

TESTIMONIALS FOR DIANN RODGERS-HEALEY

“There are few people who can find the fine balance between motivator, cheerleader, mentor and inspiration. Diann is certainly one of those people. I connected with Diann at the end of a tough job under a difficult boss and I had a goal of learning techniques to ensure that when I started my business, a few years down the road, I never became that kind of leader. Within four sessions, Diann quickly checked that box and her insightful and directed coaching motivated me to stop waiting and push aside the fear that kept me from jumping into my passion. She mentored me through the development of my business strategy and her voice of inspiration cheered me on as I got my first and second clients. I expected Diann to be knowledgeable about leadership, diversity, equity and inclusion, and business structure; she most certainly knows that stuff. But I was so overwhelmingly grateful to find someone who intuitively understood me, someone who would challenge me while supporting me, someone who pushed until I could see the best in me, someone like Diann. My practice is more focussed, my vision is clearer and my work is more impactful and I have Diann to thank.”

Cessalee Stovall, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Strategist and Consultant, Entertainment and Performing Arts Sector; AUS: 0434 153 352; US: 317-679-6042 (12 March 2021)

“The career mentoring opportunity that Diann facilitated enabled me to articulate my ongoing goals, redefine my personal and professional vision and develop strategies for implementation in my work place setting. Diann was able to do this through enabling me to talk through my career journey, by drawing a visual of significant points in my leadership experience and by asking thought provoking questions that directed me to consider issues at a deeper level of thinking. At the completion of our time together, I felt affirmed and enthusiastic about my ongoing leadership capacity and capabilities to fulfil my current role.”

Julie Cobbledick, Fmr Principal, St. Brendan’s Primary School, Shepparton, Victoria

“Diann's ability to listen and ask pertinent questions encourages you to develop future directions from your own vision and understanding of leadership. This combined with her experience and wealth of knowledge in leadership, leads to practical insights gained through dialogue that lead to positive outcomes for yourself and colleagues.”

Gary Quinn, Assistant Principal, St Peter & Paul Primary School, Kiama NSW

“Diann Rodgers-Healey was engaged by Stella Maris Catholic School in the role of external consultant to facilitate the process of developing a Mission and Vision Statement with a set of Core Values. The process was a very well planned, professionally executed set of strategies designed to engage all staff in open and honest dialogue. Mrs Rodgers-Healey’s clear vision and

understanding of the process allowed staff and parents to question the strategies and skills employed while at the same time maintaining her sense of purpose and task. I would have no hesitation in recommending Diann Rodgers-Healey for any future endeavours given her wide range of expertise and extensive knowledge of people skills.”

Sr Colleen Mills RSC Fmr Principal, Stella Maris School, Shellharbour NSW

“The school is engaged in effectively communicating the many ways we embrace our School’s Vision Empowerment for the Challenges of Life’s Journey. Diann has been mentoring and coaching me to ensure that this message is clear and relevant to our community’s needs. It has been very beneficial to have a supportive, critical ear as we move to instil the shared involvement of parents in this journey.”

Philip Moore, Principal, St Peter & Paul Primary School, Kiama NSW

“Diann has a way of cutting straight to the heart of an issue, using her strong diagnostic skills to great effect. But what she also brings is a warmth and an ability to build rapport quickly – an essential in any mentor or coach relationship. From this basis, and using a range of techniques, Diann is able to work ‘with’ you to come up with new or revised strategies. With Diann you will engage in purposeful discussions that lead to tangible benefits.”

Dr Michelle Anderson, Director, The Tender Bridge, Australian Council for Educational Research (Melbourne)

“Dr Diann Rodgers-Healey provided valuable guidance and advice to support me in my leadership role of ACE NSW. Our morning meeting was productive and energising. Diann demonstrated a genuine interest and outstanding inter-personal skills in this mentoring session, building my capacity to lead a team of highly experienced educators. Diann shifted my focus from overcoming barriers to how to achieve key objectives. Her ability to identify the immediate and future challenges in our strategic planning process and her ideas for advancing the organisation were both insightful and visionary. I would recommend Dr Diann Rodgers- Healey for her skills as mentor, coach, motivational speaker, workshop leader and agent of change.”

Heather Causley FACE NSW State President ACE Australian College of Educators (March 2015)

“It was an absolute pleasure to have Dr Diann Rodgers-Healey teaching cross-cultural management to our postgraduate students. Diann put her heart and soul into her teaching, she related well to students from all over the world, and she went above and beyond in providing constructive feedback to her students. Students indicated that they deeply appreciated the way

Diann could make lectures creative, fun and interesting. They also appreciated the way she treated them with respect as individuals. I commend Diann as a conscientious and passionate educator who leads by example and cares about the success of her students.”

