



MBEN.

Multicultural Business & Entrepreneur Network

MBEN CONFERENCE 2024

Unleash Business Potential

Speakers & Presenters

Sponsors



MBEN 2024 CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Date: 8th October 2024

Time: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Location: Hilton Adelaide

08:00

Conference Registration and Networking

09:00

MC Welcome

Dr. Desiree Beekharry – Desiree Beekharry Coaching

09:10

Welcome to Country
Robert Taylor



09:15

MBEN Opening Remark

Ethel Osazuwa – Chairperson, Multicultural Business and Entrepreneur Network

09:20

Opening Address

Joe Szakacs MP – Minister for Trade and Investment

09:30

Keynote Address – Unleash Business Potential

Shaun Westcott – CEO and Executive Director, Mitsubishi Motors Australia

09:45

MBEN Special Membership Launch

Sunita Miranda – Director, Cornerstone Alliance

09:55

An Economic Update on the Most Beautiful City in the World

Jordon Tomopoulos – Economics Research Advisor, Adelaide Economic Development Agency (AEDA)

10:15

Panel Discussion – Scaling Startups: From Idea to Unicorn

Facilitator: Benjemen Elengovan – CEO and Founder, MyGigsters

Sam Donato – Director, Auctus Training and Education

Navtej Bal – CEO, Ironwood Institute

Pouya Farbod – CEO, Tibii Disability Support Services

10:45

Morning Tea

Sponsor: Adelaide Economic Development Agency



11:00

Panel Discussion – Import and Export Business Connections

Facilitator: Michael Blake – Livestock GeneTEch

Andrew Kay – Chief Executive, South Australian Business Chamber

Eduardo Donoso – Director, D&S Resources

Joseph John – Senior Economic Development Advisor, City of Salisbury

Eliza Ferguson – TradeStart Adviser, Department for Trade and Investment

11:45

Migrant Businesses in Regional Australia

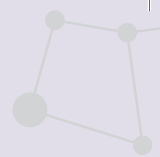
Dr. Xin Deng – Senior Lecturer, University of South Australia

12:05

Lunch

Sponsor: Auctus Training Institute





1:00 **Business and Wellness**
Silvana Forlini – Silvana Forlini Counselling and Hypnotherapy

1:25 **Panel Discussion – Women with Impact**
Facilitator: Marissa Hankinson – Wavebreaker Productions
Nicole Gollan – Founder and Director, Nik & Co Consultancy
Mirsia Bunjaku – Chief Executive, Australian Migrant Resource Centre
Roann Junio-Hartmann – Founder, Cobber Technologies
Zita Ngor – Consultant Principal, Taylor Rose Australia
(Sponsor: Desiree Beekharry Coaching)

2:25 **The Role of Corporate Social Responsibility in Business Success**
Freddie Brincat – Chief Executive, Community Bridging Services (CBS)

2:40 **Panel Discussion – Understanding Governance, Risk & Compliance and Overcoming Business Challenges**
Facilitator: Jo Bell – Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand
Lisa Cook – Founder, Get on Board Australia
Narayan Ramchandani – NDIS Auditor and Director, Cornerstone Alliance
Raj Singh – Director, Promere Consultancy

2:40 **Workshop – The Entrepreneur’s Edge: Harnessing Personal Leadership for Growth and Success** (Balcony 1)
Sarah Howell – Founder, Define Success Coaching

3:10 **Afternoon Tea**
Sponsor: South Australian Business Chamber



3:40 **Draw and Activity**

3:50 **Inclusion and Access**
Jessie Smith – Project Officer Tourism Local Navigator, Purple Orange

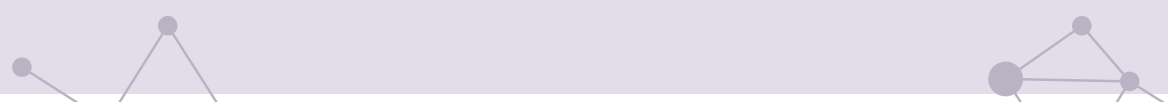
4:05 **Workshop – Personal Branding and How to Increase Your Visibility**
Amy Springhall – Founder, The Visibility Project

