

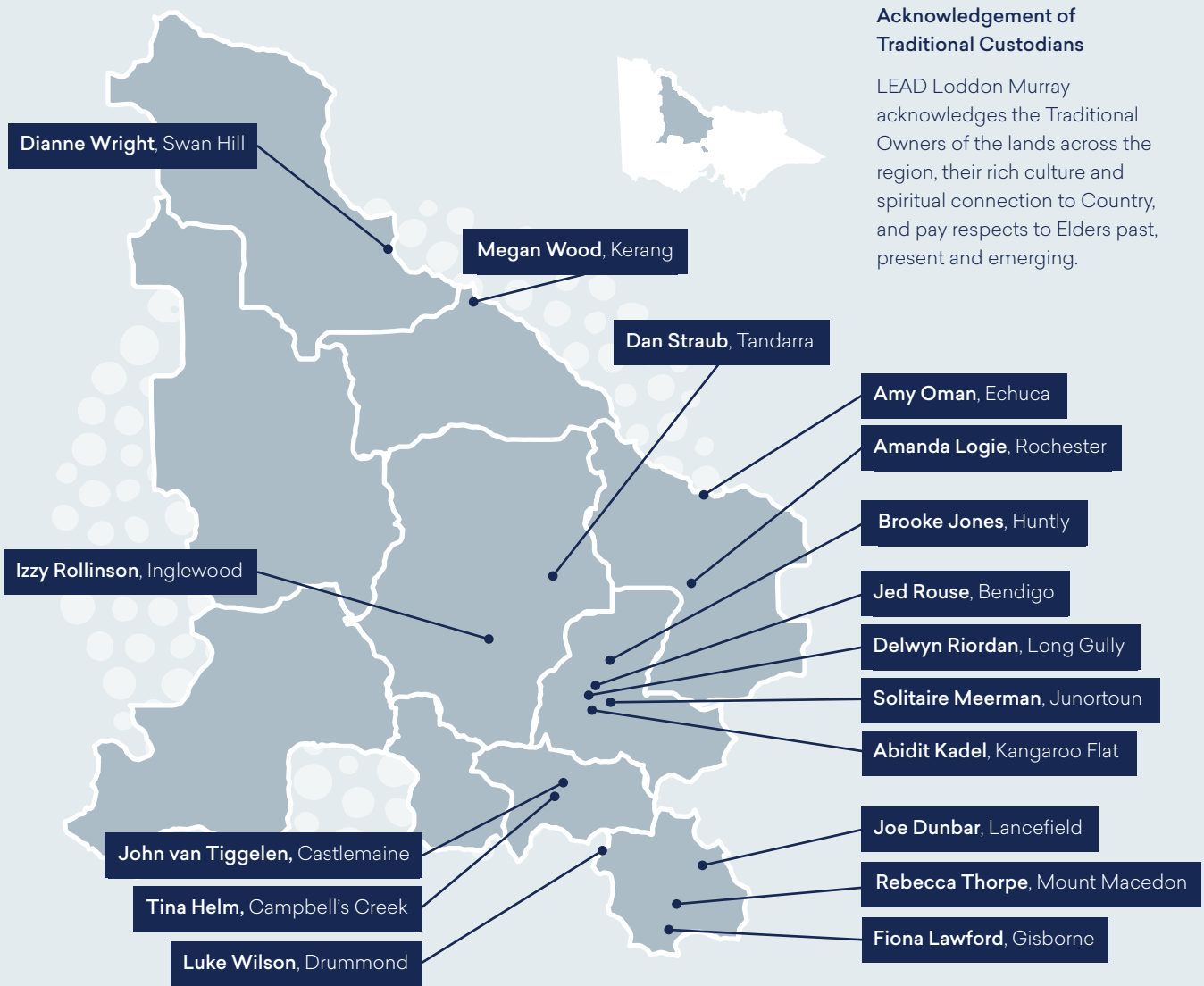
A scenic view of a river with trees and a large blue circular graphic overlay. The graphic consists of concentric circles in shades of blue and light blue, with a pattern of white dots on the right side.

LEAD
Loddon Murray
LMCLP

2024

Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians

LEAD Loddon Murray acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands across the region, their rich culture and spiritual connection to Country, and pay respects to Elders past, present and emerging.



“It has been such a privilege to take time out of my life and prioritise my own development, to look inward, to further understand myself, to challenge myself and be vulnerable. Doing it all with a group of caring and passionate people and in a respectful space has been an incredible experience.”

Luke Wilson

Our Work

- Deliver best-in-class leadership training, coaching and mentoring
- Connect passion and energy with experience and wisdom
- Provide practical, relevant and timely insights, techniques and tools
- Link future and emerging leaders with people of influence

Our Vision

Thriving, self-determined communities

Our Mission

To grow local, transformational servant leaders to drive positive change for communities

Our Strategy

- Identify, nurture and develop local change makers
- Build networks of ethical, adaptive leaders
- Promote, support and influence positive, systemic change

Our Values are;

- Authentic: we are true to our vision and purpose, genuine and realistic.
- Inclusive: embrace diversity as an ethical imperative of human rights.
- Respectful: we are thoughtful of what we say and thoughtful of what we hear.



Thank you to our Project Partner and Scholarship Partners for making our program possible. Your Support helps create the future for communities across the region.

Scholarship Partners



This project is supported by FRRR, through funding from the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund.



A Heartfelt Celebration of our 2024 LMCLP Graduates

To our 2024 LMCLP graduates: this year, you walked the path of leadership with courage and an open heart. You have embraced learning, stepped forward with conviction, and supported each other with unwavering kindness and respect. Together, you leaned into vulnerability, grew in resilience, and challenged yourselves to break through limitations. It's been a profound honour to witness your journey, and I am deeply moved by the community you've built—a community grounded in shared values, mutual respect, and the drive to create lasting change.

To each of you—Abidit, Amanda, Amy, Brooke, Dan, Di, Delwyn, Fiona, Izzy, Jed, Joe, John, Luke, Megan, Bec, Sol, and Tina—I extend my deepest admiration. From the first day you gathered at the La Trobe Arts Institute, I could feel the energy and anticipation in the room. Now, as you prepare to step out and lead, I see not only your personal growth but the strong bonds you've formed with one another. You are all ready to bring your talents, insights, and unwavering spirit to your communities.