Dr Peter McLean (Fmr) Head of School of Management, Operations & Marketing; Faculty of Business and Law, University of Wollongong

“Diann is a caring person of great integrity. In her teaching, Diann strives to get the best from all her students, showing empathy while helping students to build on their strengths and reach their potential. She was the well-deserved recipient of a UOW faculty award for outstanding contribution to teaching and learning at Sydney Business School. Diann deeply and honestly and encourages emerging researchers to communicate their research effectively. She is also passionate about helping women to develop their leadership capabilities. It is a pleasure to work with Diann.”

Dr Grace McCarthy, Associate Dean Education at University of Wollongong

“Diann is a great human being, which I feel is the first and foremost talent to look for when selecting a colleague, employee, collaborator. She supported my work as guest lecturer and left a positive mark by explaining to my MBA students the crucial role of diversity in today's organizations. Diann doesn't hesitate to help beyond the 'letter' of an agreement and is ready to support in difficult times. A true leader you should have on your side.”

Mattia Anesa, Lecturer, School of Business, Sydney University, Academic fellow in Ethics | Lecturer in Critical Thinking | Exploring issues of legitimacy in organizations

“Over the years, Dr. Diann has proven herself to be a great mentor, a leader, and a motivator. Her ability to identify and nourish talent has been commendable. Teaching a room full, she was still able to connect with each and every single student at an individual level. I, along with a lot of other people I know, have been mentored and given opportunities by Dr. Diann, when we needed them the most. I highly recommend Dr. Diann as she has a lot to offer.”

Abuzar Khalid Compliance Officer at MEX Digital

Diann was a doctoral student of mine at the University of Wollongong. She is talented, hard working and is a person of high integrity. Her work in the field of researching and promoting women in leadership is commendable. She has much to offer as a consultant, writer, researcher and advocate.

Professor Stephen Dinham OAM Professor Emeritus, University of Melbourne

I have had the pleasure of working with Diann as one of my students when lecturing as well as being the recipient of Diann's wisdom when preparing for a presentation in my role as a researcher where Diann was a key member of the organising team for the conference. In all cases, Diann has the rare ability to combine detailed insight and challenging inquiry with personal warmth and professional support. Based on Diann's excellent facilitation and coaching skills when preparing for the conference, my presentation was a great success.

Barry Hemmings, Building Positive Team Work

“I highly recommend the leadership coaching work of Diann Rodgers-Healey. Diann’s is a highly engaging, supportive and perceptive men-tor with an active listening approach. I felt totally at ease and through a process of creative exercises, insightful questioning and plenty of time to reflect in creative ways I was able to discover and explore what fundamentally drives me as a person. Something I have been able to take into all aspects of life. It has been a grounding experience for me and helped bring real purpose and focus to my workplace. An exciting place for me to be.”

Ellen Randell, Senior Coach Rowing Australia (2019)

“I recently engaged Diann Rodgers-Healey as my business coach and mentor and came to her after reading some of the work that she has produced in the area of gender diversity and leadership. It is my absolute pleasure to write this testimonial on her behalf.

Diann has a very easy and friendly manner and has maintained this demeanour in all her interactions with me. Engaging in active listening, Diann has offered me a different frame of reference through which to consider my business development. Asking the right questions and leading me to see my development from a different perspective was perhaps the most valuable part of Diann’s business coaching. Although Diann offers guidance, mentoring and coaching, there is never any hint of her sitting in judgment. This brings a strong sense of “feeling safe” to all of Diann’s sessions.

I would highly recommend Diann to men and women alike who are in the need of business coaching or mentoring. My sessions with her have been invaluable.

Shirley Chowdhary, Counsel, Group Treasury, Westpac, October 2015

Testimonial from Karen Burdett, CEO, The Cram Foundation (2020) for organisational change and leadership development work leading to the development of a Judgement Action Impact framework for high level person-centred care for persons with disabilities

“The Cram Foundation has had the pleasure of working with Diann over the past year to assist in the development of a values based leadership program for our Management team and staff.

Diann is a leader who brings a unique vision and genuine approach to her work. Diann took an open and consultative approach to understanding our organisation, our industry challenges, our strengths and areas for further development. The end result was a program design that was practical, innovative and deeply centered on values based content whilst her facilitation style was motivational, empowering and positive. I would not hesitate to recommend her to others seeking to work with an “out of the box” authentic facilitator.”

Karen Burdett, CEO, The Cram Foundation (2020)

“My very first coaching / mentoring session with Diann changed my entire outlook on my job, my professional life and my own capabilities. I have never had a coach or mentor who helped me so quickly see myself and my professional world with such clarity. Diann worked with me to define my thinking, identify my own skills and potential and turn ideas into clear action. Diann challenged my thinking and gave me the tools to independently continue to do so, both in work and in life. Diann’s approach is gentle, supportive, incredibly intuitive and insightful. I have the utmost respect and admiration for Diann, what she does and what she stands for.”