4:25 **Panel Discussion – Young Trailblazers in Business**
Facilitator: David Chikwuba – Mentoring, Coaching, and Counselling
Chelsea Marchetti – Director, Flipper Academy
Amelia Griffin – Director, My Mind Matters Therapy
Mitchell Matemayi – Founder, CommShare and Co-Director, McQuel Healthcare
Kylan Beech – Founder, Coast to Coast Communication
(Sponsor: InterHealth Services)

4:55 **What’s Next? and Conference Closing Remarks**
Ethel Osazuwa – Chairperson, MBEN



5:00 **Networking** – All





Host

Dr Desiree Beekharry

Manage the Conflict and Desiree Beekharry Coaching
Founder

Dr Beekharry is an Educator, Facilitator, Speaker, Coach and Certified Profiler. Through her Masterclasses, Dr Beekharry empowers businesses to understand conflicts as a growth of a business and needs to be embraced. The difference between unmanaged and managed conflicts is that it impacts the growth of the company negatively or positively. Through her coaching, Dr Beekharry empowers individuals to return to the workforce. It is vital for organisations to protect their workforce from psychosocial hazards, empower an inclusive and diverse workforce and retain their top talent.



Welcome to Country

Robert Taylor

Senior Kaurna Man and Cultural Custodian
Cultural Custodian

Robert Taylor, a Senior Kaurna, Ngarrindjeri, Narungga, and Nganguraku man, has spent his life deeply engaged in the preservation and sharing of his cultural heritage. Beginning his journey at the age of 8 by learning the didgeridoo, Robert expanded his cultural practice to dance by age 11 and has since become a prominent cultural ambassador. His work spans over 15 years across three communities, with performances both nationally and internationally, including notable events for Prince William, Kate Middleton, the Dalai Lama, and South Australian leadership. He aims to honour the footsteps of his ancestors through a spiritual and physical connection to the land, inspiring future generations to protect and understand their cultural heritage. By carrying and sharing knowledge through music, dance, and education, Robert continues to bridge the past with the future, fostering a greater appreciation for Indigenous culture.



Opening Remark

Ethel Osazuwa

Multicultural Business and Entrepreneur Network
Chairperson

Ethel is a Business Executive at Possible Consulting and Public Health Researcher at Torrens University. As the Deputy Chair of the Council of Migrant and Refugee Women of SA, Ethel is deeply passionate about gender equity, empowering young people, women, and the successful integration of new arrivals. With 17+ years of service delivery, Ethel brings her rich background in psychology and public health to advance the wellbeing of individuals from multicultural backgrounds. Her areas of expertise span across workplace diversity and inclusion, new arrival settlement, sustainable human capital development, and wellbeing.



Opening Address

Joe Szakacs

Member of Parliament, Government of South Australia
Minister for Trade and Investment

The Minister is an admitted legal practitioner of the Supreme Court of South Australia and was elected as Secretary of SA Unions, the peak body for trade unions in South Australia. The Minister has held national positions with the Australian Council of Trade Unions including the National Executive and National Growth and Campaigns Committee. He was a member of the Board of Directors of Statewide Super holding various positions including Chairman of the Remuneration and Nomination Committee, and a member of the Investment Committee. The Minister also held director roles on the boards of the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission and Return to Work SA.



Keynote Address

Shaun Westcott

Mitsubishi Motors Australia Ltd.

Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director

Originally from South Africa, Shaun has lived and worked in several countries around the world. He has had extensive experience in a wide range of industries, including Mining, FMCG, Manufacturing, Renewable Energy, Education, Forestry, Agriculture, Robotics, Automation, Packaging, Processing and Automotive. Shaun has an MBA from the University of South Africa, has attended Senior Executive Programmes at Harvard and Oxford Universities, and is a graduate and member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He is also the Deputy Chairman of the Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries in Australia and Chairman of the Industry Leaders Scholars Network. Shaun is ambitious to grow not only Mitsubishi Motors Australia but also to help develop the state as a thriving community and promote South Australia as a great place to do business.