Throughout this year, you have shown what true leadership looks like. You've scaled mountains together, not by following, but by leading with authenticity and strength. In every retreat, session, and conversation, you opened yourselves to growth and allowed each experience to shape you.

Our three-day retreats, have been powerful catalysts for transformation. The trust and camaraderie you've built have laid a foundation for a lifetime of friendship and shared purpose. The reflections you shared in your ABT (And But Therefore) evaluations after each retreat have been deeply moving, showing how the knowledge gained here will ripple through our communities, inspiring change and action.

The Community Asset Mapping exercise, where you invited your teams into your own communities, was a testament to your dedication. Outside program hours, you led us into your world, introducing us to the people and places that inspire you. Watching you present your findings in Swan Hill, I was reminded of the power of this work. You are not just participants—you are champions of community spirit, catalysts for growth, and advocates for resilience.

The presentation of your community project posters marked a pivotal milestone this year. Many of you stepped boldly beyond the bounds of fear, embracing the insights shared by our esteemed facilitator, Peter Dhu, on the art of impactful presentations. In that moment, you demonstrated an unshakable truth: when you free yourself from the confines of self-doubt and judgment, your potential is boundless. You are truly unstoppable.

As I prepare to say goodbye to this year's cohort, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to Brett Thompson, our

Executive Officer, who leaves us to follow his calling into teaching. Brett, your warmth, humour, and unwavering support have been instrumental in making this program what it is. Jacqui Knight, our virtual powerhouse—thank you for always being there to support us.

To Helen O'Donoghue, our 2020 graduate and volunteer extraordinaire: you have brought joy, fun, and boundless energy to each retreat. Your heart and commitment to our participants have left a lasting impact, and we are endlessly grateful.

My sincere thanks go to the LEAD Loddon Murray Board for your dedication and the tireless hours you've given to support this legacy. To our alumni and the extraordinary facilitators who shared their wisdom with our group, thank you. You have helped shape our participants into the leaders they are today.

This year's LMCLP was supported by FRRR, through funding from the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund. To our participants sponsors City of Greater Bendigo, Swan Hill Rural City Council, Loddon Shire Council, Gannawarra Shire Council, Mount Alexander Shire Council, Macedon Ranges Shire Council, CFA, NCCMA, Agnico Eagle, Gardiner Foundation, Hugh Williamson Foundation, Coliban Water, Community Bank Lancefield and Romsey, and Community Bank Gisborne—thank you for making this journey possible. Your support ensures that leadership in our communities remains strong and visionary.

As we conclude this year, I encourage you to read the reflections and project ideas of our participants in this Yearbook. Their initiatives are the seeds of change, each one poised to bring light and growth to the Loddon Murray Region.

Being the Program Director of the Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program has been an incredible privilege. This program, and each of you who has walked through its doors, truly matters. You are the stewards of our future, the leaders who will shape the communities we hold dear.

To the 2024 graduates—thank you for your kindness, your resilience, and your trust. I will carry the memories of this year with me, forever grateful for each of you.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Jude Hannah
PROGRAM DIRECTOR - LMCLP





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 “The personal impact of this experience has been profound, particularly in recognising and understanding not only my own values but also those of others. It has given me insight into why people are the way they are, allowing me to acknowledge and embrace those differences with greater comfort and acceptance. The opportunities and knowledge I have gained have been incredible and are already immensely valuable to me. I am deeply grateful for this experience, and as a wonderful bonus, I have made amazing new friends along the way.
 Amanda Logie



Program calendar

Event	Date	Location	Duration
Orientation & Launch Event	23rd February	Bendigo	One Day
Online Preparation Session	6th March	Zoom	Two Hours
First retreat - Regional Context	15th-17th March	Maryborough	Three Days
Online Review Session	27th March	Zoom	Two Hours
Online Preparation Session	24th April	Zoom	Two Hours
Second retreat - Leadership of Self	10th-12th May	Echuca & Lockington	Bendigo
Online Review Session	22nd May	Zoom	Two Hours
Leading Teams & Community Project Planning	5th June	Bendigo	10am-3pm
Online Preparation Session	3rd July	Zoom	Two Hours
Third retreat - Leadership of Others	19th-21st July	Swan Hill & Kerang	Three Days
Online Review Session	31st July	Zoom	Two Hours
Online Learning Session	28th August	Zoom	Four Hours
Online Preparation Session	18th September	Zoom	Two Hours
Fourth retreat - Leadership of Community	4th-6th October	Lancefield & Romsey	Three Days
Online Review Session	16th October	Zoom	Two Hours
Online Preparation Session	30th October	Zoom	Two Hours
Final Retreat	8th-9th November	Inglewood & Bridgwater on Loddon	Two Days
Graduation Celebration	29th November	Bendigo	Four Hours



“The LMCLP has supported me to grow my confidence and extend my skills and knowledge to become a stronger and more effective leader. I have a better understanding of the region, of myself, and of others. This year I’ve had the opportunity to grow in more ways than I could have imagined. I’m excited about my future with community, to harness our strengths and build more inclusive spaces that enhance our wellbeing and environment.”

Tina Helm

“I’ve come to understand that vulnerability is the foundation of truly meaningful, deeper connections. When I allow myself to be open, I invite others to do the same, revealing a part of ourselves we often keep hidden. This year has shown me how transformative it can be to see beyond the masks people wear. When I look at issues through a broader lens, I gain a richer perspective, and in turn, I grow. Reflecting on the workshops and programs I’ve taken part in this year, I realize how much more aware I’ve become—not only of myself but also of the people around me. I’m learning to see and connect with others on a deeper level. This journey has opened my eyes to the power of empathy, authenticity, and growth through connection.”

Abidit Kadel



Team Eagle

Throughout the year, Team Eagle demonstrated incredible resilience and adaptability. Despite the excitement of milestones like a wedding, a new baby, and several unforeseen life events, members of Team Eagle faced the challenge of participating in multiple retreats with one or more teammates absent. Thankfully, technology was a critical resource that bridged this gap. Tools like recordings and online messaging allowed team members from Swan Hill, Castlemaine, Echuca, and Bendigo to stay connected, ensuring

they could still engage in meaningful ways despite the physical distance. This commitment to staying involved exemplified the team's dedication and the value they place on shared learning.

