

CoRE: Equality for All Equality Advocates Bio

| Name | Location | Lived Experience | Interest in becoming an Equality Advocate |
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| Jenny Beales | Ararat | Older woman with a professional background in teaching, outdoor education, politics, local government, community health and small business. | Jenny has lived to see the role of women change (often for the better) over many years, but is also saddened that too many women are still traumatised by violence and often have very few options, in particular older women. |
| Ripsina Chatterjee | Ballarat | Skilled migrant, family violence and culture. | Ripsina is passionate and interested in gender equality for all women and enjoys speaking about her experiences to inspire change within the community. |
| Bernadette O'Shannessy | Horsham | Older woman living with a disability. | As a woman with a disability Bernie has spent a life time advocating for an even playing field and becoming an Equality Advocate seemed like the next logical step. |
| Kirsten Holden | Ballarat | LGBTIQA+ and living with a disability. | Kirsten grew up in Stawell and Greens Creek in the Out of Home Care System and became an Equality Advocate to create systemic change. Kirsten would love to make sure that no one else has to live through the experiences she has. She is also passionate about making a difference for women of all minorities and changing the way people think when it comes to unconscious bias. She would love to see change and is hoping to play a part in that. |
| Michelle Dunn | Ballarat | LGBTIQA+ | Michelle has seen inequality in all shapes and forms and feels the need to share these stories. As a young person growing up she didn't see any images that reflected who she was, as a girl who didn't fit the stereotype of how girls dressed, what they liked doing and who it was ok to love. As she moved into a professional career as a photographer and videographer, she also saw so many occasions where organisations were perpetuating gender stereotypes, or just missing opportunities to challenge gender roles and create images and tell |

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| | | | <p>stories that had the potential to make change. Michelle now feels grateful to be in the position to be able to help guide organisations to create and use images differently and hopes young girls growing up today have the opportunity to see images that reflect them; however they choose to express themselves and live their lives.</p> |
| Joy Juma | Ballarat | Skilled Migrant. African, Woman, Language, Religious Orientation and Financial Abuse. | <p>Joy as a skilled migrant has faced challenges in her work place and would like to be a voice of change for new and present migrants to be part of a greater change and to be an acting bystander. Joy enjoys working with refugee women as she sees a lot of talent and I would love to be able to encourage employers to be more accommodating.</p> <p>Joy would like to continue to spread the word on intersectionality as this is where most of us sit and would like for all women to know they have what it takes to change things regardless of their situation.</p> |
| Biny George | Horsham | Skilled migrant | <p>As a woman and a migrant Biny is passionate about using her own lived experiences in her advocacy role to raise more awareness of cultural diversity within the community, allowing everyone to feel included.</p> |
| Catherine Macharia | Ballarat | Skilled Migrant | <p>Kathy wants to be an active advocate on issues around inequality by promoting equity in all areas affecting women and the minority groups such as domestic relationships, work place, health care and accommodation, just to mention a few.</p> |
| Shannon Secombe | Horsham | Wotjobaluk/Gunditjmara Aboriginal Women and LGBTIQ+ | <p>Shannon is passionate about planting the seeds that create meaningful change for equality professionally, personally and through being an equality advocate. Whether it's one person's mind set or a collective.</p> |
| Kate Mutch | Horsham | Woman living with a disability. | <p>Katie became an Equality Advocate because she enjoys helping other people and making a difference.</p> |