Speaker

Sunita Miranda

Cornerstone Alliance and easyread.tech

Director and Founder

With over 20 years of experience in Communications, Media and Marketing, Sunita has worked in a variety of sectors, with her favourite being Human Services, specifically disability, multicultural and the community sector. Specialising in these areas has meant that Sunita and her team have developed creative campaigns communicating important public messaging and executed these at a federal level. Sunita is passionate about diversity, inclusion and access, and tries to improve on these outcomes through each of the service deliverables that she is charged with. Sunita's journey saw her arrive in South Australia with her husband two decades ago, and over the years, she's established herself nationally as a business leader within multicultural and disability communications.



Speaker

Jordon Tomopoulos

Adelaide Economic Development Agency
Advisor, Economic Research

Jordon monitors Adelaide city's economy and provides insight into an array of focus areas to support the evaluation of initiatives and inform strategic decisions at Adelaide Economic Development Agency (AEDA). Using his tertiary qualifications in economics and background in market research, Jordon can use both quantitative and qualitative research to analyse data and provide meaning to economic trends. Research is being conducted on spending and foot-traffic behaviour, population trends and residential demographics, and changes in commercial occupancy rates for office buildings, main streets and accommodation in the city. Please contact Jordon if your business or organisation requires information regarding aspects of the city's economy.



Panellist

Sam Donato

Auctus Training Institute
Chief Executive Officer

Sam has 35+ years' experience in leadership and management. As the chief executive of Auctus, Sam utilises his extensive knowledge of business to help people grow professionally and personally by helping them to respond positively to the challenges of today's workforce. Challenges over the years, both personal and professional, has helped Sam develop resilience about life and a "can do" attitude to push hard and keep going when faced with adversity. Sam has held many board positions including Vice Chair for the National Self Employment Association (NSEA). As the leader of Auctus, Sam has helped 1000+ startup businesses in the last 15 years through training, mentoring, and coaching. His vision is to "empower people and organisations to grow no matter where they come from".



Panellist

Navtej Bal

Ironwood Institute

Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director

Navtej is a dynamic and focused individual who believes in “impossible is nothing”. Navtej brings on board his personal success story as an international student from India who arrived in Australia 20 years ago. An IT graduate turned into a successful Edupreneur and established a unique University College by the name of Ironwood Institute to deliver agriculture and horticulture courses to domestic and international students in Adelaide. Navtej is the first person representing vocational international education in Australia to receive an Industry Future Leaders award from the Premier of South Australia. Navtej is a State Committee member of Independent Tertiary Education Council of Australia (ITECA), and also a board member of Nursery and Garden Industry of South Australia, Northern Adelaide Plains Food Cluster, and Protected Cropping Australia.



Panellist

Pouya Farbod

Tibii Disability Support Services

Chief Executive Officer

Pouya Farbod is a visionary Founder and Chief Executive of six diverse social enterprises, spanning from human health and care to IT and tech. His ventures include Tibii, a pioneering disability service provider; Youbeeu, a unique social media platform; AI CORE CRM; and B HART, an organisation dedicated to human rights training and accreditation, among others. With a background in international business and as a seasoned behaviour practitioner, Pouya’s multifaceted career path laid the groundwork for his innovative entrepreneurial pursuits. His academic journey at Flinders University, where he completed a Masters in Disability Policy and Practice, ignited his commitment to integrating human rights models into management and leadership. Pouya’s leadership is marked by a dedication to fostering inclusive environments that respect and uphold the dignity of all individuals, making a significant impact across sectors.



