



# INCLUSION: CREATING SPACES OF BELONGING INTO THE FUTURE

## L'ARCHE AUSTRALIA 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

**FEBRUARY 5-7 2019**

ALPHACRUCIS COLLEGE, 30 COWPER STREET, PARRAMATTA NSW 2150

L'Arche formed in Australia in 1978, prior to any systemic deinstitutionalization program by inviting persons with and persons without an intellectual disability to share their lives in local communities. The Identity, Mission and Charter of L'Arche focuses on providing spaces for people to discover and love the secret of what is unique to them as a people. In this way we celebrate our interdependence as people. L'Arche believes that it is in the context of 'community' that persons are transformed. When we listen to each others' stories; share meals; spend time together, share activities and interests we can understand our unique personal value and human dignity.

2019 and the world is a different place! The conference seeks to explore whether this notion 'community' and 'inclusion' are relevant goal for today? Is it "good news"? Or, in this age of individuality, are individual funding packages the twenty first century version of "good news"? Is funding necessary for 'community'? Is 'community' the appropriate place to structure inter-personal relationships in disability services to creating a sense of belonging? In this way how they can enable people to live a good life in their local neighbourhood?

### Price:

**Full Registration**  
Delegate \$225.00

**Undergraduate or Postgraduate Student** \$200.00

**Concession Card Holder**  
Concession \$200.00

**Day Registration**  
Single Day \$100.00

### Register at:

<https://www.trybooking.com/ZMUP>

### Enquiries:

David Treanor: 0459 383 857  
Email: [leader@larche.org.au](mailto:leader@larche.org.au)



# FEATURED SPEAKERS



## Rev. Amy Jacobs

Our keynote speaker, is a veteran youth worker and professor who has a passion for marginalized communities. Her latest book, "Redefining Perfect" has a focus on theology and disability.

## David Treanor – National Leader, L'Arche Australia

Dr David Treanor is the National Leader for L'Arche Oceania. He previously lived as an Assistant in L'Arche in Ireland and Australia. He was active in welcoming people with an intellectual disability to first move from an institution to their local community. David has worked in a variety of roles in disability services as well as in research and evaluation. He has qualifications in social work, social sciences, public administration and a PhD in philosophy. His areas of academic interest are: aging; community living; communication; ethics, innovation and the philosophy.



## Athena Pavlis-Goard

After 30 years of experience in teaching and advocacy, Athena now works for herself delivering disability awareness workshops to both the Christian and general communities; covering such topics such as Disability Awareness, Theology and Disability and Church Inclusion of people with disabilities.



## Shane Clifton

Shane Clifton is Professor of Theology and Ethics at Alphacrucis College, and an Honorary Associate, Centre for Disability Research and Policy, the Faculty of Health Sciences, the University of Sydney. In 2010 Shane had a serious accident that left him a quadriplegic (C5 Incomplete). He is passionate about the flourishing of and justice for people with a disability. Shane has authored two books: "Husbands Should Not Break" and "Crippled Grace: Disability, Virtue Ethics, and the Good Life."



## Nathan Basha

Nathan has Down syndrome but he says, "That's not who I am". He has spoken at many forums sharing his insights about what can happen when people are encouraged to live their dreams and live life to their full potential. Nathan is a film maker, attended The University of Sydney and works at the prominent radio station Nova 96.9. Nathan believes if change is truly to occur "It's in the mind sets." Nathan lives in his own home along with his flatmates in Huntley's Cove.



## Stevie Wills

Stevie is the Community Education Officer at CBM Australia. She traveled with CBM to South Africa and Zambia to meet with people with disabilities. Stevie has qualifications in counselling, is a performance poet, writer, and public speaker. She was born with cerebral palsy and has had a relationship with Jesus Christ since she was 14 years old. Stevie uses her performance poetry and writing to communicate the cycle of poverty and disability.