The team's journey began on a high note with all members attending Harmony Day in Swan Hill for an activity focused on community asset mapping. This experience provided an enriching opportunity for team bonding and offered insight into the strength and resilience embedded in the Swan Hill community. Being part of this activity not only deepened our understanding of the resources within our own communities but also ignited a shared

motivation within Team Eagle to carry that inspiration forward into the LMCLP experience. We left the day feeling united and ready to face the year's challenges together.

As the year progressed, Team Eagle faced a series of unexpected challenges, pushing us to confront the relationship between grief and resilience in both personal and collective ways. By listening to and learning from each other's journeys and struggles, we developed a profound appreciation for the importance of resilience in community work. Team Eagle members were moved by the 'About Me' sessions, where personal stories became a source of strength and



Amy Oman

Town: Echuca

Sponsor: Hugh Williamson Foundation

Community Involvement: Community Paediatric Occupational Therapist along with volunteering for local community events.

Community Project:

Explore Learn Move, give back and grow program

What aspect of the 2024 LMCLP has moved you most? The aspect of the 2024 LMCLP that moved me most was the sense of community and support from all participants, especially my home team. Even during times when I was unable to attend retreats due to unexpected challenges, the consistent check-ins and encouragement from my home team allowed me to remain connected. This network of peers offered grounding and encouragement, which helped me process and engage with the program content. Seeing how everyone, came together to provide support for one another inspired me to reflect deeply on the nature of community leadership. The empathy and resilience reminded me that leadership is about both giving and receiving support—a powerful realisation that I'll carry forward.

Now that you have completed the LMCLP program year, how will you 'pay it forward'? I feel inspired to 'pay it forward' by actively supporting others in my own community. One way I intend to do this is by being more intentional about sharing my learning and insights with my team and colleagues at both Explore Learn Move and La Trobe University. By bringing the values and perspectives I've gained through LMCLP to my work with individuals and community groups, I can create a ripple effect that supports these networks. Additionally, I aim to prioritise mentorship, making time to support emerging leaders in my field, sharing the lessons of resilience, balance, and community that LMCLP has instilled in me.



John van Tiggelen

Town: Castlemaine

Sponsor: North Central CMA

Community Involvement: Conservation volunteer, Central Vic

Community Project: Building a sense of community at Fiery Flat

What aspect of the 2024 LMCLP has moved you most? Without question the greatest lesson I learnt in the course of the program is that showing your vulnerability can make you stronger. Many participants exemplified this - that the self-examination of your values, and understanding where they've come from, may yield emotional, even painful truths that will ultimately underpin the pursuit of greater things for your community as well as for yourself.

Now you have completed the LMCLP program year, how will you 'pay it forward'? I didn't see myself as a leader at the start of the program. I still don't. But I do have a greater appreciation for the way my passion and volunteer ambitions for the restoration of habitat on marginal country can guide and galvanise others to pursue similar aims. The program has renewed my drive, commitment, and ideas to continue in this vein, both in my private endeavours and as part of several Landcare groups.



Dianne Wright

Town: Swan Hill

Sponsor: Swan Hill Rural City Council

Community Involvement: Business Professional Women (BPW), Carer Support, International Day of People with a Disability, Harmony Day,

Community Project: Building Changing Places in Swan Hill

What aspect of the 2024 LMCLP has moved you most? Seeing all the communities that we visited and focused on has given me a renewed sense of what can be accomplished in our regional areas. This group of wonderful people has inspired me and supported me through a very difficult year and the unconditional kindness shown has provided a unique connection that, cannot be underestimated.

Now you have completed the LMCLP program year, how will you 'pay it forward'? I now have much greater appreciation of the challenges leading in our amazing communities presents. I hope that I can become a community member who supports and inspires others to also see the challenges but appreciate the intent, with an ability to see both sides of an opinion but also to meditate to have a positive outcome.

inspiration. Each of us grew not only as individuals but as more engaged and motivated community members. Our experiences underscored the importance of perseverance, reminding us to keep putting one foot in front of the other even when the path seems uncertain.

In the end, Team Eagle's journey this year was defined by a blend of joy, hardship, and unwavering determination. We have each emerged with a deeper commitment to our communities and an appreciation for the bonds we've built with one another.

eagle



Abidit Kadel

Town: Kangaroo Flat, Bendigo

Sponsor: City of Greater Bendigo

Community Involvement:

Passions and Pathways Program

Community Project: Bendigo Raingardens

What aspect of the 2024 LMCLP has moved you most? The aspect of the 2024 LMCLP that has moved me most is the profound emphasis on self-awareness and vulnerability as the cornerstones of effective leadership. Through each session, I was encouraged to step out of my comfort zone and engage deeply—not just with the community but with my own values, fears, and aspirations.

Now you have completed the LMCLP program year, how will you 'pay it forward'?

Completing the LMCLP program has inspired me to 'pay it forward' by actively sharing the insights and skills I've gained. My first step will be continuing the Bendigo Raingarden Project, which aims to reduce stormwater runoff and improve water quality in our local creeks. By developing this project as an educational model, I hope to encourage the community to adopt sustainable water practices and take collective responsibility for our local environment.

Additionally, I plan to volunteer as a mentor for younger professionals and students, particularly through the Passions and Pathways Program, emphasizing the importance of self-awareness, empathy, and purposeful leadership. By sharing my experiences and lessons from the LMCLP, I hope to inspire others to embrace vulnerability and connect meaningfully with their communities.

LMCLP 2024 Community Projects

Bendigo Raingardens

(Photo Supplied)
Abidit Kadel



Rochy Street Champions

(Photo Supplied)
Amanda Logie



Explore Learn Move

(Photo Supplied)
Amy Oman



Sustainable Sewing

(Photo Supplied)
Brooke Jones



For more details on the 2024 Community Projects, and to follow their progress, follow LEAD Loddon Murray on Facebook and Linked In.

Team Hawk

Reflecting on our journey as Team Hawk during LMCLP 2024 fills us with gratitude for the incredible experiences we've shared. This year has been a blend of growth, laughter, and unwavering support, brought together by four unique individuals: Joe, Tina, Fiona, and Jed.

Joe has truly been our rock. His steady presence provided comfort for all of us. Whenever we faced challenges, Joe was always there with a listening ear and

wise words. His ability to bring clarity to chaos and his calm demeanour reassured us when we needed it most. We are profoundly thankful for how Joe created an environment where we felt safe to express ourselves.