Facilitator

Benjemen Elengovan

MyGigsters

Chief Executive and Founder

An international student turned entrepreneur, founded his first startup, Noah's Ark, at 19, a medical tourism company. After earning a degree in Biomedical Engineering, he worked as a management consultant across the UAE, U.S., India, and Australia. In 2015, Benjemen moved to Australia to pursue postgraduate studies while working various gig jobs. By 2017, he had successfully built multiple startups in Australia and India. Currently, he is the CEO and Founder of MyGigsters, a financial services platform for gig workers, backed by LaunchVic and the Department of Innovation and Skills South Australia. Benjemen received the Entrepreneur of the Year 2022 award from CBA's Young Hero Awards and was named in South Australia's 40 Under 40, winning the Emerging Industries Award. He also runs Megamind Creations, a software development company, and is an angel investor, actively supporting the startup ecosystem.



Panellist

Andrew Kay

South Australian Business Chamber

Chief Executive Officer

Andrew Kay is the CEO of the South Australian Business Chamber, the SA Chamber of Commerce and Industry. He has worked with large multi-national corporations, small family businesses and everything in-between, across the financial services, FMCG and wine sectors both here and overseas and believes South Australia is one of the best places in the world to do business. Andrew has a Bachelor of Business degree, an MBA in International Business and in 2014 spent time at Harvard Business School, so it is fitting that he finds himself working with SA businesses to remove complexity and create opportunity.

Andrew has also had significant experience as a board member in the private sector and with State and Federal Government agencies. He currently sits on the Board of the Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium where he is also Chair of the Foundation; is a member of SA Leaders for Gender Equity and was recently appointed to the Board of Wine Australia.



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from which
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Who We Are

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Individual Support (Ageing & Disability)

Self-Employment Assistance

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Work Health & Safety

Community Services



Panellist

Eduardo Donoso

D&S Resources
Executive Director

Eduardo has 30+ years' experience as an Engineer in Heavy Engineering, Mining, Defence and Maintenance Service industries across Australasian markets – China, Hong Kong, Singapore and the Pacific Rim. With commercial and technical expertise in the global mining sector, Eduardo has the ability to communicate and build relationships at all levels from SME's and large organisations through to governments and their related entities. Eduardo's previous directorships include Louminco, Whyalla Fabrications, E&A Contractors, Heavymech, ILS (Hong Kong), and ACM. Eduardo has held several board positions such as President of the Australia-Chile Chamber of Commerce and Member of the Advisory Committee to the Industry Capability Network of SA. He was also a Senior Executive within the EAL Limited Group, a publicly listed entity (ASX) since 2007.



Panellist

Joseph John

Senior Economic Development Advisor
City of Salisbury, South Australia

Joseph spent a decade in the private sector working with organisations such as GE, Goldman Sachs, and Hutchinson Whampoa. He is also a failed entrepreneur 2x. His economic development journey began in 2013, facilitating bilateral trade across sectors, in the India – United Kingdom Corridor. He worked in multiple sectors as Trade and investment advisor at the British High Commission in India. Joseph helped multiple UK businesses find markets in India. Joseph has been recognised for facilitating the maiden visit of the Indian Prime Minister, Mr Narendra Modi to the UK in 2015. Joseph speaks 5 languages and is well connected to trade organisations, state governments, federal and academia. Joseph sits on several boards and continues to be in the economic development fraternity through his role as a Senior Economic Development Advisor at the City of Salisbury, South Australia.



Panellist

Eliza Ferguson

South Australian Department of State
Development Export Adviser – Tradestart

Eliza joined the South Australian Department of State Development in October 2020 as a part of the export advisory team, delivering the Austrade TradeStart program in SA. Eliza has over 15 years of experience in export and holds a Master of International Trade and Development. Eliza assists businesses by developing their export skills and knowledge, providing access to market information by utilising the Austrade and SA state government network, identifying new trade opportunities and addressing in-market issues. Eliza's region is Adelaide North metro, Port Adelaide and Northern Adelaide Plains. These regions support a diverse range of industry sectors including horticulture, seafood, wine, food and beverage, food processing, defence, medical, manufacturing, engineering, beauty and cosmetics and services. Eliza's specialisation includes food and beverage exports (pathways and accreditations), international marketing, and market and consumer research.