Kate Britt, Director People and Culture, Sydney Children’s Hospital Foundation

“I have been fortunate to have received mentoring from Diann Rodgers-Healey for 3 sessions from August to November 2012. These sessions provided me with a boost to my self confidence which has assisted me to take control of my work situation and produce the results that I had been producing previously and had allowed to lapse due to an upsetting event in my work life. I would recommend Diann to anyone requiring a mentor to direct their work life. Her personal approach is very supportive and allows you to take charge of your own destiny.”

Anja Nivala, CEO, Community Options Illawarra Inc

“Dr Diann is a wealth of information, resources and insight when you're looking to make changes in your career. If you're in a position (leadership or otherwise) where you need someone to take you outside of the box, consider her for a coaching opportunity.”

Pamela Zorn, Executive Officer and Chairperson, New Castle

“My coaching session with Diann Rodgers-Healey was like a breath of fresh air. I was at a cross roads in my career, unsure about which direction to take and whether I had the necessary skills translate a seemingly unrealistic idea into reality. Diann’s personable approach and thought provoking question style enabled me to clearly articulate what my vision was and the processes I needed to work through to successfully achieve it. Diann helped me to gain insight and appreciate my qualities and past experiences and how these could be used to develop both professionally and personally. It has reignited my passion and literally put a spring in my step

the moment I left her office.”

Rebecca McPhee, Accredited Practising Dietitian and Nutritionist, Wollongong NSW

“Diann has a rare gift of seeing deep within you. This insight can be confronting, revealing, challenging, but always uplifting. Diann’s guidance and advice was a life changer for me. Thank you Diann!!! If you think you’ve figured out all the answers (and all the questions too), but something still doesn’t feel quite right... Diann is the woman for you.”

Carol Berry, Chief Executive Officer, Illawarra Women's Health Centre NSW

“Diann has provided coaching for leaders within the University. Her calm, open style and passion for people moving forward has resulted in extremely effective coaching sessions with senior leaders.” *Lorraine Denny, Manager, Professional and Organisational Development Services, Human Resources Division, University of Wollongong*

“A business coach has been as important to my life as my physical fitness trainer: fitness of mind and fitness of body go hand in hand and it’s really useful to have an extra hand to help. Thank you Diann for coaching me through a challenging, and successful, transition in my work life.” *Professor Sandra Willis, University of Wollongong*

“I had the pleasure of being coached by Diann during a very turbulent time in my organisation. With Diann’s coaching I was able to clearly see some of the previous hidden options. With a better understanding of the situation I was then able to develop an action plan and execute one of the toughest challenges of my career. Diann’s style was gentle but she really pushed me to open up my mind and think about an issue from multiple perspectives.”

Mitchell Thompson, PGI, Organisational Development Manager, Asia Pacific, Sydney

“I have known Diann now for a number of years and she coached me in my role as a leader and a volunteer. She renewed my belief on what I was doing was right and challenged me to pursue my goals with much more vigour. Diann was able to allow me to see ‘the wood from the trees’ helping me make the transition into thinking more deeply about my role, my goals and investing my focus in new areas where she challenged me to develop new ways of leading people.

Warren Turner Local Controller Kiama Unit, NSW State Emergency Service

“As both a coach and person, Diann is an extremely warm and compassionate woman. She really listens and hears you, getting to the core of what may be troubling or challenging you, what it is you're hoping to achieve and helping you see that you are already well on your way. She is someone whose priorities are well in order and knows what truly matters in life, personally and professionally. I cannot recommend her services enough.”

Elizabeth Franklin, Costume Designer, Sydney NSW

'I am eternally grateful to have found Diann at a moment when I longed for clarity, answers and support to move forward to the next stage of my life. Despite our best efforts, we all encounter profound periods in our careers and personal lives when we feel stuck and overwhelmed. Alone, even the deepest self-examination can fail to reveal the truth behind the ingrained patterns and past conditioning that can inhibit our talents and purpose. Diann respectfully listens to our stories with an open heart, clarity and honesty. The depth of her experience allows her to identify our self-sabotaging life patterns and with her wisdom and practicality she develops clear step by step solutions to break free of these patterns. Diann is a wise soul with a genuine passion for uplifting the human heart and awakening us to our authentic passions and life purpose.’

Grace Maria Panteli, Team Leader, Local Government NSW

“Thanks for being such a lovely facilitator Dr Diann Rodgers-Healey and for sharing your experience and expertise with us.”