Tina, with her boundless energy and enthusiasm, added a spark to our team. Her positivity lifted our spirits during tough times and reminded us why we started this journey. Tina's passion inspired us to tackle obstacles with joy, making even the hardest tasks feel like adventures. Her laughter was a

breath of fresh air that kept us motivated.

Fiona brought a unique warmth to our group, effortlessly blending humour, and kindness. Her well-timed jokes and genuine smiles brightened our days. Fiona's big heart reminded us to prioritise connection and compassion, ensuring everyone felt included and appreciated.

The youngest in the group, Jed, brought a depth of insight from someone so young. Jed, is indeed kind, giving, gentle, insightful, and wise beyond his years. When he speaks, he speaks from the heart, you cannot help



Jed Rouse

Town: Bendigo

Sponsor: The Hugh Williamson Foundation Denis Tricks Scholarship

Community Involvement: Inglewood Football and Netball Club and Victory Church

Community Project: The Next Step

What aspects of 2024 LMCLP has moved you most? Some aspects of the 2024 LMCLP that have moved me the most are the support and encouragement towards myself from people within the program. Another aspect being that I feel that I have grown strong within myself with the awareness that I have learnt and established. I have a much greater understanding on what community is and how I can help serve. The aspect that I would say which has moved me the most is the inner work that has come into fruition. I feel much more confident within myself which enables me to be the best I can for my community. I have also been moved by seeing the growth of others within LMCLP. The environment has enabled us all to grow and mold into our best selves.

Now you have completed the LMCLP program year, how will you 'pay' it forward?

After completing LMCLP I plan on paying it forward by stepping up and serving my community. I plan to be strong within myself and take hold of the opportunities that are next. I will pay it forward by doing my best to help others with the obstacles they face. I will pay it forward by mentoring and guiding people. I will pay it forward by carrying all I have learnt within the LMCLP into everything I walk into. I plan to step up and be an advocate for people and lead them the right way. I plan to seek more leadership roles within my community and be confident within myself to stand strong so I can pay as much forward as I can. I plan on paying it forward by moving forward with others.



Fiona Lawford

Town: Gisborne

Sponsor: Gisborne and District Community Bank

Community Involvement: Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention Action Group (MRSPAG) Community.Connect. Create. Macedon Ranges.

Community Project: Community. Connect. Create.

What aspects of 2024 LMCLP has moved you most?

The most impactful aspects of the 2024 LMCLP for me has been the strong connections formed with other participants, which has also helped to build relationships within the wider community. The guest speakers have also encouraged deep reflection that has significantly strengthened my confidence in my capacity to contribute meaningfully to community work.

Now you have completed the LMCLP program year, how will you 'pay' it forward?

I plan to 'pay it forward' by continuing my volunteer work in suicide prevention, supporting those in need, and guiding other volunteers. I aim to help people develop their skills, which can empower them to assist others through their healing journey, forming a stronger supported community.



Joe Dunbar

Town: Lancefield

Sponsor: Lancefield & Romsey Community Bank

Community Involvement: Member of the Lancefield Park Recreation and Reserve Committee of Management

Community Project: Local's Night at the Lancefield Hotel

What aspect of the 2024 LMCLP has moved you most? A major shift for me has been the way I engage with community work. Throughout the retreats, I've learned the importance of starting small, focusing on my Circle of Control, and expanding my influence gradually. The Indigenous non-hierarchical structures I encountered, particularly during the Maryborough retreat, have taught me that leadership doesn't always have to be top-down. It's about fostering inclusivity, collaboration, and ensuring that every voice is heard. This approach has been crucial as I take on more roles within my community, and it's reshaping how I think about the impact I want to have.

Now you have completed the LMCLP program year, how will you 'pay it forward'?

As I move forward, I feel a renewed sense of purpose. The support network I've built within the program has been invaluable, and it's made me realize that I don't have to navigate this journey alone. I've seen firsthand how asking for help, collaborating with others, and being vulnerable are all part of effective leadership. Reflecting on this year, I'm filled with gratitude. Gratitude for the lessons learned, the personal growth, and the opportunity to be part of a community that is as committed to positive change as I am. The journey is far from over, but I feel more equipped than ever to face what lies ahead – armed with the insights, tools, and relationships I've built along the way.

but to stop and lean into his words. His path is paved for greatness as a leader.

As the year progressed, we grew not just in skill but as friends and you could even say family. We learned to communicate openly, celebrate our differences, and support one another through ups and downs. The challenges we faced deepened our connections, teaching us resilience and the importance of leaning on each other.

hawk



Tina Helm

Town: Campbells Creek

Sponsor: Mount Alexander Shire

Community Involvement: I have worked in a number of community roles in Castlemaine, including previously as Project Coordinator for suicide prevention charity HALT, and Station Manager of MAINfm. I am currently the Communications Manager for Women's Health Loddon Mallee, an organisation committed to enhancing gender equality across the region. I am also currently a volunteer host on MAINfm, and involved in various voluntary roles for grassroots groups advocating for climate, First Nations justice, and human rights.

Community Project: Meet the Candidates Mount Alexander

What aspect of the 2024 LMCLP has moved you most? The value of building relationships has been central to the program, and this has supported my growth in understanding how to foster partnerships to build momentum for community. Many of the issues facing our communities are connected, so if we can recognise our shared goals, we can find ways to collaborate and have a broader impact for people and climate. We are stronger together.

Now you have completed the LMCLP program year, how will you 'pay it forward'? Having a deeper understanding of myself and the region has enriched my ability to work effectively with community. I'm excited to continue to grow and learn and walk alongside others to ensure our region is a great place to live, work, and play.

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“Through the program, I have seen tremendous growth in myself in terms of my confidence, leadership capacity, and ability to understand myself and others.”

Brooke Jones



Team Black Swan

We come to LMCLP from almost as far across the Loddon Murray region as possible, from Kerang to Mount Macedon, Malmsbury to Rochester and Bendigo in the middle. Different locations and different community interests, each of us working in different ways in our place to achieve something positive for community and place.

From day one our connection began, and it was strengthened through jumping right in to working together as program team on retreat one in Maryborough. What a great way to really learn how we each work and importantly, how we could work together. We made a great team!

Community asset mapping visits were a highlight of the program for us. We were able to travel across the region and see through local eyes some of the

achievements and challenges of our small community. We got to know each other more, and enjoyed some good laughs along the way.

Our team message group became a first port of call for everyday communication, a real time saver, and our chats on that platform made each retreat that little more welcoming on arrival, with the Black Swan warmth in the background.



