

# PATHWAYS INTO OUR SECTOR

Growing the domestic and family violence, sexual assault, women's health and wellbeing workforce.



**Dr Brodie Evans, Men's Program Coordinator**  
Bachelor Degree, PhD

## Bringing together academia, advocacy and practice

Dr Brodie Evans' career journey kicked off via academic pathways, with a Bachelor of Arts (Politics and Society), First Class Honours and then a PhD in Justice. During his post-graduate study, he taught at university in the areas of justice, politics, gender and violence, and now works in an NGO service.

Initially taking a part-time administration role with Micah Projects—Brisbane Domestic Violence Service, Brodie was employed as a Group Facilitator, and then full-time as a Men's Program Coordinator. This led to a strong desire to address the issue of intimate partner violence, particularly in the perpetrator intervention space and within same gender relationships.

"I identify as queer and, through my job, I saw a huge gap in service delivery for queer men. I've since opened up our program to queer men wanting to access our services, aware of the safety challenges this may pose. But I'd like to see this focus

developed with mainstream services asking ourselves how we can address this need in the community, until we see funded queer programs," Brodie said.

Brodie's program also includes women's advocacy. This means liaising with partners and the aggrieved, with the key goal to minimise risk and ensure the safety of all participants.

If helpful, the Women's Advocate makes referrals to the Children and Young People's team within Micah Projects.

"Currently I supervise a team of seven, which delivers perpetrator intervention efforts. I also personally facilitate domestic violence groups for men on probation or parole, and men identified by child safety services, courts and the police. The rewards are many, but particularly it's when a woman shares with the women's advocate that her feelings of safety have increased or we see those lightbulb moments in group when a man's belief system shifts—a key step in the process of behaviour change," Brodie said.

Brodie's interests are now firmly in systems advocacy.

"I want to contribute constructively towards change, and that means participating in various high-level committees and networks," Brodie said.

Brodie's advice to those thinking about a career in the domestic and family violence sector is to firstly reflect on your own values and life experiences, then explore your beliefs on male entitlement and privilege.

"It's important for the men that you provide a safe empathetic space, while balancing that environment with accountability."

Brodie is currently a Visiting Fellow at Queensland University of Technology and is continuing to develop frontline skills and management proficiency.

**"I see a gap in service delivery to queer men."**

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