Facilitator

Michael Blake

Livestock GeneTEX
Director

Michael Blake, Director of Livestock GeneTEX, is a seasoned leader in the Agribusiness sector, with deep expertise in global, national, and domestic markets. Throughout his career, Michael has driven market and industry development at Livestock GeneTEX, and has played a key role in commercial export management, handling logistics, market intelligence, and the export of sheep genetics. He also focuses on improving farm operations through up-skilling producers and managing livestock traceability.



Presenter

Dr Xin Deng

University of South Australia
Senior Lecturer

Dr Deng holds a PhD in Economics from Monash University, and a Master and bachelor's degree in Economics from Wuhan University in China. Her research encompasses a wide range of areas in applied economics and management. Her current research focuses on sustainability and diversity, with special attention to gender issues and corporate social responsibility. Dr Deng's work has been cited nearly 1500 times since 2019. She has led projects funded by UN Women, Australian government and industrial partners to address real world problems such as promoting gender equalities in the workplace and understanding the implications of globalisation on the labour market. She is a regular commentator for SBS radio's Mandarin program on Economic and Finance issues and has provided commentary to many media outlets such as ABC and China Daily.



Presenter

Silvana Forlini

Silvana Forlini Counselling and Hypnotherapy
Founder

Silvana Forlini is a Psychotherapist and Clinical Hypnotherapist specializing in anxiety, trauma, weight loss, women's wellbeing, phobias, chronic pain, and relationship counseling. Born in Argentina and now based in Australia, Silvana's deep empathy stems from her South American upbringing and 15 years working with migrant and refugee communities. With a Master's in Counselling and Psychotherapy and training in Clinical Hypnotherapy and EMDR Therapy, she helps clients transform their emotional states. She also provides counselling services as part of your EAP program. In her spare time, Silvana volunteers with the Latin American Society of South Australia, as a community connector for the Multicultural Men Mental Health Community Connections program supporting men's mental health.



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MBEN CONFERENCE SPEAKERS & PRESENTERS 14

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Panellist

Nicole Gollan

Nik & Co Consultancy
Founder and Director

Nicole is a Ngarrindjeri woman who has resided in Adelaide on the Traditional Country of the Kaurna people for much of her life. Nicole is a mother to a gorgeous boy and has worked across many sectors including Education to ensure that a cultural lens is prioritised to advocate genuine ambitions in Australia's corporate settings. Nik & Co Consultancy was launched in 2021 transforming lived experiences of both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people by weaving genuine reconciliatory practices into government, business, education, health, philanthropic and community settings. Nik&Co have supported several clientele through Reconciliation Australia's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) program. Nicole is a recipient of several awards including the 2023 SA InDaily 40 Under 40 Award and 2022 First Nations SA Woman In Business Peoples Choice Award. Nicole acknowledges all Aboriginal Elders and leaders, both past and present who have contested and established opportunities for previous, current and future generations.



Panellist

Mirsia Bunjaku

Australian Migrant Resource Centre (AMRC)
Chief Executive

Mirsia has over 19 years experience at the Australian Migrant Resource Centre and has held leadership positions in various programs across the organisation working with refugees, asylum seekers, people with disabilities, the elderly and other migrants. Her roles within AMRC includes the management of Humanitarian Settlement Services (HSS), Status Resolution Support Services (SRSS), Complex Case Support (CCS), and employment initiatives such as Women's Employment into Action. Having arrived in Australia as a Kosovar refugee, she is passionate about supporting and empowering migrants and refugees and developing stronger communities. She is currently on the Board of the Settlement Council of Australia, Chair of the Woodville Gardens Governing Council, a member of the Community Roundtable on Skills Assessments and is a regular member of a number of networks within the Settlement and Health sectors.