Amanda Logie

Town: Rochester

Sponsor: Gardiner Foundation

Community Involvement:

Work in Community Development in my role as Manager of Rochester Community House. Sit on various community committees.

Community Project:

Rocky Street Champions.

What aspect of the 2024 LMCLP has moved you most?

I think the ability to really be brave and allow myself to be vulnerable, to have more faith in myself and speak my mind in a space where I feel both supported and safe with the people in the room. The other participants have given me this confidence and I know that this will allow me to go onto bigger and better things.

Now you have completed the LMCLP program year, how will you 'pay it forward'?

Because I work in the community development space, I am always in a position where I am constantly thinking about community and how I can best support them. Completing the LMCLP program has given me more confidence in myself both professionally and personally, and now with a greater understanding of my values and belief in myself I will fight harder for my community, advocate and be a voice for them when they no longer have the strength.



Delwyn Riordan

Town: Long Gully

Sponsor: City of Greater Bendigo

Community Involvement:

Volunteering in many local Long Gully events and programs.

Community Project:

Friends of the Long Gully Creek

What aspect of the 2024 LMCLP has moved you most?

I have been challenged to go deeper into my values, to understand them as a point of reference for all my work in community and professionally. This has been uncomfortable and wonderful and is work that I'll continue to do through this year, the next, and into the future.

Now you have completed the LMCLP program year, how will you 'pay it forward'?

I will think about my work in community differently, I will be much more focused on what I might be able to initiate or begin, on how I might be able to bring people together to work towards a common goal. I will be more confident to reach out to others around important issues and ideas and I'll feel much more able to take the lead rather than waiting to follow.

I'm excited to begin work on my community project and to see what good work happens as a team comes together around Long Gully Creek.



Rebecca Thorpe

Town: Mount Macedon

Sponsor: CFA

Community Involvement:

Community Safety Officer Mount Macedon CFA Brigade; Board Member and HR Committee Chair Macedon Ranges Community Enterprises (Bendigo Bank Gisborne and District); President Mount Macedon Moonlighters CWA Branch; Board Member Gambling Harm Lived Experience Experts; Seeing Eye Dogs puppy raiser.

Community Project:

Supporting, Connecting and keeping us safe from Gambling Harm.

What aspect of LMCLP 2024 has moved you the most? It has to be the people for me. While I have learned so much through the many classes, talks etc, meeting this group of people is impossible to replicate outside the LMCLP. In no other way would I be able to connect with people in Swan Hill, Rochester, Kerang, in such a way. Our shared experience on this LMCLP will mean that even a decade or two down the track I would feel comfortable reaching out to a fellow LMCLPer and still have immense trust and faith in them to be able to help support our respective communities – the connections made throughout this year are that deep.

Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you 'pay it forward'? I look forward to the time when I no longer have to work in paid employment and can commit even more time to my community. I will definitely make myself available for LMCLP mentoring and any other support future program participants need to thrive. I've seen tremendous growth in some of my fellow alumni in this year and will happily recommend the LMCLP to both potential participants and funders. I think the return on investment offered is outstanding and will have impacts of a decadal scale.



Luke Wilson

Town: Drummond

Sponsor: Macedon Ranges Shire Council

Community Involvement:

Malmsbury District Landcare, Sustainable Malmsbury, Kyneton Rangers Soccer Club

What aspect of LMCLP 2024 has moved you the most?

Reflecting on my own values and my life experiences that have developed these values. This has provided clarity and self-awareness allowing me to start to understand what is driving my passion and motivation. My values continue to be shaped by my life experiences.

Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you 'pay it forward'?

I feel I'm in a better place now to use my passions in a respectful way amongst diverse views in community to generate positive change as a collective community.

We began the LMCLP as individuals, and end as a team.

rick swan



Megan Wood

Town: Kerang

Sponsor: Gannawarra Shire Council

Community Involvement: Kerang Rotary Club, Kerang Community Market

Community Project: Gannawarra Shire LMCLP Graduate Reunion

What aspects of 2024 LMCLP has moved you most?

I've been moved by all aspects of the program. The inspiring alumni who came back to share their wisdom and where life has taken them since completing the program. All the amazing speakers who taught us skills that will not only support us within our community roles but also our professional and personal lives. And most importantly the 17 other participants who shared a year of learning laughing and tears who held space for me when I was at my most vulnerable and encourage me to be all I can be.

Now you have completed the LMCLP program year, how will you 'Pay' it forward?

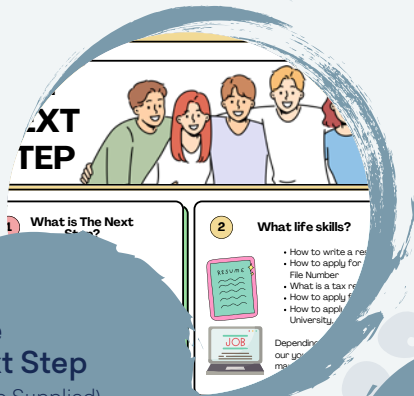
I have felt so loved and supported by not just the other participants, but everyone involved in the program. My pay it forward will be to step into my community and endeavour to emulate the connection, love and support I felt within the program in my community roles, my professional roles and my life in general.

LMCLP 2024 Community Projects

- Community Connecting to Country Strategy**
 (Photo Supplied) Luke Wilson
- Dingee Community Cinema**
 (Photo Supplied) Dan Straub
- Friends of Long Gully Creek**
 (Photo Supplied) Delwyn Riordan
- California Gully Bushland Reserve**
- Community Belonging**
- Changing Places Transforming Lives**
 (Photo Supplied) Dianne Wright

For more details on the 2024 Community Projects, and to follow their progress, follow LEAD Loddon Murray on Facebook and Linked In.

LMCLP 2024 Community Projects



The Next Step
(Photo Supplied)
Jed Rouse & Izzy Rollinson



Locals' Recipes at the Lancefield Hotel
(Photo Supplied)
Joe Dunbar



Fiery Times
(Photo Supplied)
John van Tiggelen



Community Connect Create
(Photo Supplied)
Fiona Lawford



LMCLP Reunion
(Photo Supplied)
Megan Wood



Romsey & Macedon Ranges Community
(Photo Supplied)
Rebecca Thorpe



One @ a Time
(Photo Supplied)
Solitaire Meerman



Community Powered Local Democracy
(Photo Supplied)
Tina Helm

For more details on the 2024 Community Projects, and to follow their progress, follow LEAD Loddon Murray on Facebook and Linked In.



