. So some of the things that I'm responsible for at Wesley Mission Queensland is definitely breaking down some of those silos. Sometimes people have that unconscious bias. The one thing that I do love to do is going out to actually all the services and just understanding the culture within those services.

So it just helps me with developing some of those strategic frameworks for diversity and inclusion as well as reconciliation. My background, my father's side is Papua New Guinean and my mother's side, that's where my Torres Strait Islander side comes into play and so we have a connection to Badu Island, and my family name are Canuto, Ahmat, Nona Love and Daddow.

Something that we celebrate in our culture for sure is every day we live, we wake up every morning and we celebrate every day that we're alive. There were so many injustices for my mob back in the day that it's a blessing to be alive today. For me in particular, the one thing that I wish that non-Indigenous Australians were open to is just to be comfortable with being uncomfortable and having those stories and a bit of truth telling to be told.

We can all learn from from those. No one likes to sit there and have those uncomfortable conversations. So what reconciliation means to me is definitely building those meaningful relationships and having that unique trust between non-Indigenous Australians and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, my people. Some of the values that have shaped me in being who I am today, especially for my culture, I mean we live and breathe all those values that Wesley Mission Queensland do have, but one in particular that stands out is integrity and that really helps me shape who I am and what we do,

At Wesley Mission Queensland, as a part of my role.

Wesley Mission Queensland - Your Story is Our Story

Everyone has a story. And here at Wesley Mission Queensland, we feel privileged to stand alongside the families, children, couples and seniors that we support each year.

For further information contact:

P 1800 448 448

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www.wmq.org.au

RAP | Our commitment to reconciliation



David Passi

Hi I'm Passi. I'm the Indigenous Liaison Officer for Wesley Mission Queensland. I enjoy working at Wesley Mission Queensland because I feel included and have the ability to be myself. I found my experience working in the RAP community fun and exciting and meeting different people from all walks of life. I'm very pleased to be part of the Reconciliation Action Plan Innovate Document and we're in this together.

Danielle Sullivan

Wesley Mission Queensland's Commitments to reconciliation lies within four key focus areas. Firstly, it's all about relationships. Wesley Mission Queensland believes that a shared journey is vital to the ongoing process of reconciliation and the wellbeing of our whole community. In establishing meaningful engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Islander peoples, we can expand our knowledge and show our commitment to enhancing genuine and respectful relationships.

Danielle Sullivan

The second focus area is respect. Wesley Mission Queensland honors Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as Australia's First Peoples and celebrates our uniqueness and diversity. Respect is one of the core values that drive the vision of Wesley Mission Queensland as we seek to nurture a culture of inclusion with a focus on social justice. We are committed to meaningful consultation and true understanding of people, culture, history and connection to the land and to each other.

Danielle Sullivan

Leading us together into authentic action across our core activities. The final focus area is opportunities. Providing opportunities is vital for Wesley Mission Queensland to be actively involved in making a positive difference in the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We strive to find connectedness between the past, present and future and commit to providing employment and supply chain opportunities for Australia's first peoples.

Danielle Sullivan

We are in this together and hope to be able to further celebrate this milestone towards the end of 2020. We invite you to journey with us. By working together, we will realize our vision for a compassionate just an inclusive society for all.

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