Panellist

Roann Junio-Hartmann

Cobber Technologies
Founder

Roann Junio-Hartmann is the Founder of Cobber, a tech-driven platform inspired by her personal journey of overcoming homelessness and the struggles of furnishing a new home without access to transportation. Her lived experience of navigating barriers in sourcing essential goods led her to recognize a widespread issue faced by many. Motivated by the Filipino principle of 'Bayanihan' and the Australian value of 'mate-ship,' Roann built Cobber to break down these barriers and foster a sense of community. Cobber connects individuals, businesses, and non-profits through an innovative platform that promotes accessibility, empowers communities, and enhances peer-to-peer support. It drives sustainable consumption by facilitating the exchange and donation of second hand goods, contributing to the circular economy. Through her work, Roann is committed to creating lasting social impact, promoting inclusivity, and ensuring that no one is left behind in their pursuit of a better life.



Panellist

Zita Ngor

Adelaide Law Boutique and Taylor Rose Australia
Consultant Principal

Zita Adut Deng Ngor has been a leader and senior executive within the private, community and not-for-profit sectors. She was previously the CEO of Women' Legal Service (SA), a specialist not-for profit providing legal services to women across the state of South Australia and currently runs her own legal practice, Adelaide Law Boutique. Also due to her leadership and board positions, she has experience in governance and compliance. Zita Ngor has an active interest in working with and advocating on behalf of disadvantaged groups within society. In 2001 she received a Centenary Medal for service to the community she was selected to be part of the delegation due to her expertise on violence against women. In 2019 was selected as one of the 40 under 40 young business entrepreneurs in South Australia and was recipient of the 2019 Robyn Layton AO QC Women's Lawyers Award.



Facilitator

Marissa Hankinson

Wavebreaker Productions
Co-Founder

Marissa is a resilient and passionate leader who has navigated significant challenges to achieve success. Emigrating from the UK 12 years ago, she faced difficulties finding employment and rebuilding her network. However, she persevered and leveraged her UK connections to secure a low-entry sales role in a membership association, where she was determined to make an impact. Over nine years, she rose to Chief Operating Officer in the male-dominated construction industry, breaking barriers, and shattering expectations along the way. Although she never quite broke the glass ceiling, she used this experience to fuel her passion for empowering others. But when she found herself redundant at 50, Marissa took it as an opportunity to reconnect with her roots in marketing, PR, media, and personal branding – the same skills she honed in the UK, where she previously owned a successful business. Wavebreaker Productions, a media production company that tells and shares stories every day. Marissa is also the host of “The Glass Ceiling,” a video podcast where she interviews successful founders, business owners, and entrepreneurs, digging deep into their stories and strategies for success.



Presenter

Freddie Brincat

Community Bridging Services (CBS)
Founder and Executive Director

Freddie believes in the holistic strengths-based model and finding that delicate balance between social justice, positive values and culture, with business and finance. This forms Freddie’s guide to decision making and leadership. Former teacher, and specialist disability physical educator, Freddie has significant experiences working with teams, partnerships with the public and private sector, financial investment and innovation. Freddie says, “If you do what you do well, with a keen willingness to learn and a good purpose - the income will follow.” Having founded CBS Inc. in 1996, with lots of help from good people, CBS Inc. now employs 285 staff (23% with a disability) and income of \$21.5 million in 2023-24. Business with purpose is proving to be an effective innovation, contributing to a change in public attitude and perceptions of what diversity brings to our workplace and community.



Panellist

Lisa Cook

Get on Board Australia
Founder and Managing Director

Lisa Cook is the Founder and Managing Director of Get on Board Australia, supporting aspiring, emerging, and existing board members and boards to thrive. Over the past 15 years, she has served on the boards of organisations in private, public, and profit-for-purpose sectors across Australia, including National Stroke Foundation, Shooting Australia, West Beach Community Bendigo Bank, and the Australian College of Professionals. Along with writing and commenting regularly on governance, board members, and boards, Lisa hosts the Board Shorts Podcast; sharing insights, lessons, and advice from her experience in the boardroom and from subject matter experts across the world. Lisa holds a Master of Business Law from the University of Adelaide, a Business Management degree from Charles Sturt University, and has completed the Foundations of Directorship program through AICD.