“LMCLP has been a gift that has allowed me to grow and understand myself and others and to examine our communities with a totally different lens. My questions will now be not just “why?” but “why not, how can we, and who can help?”

Dianne Wright

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“Leadership of Self is central to effective personal and professional development. It is the foundation upon which all other leadership skills are built, as it involves cultivating self-awareness, emotional intelligence, and the ability to align one’s actions with their core values. This journey of self-leadership is not a destination but an ongoing process of reflection, growth, and adaptation. This is something I take great notice of and the skills that LEAD Loddon Murray Leadership Program have taught me are now the upmost priority.”

Dan Straub

Team Magpie

Our team consists of four people from very different walks of life. Despite our differences, we have always embraced the diversity of each member, their unique attributes, and the knowledge they bring to our team.

Although we live less than an hour apart, our communities are vastly different. It was fascinating to dive deep into each community and see the hidden workings

within. We have always accepted our individual experiences and value what it contributes to our journey within the program.

We shared so much acceptance and understanding of each other and our unique personality traits. We believe this created an inclusive and safe environment conducive to great support and success.

It has been a joy to see the growth in each other as individuals, as well as our growth as a team and we can put it down

to the willingness, kindness, and humour we shared. This mindset, along with our flexibility and adaptability to change, made working together a dream.

We have created some great friendships and hold deep respect for one another. Our support for each other will extend further than just this year.

magpie



Dan Straub

Town: Tandarra

Sponsor: Gardiner Foundation

Community Involvement: Councillor and Mayor of Loddon Shire Council

Community Project: Dingee Community Cinema

What aspect of the 2024 LMCLP has moved you most?

I have been deeply moved throughout the year by the relationships I have formed, and the insights into others and their stories that have led to the people they are today, and the attributes shown in their leadership.

Now you have completed the LMCLP program year, how will you 'pay it forward'?

It has helped concrete in my mind that I have found my place and purpose in local government and community leadership. To help others lead themselves and community, to achieve positive outcomes. I pay it forward by giving back, by encouraging, enabling and being the best, I can be for others.



Izzy Rollinson

Town: Inglewood

Sponsor: Loddon Shire Council

Community Involvement: Inglewood Football Netball Club

Community Project: The Next Step

What aspect of LMCLP 2024 has moved you the most?

The different backgrounds and experiences that everyone brings to LMCLP was wonderful. Everyone has such an interesting and empowering backstory. It was great to hear what drove people to join LMCLP and what change they would like to make in their communities. LMCLP was also a very confronting experience and it felt amazing to be surrounded with support from these amazing people. It was great to build these connections and was overall a huge learning experience.

Now that you have completed LMCLP, how will you 'pay it forward'?

I will take what I have learned back to my community and put these skills to use as a coach in the 2025 season. I am looking forward to developing my community project in 2025 and seeing what I can offer to my community through this. I will also encourage other young people from my community to step up and participate in LMCLP as it has been so rewarding to take part.



Brooke Jones

Town: Huntly

Sponsor: Agnico Eagle Fosterville

Community Involvement: Huntly Community Hub

Community Project: Sustainable Sewing Initiative

What aspects of 2024 LMCLP has moved you most?

The atmosphere of honest, open vulnerability has had a life changing effect on me. This environment facilitated the development of deep and lasting bonds. Each LMCLP 2024 participant has been an inspiration to me and I hold each of them in my heart.

Now you have completed the LMCLP program year, how will you 'pay' it forward?

I have learnt the effect that can be made by creating the right environment. I will ensure that within all activities I am involved in I will embed the methods and practices I have learnt within this program to create inclusive, encouraging, and enriching environments. I hope to continue my involvement in the LMCLP as a volunteer whenever an opportunity arises, as I truly believe in the wide-reaching positive effect that comes from this program.



Solitaire Meerman

Town: Junortoun

Sponsor: City of Greater Bendigo

Community Involvement: Board Chair Volunteer, Fundraising events, mental health advocacy, family violence advocacy, Mentoring.

Community Project: One @ A Time.

What aspect of the 2024 LMCLP has moved you most?

The workshops, sessions, visits and conversation gifted me a deeper understanding of myself in terms of how I can be effective in my community. By actively forming relationships with my fellow participants and gaining insight into their communities and stories, I could use it to take clearer perspective. Self-development is an emotional process, as much as a cognitive one and this reality settled on me in an especially meaningful way.

Now you have completed the LMCLP program year, how will you 'pay it forward'?

I will think about my intentions fully before committing to different pieces of community work. I want to ensure that I am values driven, and that I understand the values of the community or group that I work with and can be genuinely engaged and valuable to them. I will also seek out opportunities where I can align my new skills in leadership and apply these to best serve my community.

Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program Graduates 1998-2024

1998

Steve Baker
Susan Bennett
Pennie Blum Gill
Colleen Condliffe
John Daniel
Andrea Davies
Brendon Goddard
Jamie Hall
Jo Haw
Bill Heslop
Yvonne Jennings
Jenny Kelly
Lorri Lambert
Kate Lottkowitz
Paul Madden
Reid Mather
Wendy McAllister
Kerryn McClelland
Margaret Nelson
Joanne Postlethwaite
Ian Potter
Deidre Schlitz
Thelma Shearer

1999

Hank Brugar
Di Bunnett
Anne Canfield
Helen Chambers
Jan Consedine
Mark Dawson
Karen Douglas
Kym Dunbar
Deanne Free
Paul Gill
Margot Henty
Shirley Hope
Steve Hounsell
Barry Jennings
Anne Kelly
Peter Kulich
Judi Miles
Marilyne Nicholls
Sue Pretty
Lyn Seton-Stewart
Kevin Sinclair
Tom Smith
Jean Sutherland
Beth Taylor
Bing Thomas
Louise Thomas
Rohan Ward
Claire Waters

2000

Judy Blackburn

Greg Boyd
Peter Byrne-Vereker
Doug Fehring
Kerry Gammon
Wendy Hersey
Gaby Hogg
Brian Kelly
Judy McQueen
Peter Mitchell
Andrew Pearson
Toni Parsons
Sally Rice
Glenn Stanmore
Wayne Stephen
Cecily Thomas
Suellen Tomamichel
Andrew Ward
Shayne Ward
Peter Watson

