



Ms Melissa Griffiths

12th of August 2017

Dear Melissa,

Thank you for presenting and for implementing the session “*Effective Advocacy*” for the participants of the Alpine Valleys Community Leadership Program, as part of their Melbourne Study Tour, Monday the 4th of September 2017.

At the end of each session the participants are asked to provide feedback, and from their comments I take the following quotes:

- Melissa was very clear with her leadership tips. Her personal experiences provided context for her messages.
- A very inspirational and informative presentation. Melissa is a great inclusion in the AVCLP package that provides learnings across many areas.
- I admire that Melissa is stepping out of her comfort zone because she knows the contribution she can make.
- It was fantastic to have a diverse speaker who spoke openly about their leadership journey.
- Melissa provided fantastic insight into advocacy and how to make a change.
- Melissa was a great speaker. I would like more information on how we can make a positive influence in our communities.
- Melissa appears relatively new to public speaking. I think she will develop a dynamic ability to present as a motivational speaker.
- Melissa was a great example of how personal growth through adversity can lead to taking on the role of a leader.
- A very inspiring woman. I really enjoyed Melissa’s story and hearing about the challenges she faced and how she overcome them. Thank you for sharing.
- It was wonderful to have exposure to this topic, to receive tips for positive advocacy and leadership from a place of challenge.
- Melissa was very inspirational. She shared excellent skills and knowledge in being a leader and provided an excellent discussion regarding being an effective advocate in the community.

As a not for profit community program AVCLP needs the support of community leaders to implement its program, and we appreciate the effort you made on our behalf. Thanks for taking the time to share your expertise with us, and I look forward to working with you again during future programs.

Yours Sincerely,

Karlie Langdon

AVCLP Program Coordinator

“Melissa was an engaging speaker who shared her experience of transitioning so that we had the opportunity to step into her world and learn about the challenges, lessons and achievements along the way.”

Juliana De Marco

Director/Clinical Psychologist

Healing Minds Psychology

“Melissa has been a guest speaker for Brace on two occasions speaking to Certificate IV in Mental Health and a Certificate IV in Alcohol and Other Drugs. Brace students reported being most impressed with her transparency and information volunteered in relation to the ‘transitioning’ process. Students and Staff also commented on Melissa’s insight into her own journey and were humbled by her determination to educate her community. “

Debra-Lee Wilkinson-Reed

Trainer and Assessor | Training Services

BRACE Education & Training

“Melissa is a (sic) inspiring speaker who shared her story and raw experiences to help us better understand the challenges for transgender people. Her story was honest, moving, powerful, and at times sad; but ultimately uplifting. A great resources (sic) for leaders or anyone who wants to create a more inclusive workplace.”

Brian Westley

Regional Director Northern, VicRoads