Panellist

Narayan Ramchandani

Cornerstone Alliance
NDIS Auditor and Director

Narayan has been associated with Compliance for most of his 20+ year career here in Australia. Starting off as Manager, Information Systems with a leading Certification body, Narayan then went on to develop a compliance management platform, which at one point supported over 30 organisations with over 1500 users to manage their compliance to NDIS Practice Standards. In his current consulting role as an NDIS Auditor, Narayan works with mostly SA based organisations to assess their compliance to the NDIS Practice Standards. Narayan is also a co-director at Cornerstone Alliance, which provides technology, marketing and compliance services to organisations in Australia. Cornerstone Alliance is keen to work with people and organisations who are associated, or would like to be associated with the NDIS to support the goals of high-quality, equitable and sustainable provision of supports and services.



Panellist

Raj Singh

Promere Consultancy

Director

Raj Singh is an MBA (HR/Finance) from the University of South Australia and a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD). Raj supports corporate clients in driving operational efficiencies, ensuring compliance, implementing systems, and delivering strategic solutions in commercial, procurement, and financial functions. He runs an NDIS Consulting Firm and is currently serving on the board of Diabetes SA. Having managed large-scale businesses and budgets exceeding \$300 million while leading impactful projects focused on operational efficiency, financial sustainability, and growth, Raj focuses on providing tailored solutions that enhance business performance and streamline processes for long-term success.



Facilitator

Jo Bell

Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand
Program Manager

Jo Bell is a Program Manager at Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand's LaunchMe Microenterprises. With 20 years of leadership and operational expertise, Jo has made significant contributions across a wide range of not-for-profit sectors and local government, including small business development, community services, healthcare, aging, disability, and volunteering. Specialising in program and project development, Jo understands that Governance, Risk, and Compliance are integral to successful program management. Passionate about fostering diversity, inclusion, empowerment, and connection, Jo has consistently woven these values into the programs and initiatives under her leadership.



Presenter

Sarah Howell

Define Success Coaching
Founder

Sarah Howell is a dedicated business coach and three-time national business award winner with over 25 years of experience in the hospitality industry. Having successfully run multiple businesses, she understands the challenges of balancing professional demands with personal life. Driven by her passion for inspiring and supporting fellow entrepreneurs, Sarah founded Define Success Coaching to help them thrive both professionally and personally. In addition to her coaching practice, she facilitates the Women In Business program, coaches for Behind Closed Doors, and serves as a Generation Thrive Leadership Coach. With a Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting from Adelaide University and ICF certification, Sarah brings valuable expertise in finance, leadership, and stakeholder engagement.



Presenter

Jessie Smith

Purple Orange
Project Officer - Tourism Local Navigator

Jessie works with the tourism industry, providing one-on-one business mentoring to guide them through inclusive recruitment with the aim of seeing more people with disabilities employed in the industry. Jessie's favourite part of her job is using her lived experience of disability to enrich the mentoring and make a change for people just like her. Outside of work, Jessie is a former registered elite athlete with the University of South Australia (graduated 2023 Bachelor of Human Movement/ Bachelor of Psychology), as a national level Dressage and Show Horse rider.



Presenter

Amy Springhall

The Visibility Project
Founder

Named a rising star finalist in the B&T Women in Media Awards, Amy Springhall is the founder of The Visibility Project, which exists to increase the visibility of female leaders and experts. With 15 years of experience in communications and public relations, Amy is a communications consultant, business mentor, and an engaging speaker and MC. She helps leaders and business owners become visible and strategically build their personal brands in a world where individual connections and influence hold significant value. She launched The Visibility Project to address the underrepresentation of women in media, leadership roles, and all spheres of influence. She has since mentored hundreds of female leaders to step into visibility.