2001

Hodi Beauliv
Richard Chirside
Kelly Dal Broi
Michael Davidson
John Fickenlan
Gillingham
Roger Griffiths
Mark Gronow
Cathie Haw
Richard Hicks
Andrea Hollier
Brett Lynn
Katherine MacDonald
Phillip Maher
Kim Natale
Bev Nethercote
Marjory Nicholls
Margaret Piccoli
Chrissy Reeves
Alistair Ward
Ellen White

2002

John Barber
Paul Cale
Ted Carmody
Karinda Cattlin
Donna Collier
Peter Daley
Zoe Davies
Mary Evans
Alison Farrar
Jamie Kendrick
Roger Laubsch
Kurt Major
Scott Matthews

Kerrie McDonald
Kirsty Morieson
Kelly Mulligan
Belinda Pritchard
Sandra Stewart
Owen Wilson

2003

Pamela Barber
Deirdre Broad
Donna Campbell
Paige Campbell
Heather Chamberlain
David Connor
Gary Curtis
Tanya Daley
Lisa Gervasoni
Russell Gillingham
Cathie Hooke
Sue Lea
Stephen Mahon
Elaine Medlin
Glenn Pomeroy
Jackie Ritchie
Julie Slater
Neville Stewart
Martin Szakal

2004

Laura Chant
Barbara Crljen
Andrea Delaney
Amy Derksen
Gayleen Dunstan
Steve Ford
Rohan Gale
Catherine Goldwater
Jan Graham
Ian Gumley
Meggs Hannes-Paterson
Rachel Hardinge
Selvi Kannan
Paul Kendall
Michael Lamprell
Sandii Lewis
Heather McNaught
Rhonda McNeil
Andrea Milikins
Malcolm Perris
Chris Pollock
Lindsay Rogers
Cherie Stacey
Kelly Stringer
Jeannie Wagner

2005

Oscar Aertssen
Iain Aitken

Judy Blundell
Heather Cohalan
Joanne Duffy
Mary-Anne Duke
Kellie Grattidge
Ruth Green
Peter Kennedy
Anne Morgan
John Nightingale
Marie Pirkebner
Jacqui Randazzo
Melanie Roberts
Tara Smith
Jeremy Swift
Kate Toll
Sandra Tomamichel
John White
Lynne Williamson

2006

Peter Bassett
Susi Baumgartner
Marigold Blackwood
Steve Curry
Kristen Dennis
Tracey Farrell
Tyson Fehring
James Goldsmith
Garry Holmes
Marlene Jeffrey
Anthony Judd
Doug Lobleby
Bronwen Machin
Sue Mahon
Pam McCavour
Rita Revell
Annmarie Rosengren
Sarah Sammon
Mary Sdraulig
Robyn Vanrenen

2007

Jock Allan
Rhiannon Anderson
Anna Arkoudis
Duane Attree
Bernadette Campbell
Chris Carey
Trevor Collins
Linda Dillon
Jillian Gibson
Leanne Grogan
Jane Gustus-Callanan
Maurice Hawkins
James Maxwell
Lucy Mayes
Hilary McIntosh

Brad McQueen
Donna Petrusma
Kirsty Quick
Gillian Ryan
Mary-Ann Scull
Anthony Sheean

2008

Dominic Baxter
Ruth Bumpstead
Christopher Cahill
Ron Cawthan
Alan Chamings
Kellie Doering
Maree Farley
Isabelle Gay
Kerri Hamilton
Matthew Hawken
Nicole Hayes
Sarah Mayne
Michelle McLachlan
Simone Murdoch
Kevin Orr
Vanessa Pett
Brendan Pickles
Linda Quinton
James Reade
Melisa Sincock
Sheri Streilein
Mark Synot
Michael Toman
Briana Trimble
Anne Wiseman

2009

Rod Allen
Kerry Anderson
Leeza Axton
Stephanie Borden
Brent Bruns
Warrick Clarke
Renee Davison
Lee Duffin
Anthony Dunster-Jones
Sharlene Gerke
Paul Henderson
Jadyn Hoskin
Glynn Jarrett
Aleta Kilner
Karl Meulendijks
Suzanne Osman
Jillian Pink
Kurt Poltrock
Julie Ruddle
Trudi Selleck
Kristin Steers
Susan Stewart

Michele Totterdell
Kate Whitecross

2010

David Barker
Louise Bewley
Suzanne Blume
Tricia Brennan
Jacqueline Brodie-Hans
Kristen Dyer
Michael Fitzgibbon
Sharon Fullex
Suzanne Grimes
Kim Hanlon
Brent Heitbaum
Jacinta Hicks
Sam Luxemburg
Melinda Mann
Scott McLarty
Sue McLean
Rachel Paterson
Lacey Quinn
Alice Saville
David Vivian

2011

Abhishek Awasthi
Helen Bramley-Jackson
Alison Couston
Randal Dell -Spector
Rose Harris
Anthea Jones
Wendy McCormick
Alan McFarlane
Cheryl McKinnon
Murray McLean
Vanessa McLeod
Deborah Micallef
Megan Purcell
Christine Rourke
Marita Saville
Tania Sherwood
David Silvagni
Katrina Thorne
Daan Van Dorenmalen
Tracey Wolsley

2012

Roslyn Affleck
Steph Ash
Max Bickford
Marg Boers
Kate Booth
Di Bowles
Tracey Clifford
Cecilia Connellan
Noemi Cummings
Pearl Fernandes
Sue Gerdson
Lisa Gormley
Ash Harris
Sam Hawkins
Judith Henschke-Reid
Megan Kreutzer

Leonie Lomax
Jill Loorham
Tracy McLoughlan
Elaine Murphy
Peter Noble
Donna Salathiel
Paulette Vargas
Jan Webster

2013

Ardavan Abedian
Sue Allengame
Kyra Bethell
John Boyd
Peter Church
Anna de Vrieze
Karin Flynn
Desiree Gardiner
Jan Harper
Bernadette Holland-Cozens
June Hopley
Maree Hughes
Kerry Meiers
Melanie Newell
Janet Pearce
David Pollard
Sharon Scott
Craig Segat
Jay Smith
Wendy Turley
Andrew Whatley
Douglas Wood
Yvonne Wigglesworth

2014

Chloe Armstrong
Emma Bridger
Glenys Broad
Kristi Collier
Boston Curry
Trina Dalton-Oogjes
Anita Dickons
Shane Grenfell
Amanda Gretgrix
Kanishka Guluwita
Elaine Hamilton
Angela Hird
Mary Hogarth
Travis Inmon
Brenton Johnson
Shandel Keele
Caitlin Matthews
Stuart McGibbon
Julie McLaren
Paolo Righetti
Kim Skyring
Prue Southey
Merrilyn Thompson
Leanne Willis

2015

Danielle Couch
Shelley Cowen

Stephen Dickons
Kerri Douglas
Mick Dunne
Luke Edgerton
David Heath
Anette Kortenhuis
Daniel Kreutzer
Melissa Neal
Mandy Olszewski
Tim Robinson
Jill Scanlon
Colleen Scriven
Jason Smith
Tanya Smith
Luke Spielvogel
Andrew Telfer
Leonie Wright

2016

Tracey Bowen
Tamara Boyd
Fiona Bradshaw
Steve Carroll
Karen Carpenter
Lisa Cox
Sharlene Crage
Meg Doller
Tessa Harris
Jason Hensley
Timothy Hoogwerf
Chris Jeffery
Cheryl Kemp
Paul Kooperman
Peter Lilly
Jenny Lonergan
Stewart Luckman
Kate McInnes
Alana Newbold
James O'Bryen
Katherine Petrusma
Kristy Pilgrim
Ric Raftis
Rebecca Sexton
Emma Shannon
Cathy Spencer
Baydon Widdicombe

2017

Moustafa Al-Rawi
Charlotte Aves
Dawn Bamforth
Wayne Bell
Matthew Bennett
Brendan Cossens
Jan Farrell
Donna Fearne
Joshua Greene
Djallarna Hamilton
Tayla Hansen
Jennifer Hurrell
Lynette Kelson
Tessa Laing
Marilyn Lozada-Fernandez

Narelle Lyle
Adam Mckie
Natasha Miles
Wendy Murphy
Sarah O'Brien
Aileen O'Sullivan
Rajiv Patney
Travis Price
Lauren Randle
Nicki Renfrey
Angela Roney
Louise Scott
Jac Torres-Gomez

2018

Claire Billing
Phillip Brien
Nathalie Brown
Veronica Budnikas
Paula Collard
Shanelle Crole
Charmaine Delaney
Indivar Dhakal
Justin Di Caprio
Emma Dotollo
Lara English
Justine Farley
Samantha Ferrier
Barry Floyd
Kathryn Hall
Jude Hannah
Bronwen Haywood
Samantha Hilliard
Linda Lynch
Fiona Machin
Sarah Matthee
Rebecca McHutchison
Jackie Nieuwenhuizen
Genevive Policarpio
Natasha Romas
Carli Springate
Tracey Strachan
Amy Treacy

2019

Christine Barker
Sarah Broad
Patrick Fagan
Simon Furness
Jordi Gradon
Kyle Hayes
Suzanne Hughes
Eddie Lob
Jess Kelly
Jodie Lyons
Rebecca Maskell
Caleb Maxwell
Shonelle McEvoy
Adrian McMahan
Andrea Otto
Jan Pagliaro
Robyn Parker
Daniel Rees
Leon Stackpole

Meghan Stewart
Jenny Stillman
Lauren Swann
Sei Sei Mu Thein
Brett Thompson

2020

Sonya Browne
Pam Dawkins
Chris Dent
Harrison Godfrey
Sarah Haney
Nicky Haslinghouse
Joseph Holloway
Suzie Jacobs
Alison Jones
Hayden McKinnon
Jesse Munzel
Carly Noble
Helen O'Donoghue
Vanessa Parker
Nathan Rogers
Annie Tu
Helen Watkins
Rory White
Kerryn Wildenburg
Wade Williams
Jane Worthington

2021

Alice Rowbottom
Alison Stewart
Andrew Smyth
Annette Constable
Brittany Bickford
Callum Wright
Cassandra Lewis
Libby Semmens
Felicity Grosse
George Filev
Hannah Cook
Jess Liston
Jon Haw
Krista Patterson-Majoor
Madelaine Scott
Matt Gromadzki
Mihaela Kovacic
Natalie Eckert
Nicole Conway
Paul Harrison
Rebecca Postlethwaite
Suzi Birthisel
Tahli Corin
Tarryn Smith
Windsor Main

2022

Andrea Boudville
Austin Smith
Cassy Borthwick
Chris Epworth
Cindy Gould
Ellyse Roper
Isaac Newstead

Isis Jordan
 Kim Cornford
 Liesbeth Long
 Nicholas Mudge
 Samara Hodson
 Scott Bourne
 Vin Jarrod
 Monica Brereton
 Kate Tripodi
 Tom Whiteman
 Rebecca Wyper
 Tiffany Inglis



2023

Abbey Brown
 Caitlin Dinning
 Brenda Addie
 Melanie Jorgensen
 Josh Kelly
 Joe Deane
 Tim Birthisel
 Kerry Hanrahan
 Dolores Anderson
 Luxman Dua
 Georgia de Salis
 Paul van der Wal
 Will Sanson
 Judith Wakeham
 Wade Northausen
 Nadia Bish
 Suzi Taig
 Michelle Balthazar
 Nick Marlow
 Shae Dixon
 Kellie Harvey



“
 LMCLP has been a wonderfully nurturing experience for me. Had you told me at the start of the program that I was going to say something as corny as that, I'd have scoffed quietly. But it's true. I am deeply grateful for having been invited to be part of this motley but, to a person, beautiful group of participants. For all of the excellent leadership sessions at the five retreats, ultimately the program's greatest gift was the safety and guidance it provided for people to dare to be vulnerable.
 John van Tiggelen

2024

Delwyn Riordan
 Solitaire Meerman
 Brooke Jones
 Abidit Kadel
 John van Tiggelen
 Luke Wilson
 Joe Dunbar
 Fiona Lawford
 Megan Wood
 Dianne Wright
 Rebecca Thorpe
 Amanda Logie
 Jed Rouse
 Dan Straub
 Izzy Rollinson
 Tina Helm
 Amy Oman





“LMCLP has given me a welcome re-introduction to my community roots and community learning. It has re-awakened my passion for community engagement and development and helped to bring my leadership style and skills to the fore. I feel it has helped me augment and articulate who I am in the community context.”

Solitaire Meerman

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Scholarship Partners



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Australian
Rural Leadership
Foundation