Panellist

Chelsea Marchetti

Flipper Academy
Owner and Director

With an Honours in Physiotherapy, Chelsea is a passionate advocate for inclusion and helping children with various clinical needs. Chelsea's Italian heritage helps her bring in a cultural lens in the work she does, as her grandparents were a central part of her life and the first migrant community to establish in Adelaide in the 1950's. Chelsea started Flipper Academy to provide paediatric hydrotherapy to children with disabilities. Flipper Academy has now grown to over 100 children within a year and operates across various locations around Adelaide. She continues to promote affordable access to therapy for children through her work and believes that everyone has the right to develop their goals and achieve.



Panellist

Amelia Griffin

My Mind Matters Therapy
Director

Amelia Griffin is a Speech Pathologist and Autism Spectrum Disorder diagnostician specialising in Cognitive-Communication Disorders, Language Development, Social Communication Skills, and Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC). She works with clients of all ages, focusing on enhancing both communication and cognitive skills. Her commitment to creating accessible tools inspired her to develop My Mind Matters Therapy apps, shaped by her volunteer experience in a memory unit in aged care. There, she observed significant communication challenges and a lack of AAC awareness, highlighting the need for tools that support cognitive stimulation and communication. Amelia is committed to empowering individuals of all ages and cognitive abilities to enhance their quality of life by strengthening their cognitive and communication skills.



Panellist

Mitchell Matemayi

CommShare and McQuel Healthcare
Founder and Co-Director

Mitchell's business journey began at the age of 15, when McQuel Healthcare Continence Solutions was founded by her mother. While co-directing the operations and business management of McQuel, at the age of 17, Mitchell became the Founder of CommShare Youth Services. With a passion to give back for a sustainable society, Mitchell's goal is to see all young people thrive in society. Through her partnership with Councils, Mitchell works with youth in schools and communities across South Australia. Her professional expertise certainly goes far beyond her years as she continues to break barriers with meaningful impacts in the lives of her clients, the industries she is a part of and the wider community she serves.



Panellist

Kylan Beech

Simply Supporting Abilities and Coast to Coast Communications
Owner and Founder

Kylan Beech is the Owner and Founder of Simply Supporting Abilities and Coast to Coast Communications. Kylan also part owns High Street café located in the eastern suburbs of Adelaide. With a strong idea to help others, Kylan started his businesses as a teenager and believes that giving back and positively contributing to society can make all the difference in people's lives. In his spare time, you will find Kylan on the footy field, umpiring for the SANFL. Kylan was awarded the Young South Australian Citizen of the year award in 2024, for raising over \$100,000 for the early detection of Cancer with his charity 220 for Tammy through the Cancer Council. Kylan is also the president of the St Vincent de Paul Societies Youth in South Australia. Kylan dedicates his life to helping others through his businesses.



Facilitator

David Chikwuba

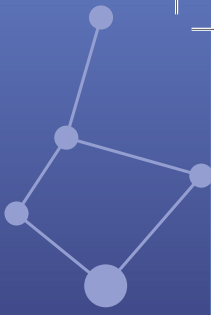
Mentoring, Coaching & Counselling (M.C.C)
Founder

David Chikwuba is a passionate advocate for social change, focusing on mental health and wellbeing support for multicultural young people and families. He runs a company dedicated to mentoring, coaching, and counselling, with a special emphasis on serving young people and families from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds. David's work extends to offering crucial wellbeing and mental health services to those at risk, ensuring that individuals and families receive the support they need to thrive. Over the past decade, David has been instrumental in working to uplift and empower communities by addressing the unique challenges faced by multicultural youth populations. His dedication to this work continues to drive positive outcomes for young people and their families.

MBEN CONFERENCE 2024

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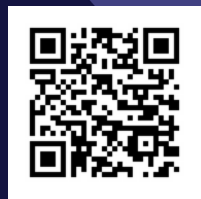
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