Kerry Hunt Director Community Services, Wollongong Council (in response to my facilitation of Wollongong Council's 2021 International Women's Day Panel with 4 Women Directors, including Kerry Hunt)

"Diann Rogers-Healey is a person of immense energy and drive, innovative and an 'ideas person'. I have worked with her in respect of her Centre for Leadership for Women awards, as a member of the judging panel from the award's inception. Diann has a high level management capacity and is closely attuned to issues relating to women-in-leadership and women's capacity for leadership, management and forward-looking approaches. She has authored a number of texts, one relating to mentoring and one involving issues of management and leadership. These texts illustrate the way in which Diann Rogers-Healey is able to think constructively, write in an accessible way, and bring into the debate new ideas and perspectives on women in management, women as leaders, and women and mentoring (women as mentors, and women being mentored)."

Dr Jocelyne Scutt, Patron of ACLW

“Diann Rogers-Healey remains a constant in leadership in Australia. Her presence, continuity and profile over many years is part of the recognisable chiaroscuro of female leadership contributing to our country and its future.”

Kate Hamilton, CEO at Advance Personnel Incorporated (ACT)

“Leveraging her deep knowledge of gender, consummate professionalism and extensive networks Diann has established and driven a highly respected Centre. She has drive and passion in spades and has used that very effectively to make a difference to women and therefore Australia more broadly.”

Juliet Bourke, Partner, Human Capital at Deloitte Australia

“...I strongly support and commend the Australia Centre for Leadership for Women’s efforts to put the issue of pay inequity on the national agenda.” *Elizabeth Broderick, Sex Discrimination Commissioner, Australian Human Rights Commission (Letter from Elizabeth Broderick, Sex Discrimination Commissioner to ACLW 24/8/10)*

“Dr Diann Rodgers-Healey first came to my attention in my capacity as President of the board of The International Alliance for Women (TIAW). Dr. Rodgers-Healey had reached out to TIAW in the context of her comprehensive efforts to support women in leadership, a mission both organizations share. Since then I have closely followed her work at the Centre for Leadership for Women in Australia and have been impressed by her thought leadership, unflagging focus on the advancement and impact of women and her passion for leadership excellence. Through the CLW, the issue is addressed in a multitude of ways, from awards, to academic research, consultancy and public awareness campaigns.”

Stephanie MacKendrick, President at MacKendrick & Associates International

“Diann has made a substantial contribution to women in leadership through her website and active use of the site. She has a wide grasp of related issues and a strong commitment to organisational change and progress.”

Eva Cox, Professorial Fellow Jumbunna University of Technology Sydney

“It is a pleasure to recommend Diann Rogers-Healey. She is a person that is known for innovation, persistence and drive in everything she does. I have had the opportunity to work with Diann through the Centre for Leadership for Women awards in 2010 and I was impressed with her professionalism and leadership of this important awards program. When you think gender leadership women, diversity and mentoring, your context would not be complete without Diann Rogers-Healey.”

Louise Perram-Fisk, Human Resource Strategist | Leadership | Stakeholder engagement | Qld Business Woman 2008 | SCLAA FAIM FAHRI FCILT JP

"I spoke today at The Power of a Woman conference run by Dr Diann Rodgers-Healey Leader of Women Leaders. She is an inspiration. I want to work with her for a long time to come. Thanks Diann "

Tracy Howe, CEO of The Council of Social Service of NSW

"I have pleasure in recommending Diann as an outstanding leader in recognising women in leadership in Australia. She has pioneered the Australian Centre for Leadership for Women."

Professor Shirley Randell, International consultant in gender equality and women's empowerment

Participant feedback for facilitating the 2.5 days of the senior leadership academic program focusing on self and organisational strengths.

"Diann is an incredibly warm and caring person. She has incredible knowledge of the area and skills to share. She has a wonderful ability to convey her knowledge in a way that is respectful and empowering. She asks great questions that go to the heart of what she is wanting you to think about."

"Diann's strengths were the openness of her communication and her generous approach to supporting the women around her."

"Diann is clearly passionate about her topic work in this area."

"genuine, engaging, connected with everyone, clearly working out of her values, experienced with generating discussion and making people feel comfortable."

"Diann's is an amazing person. Her mixture of gentleness and assertiveness is deeply engaging, encouraging and refreshing. Diann's great strength is not to put people under pressure but allow them to find their own way into the discussion. Other strengths include: excellent communication, listener, narrator, structural and feedback skills. For example, the focus on the self as a starting point (one day) and then (second day) on connections between the self and the institution was a well devised strategy that greatly enhanced my ability to visualize innovative ways to fulfill my passion and motivations."

"An ability to take leadership out of the usual realms and make it a bigger picture discussion about aligning values with roles."

"Her demeanour, perspective and being able to bring together a range of ideas/ principles and experiences to make each session/ activity meaningful and personalised"

"Genuine, willing to share her experiences, engaging, interested in delegates"

"Gentle, encouraging yet clear and direct."

"Kind and open"

“Creating an engaging learning environment. Clarity and approachability, humanly manner in presenting, which is, itself, setting up a good role model.”

“Was unsure whether using totally amazing once in a lifetime people as examples of leaders is helpful for us more everyday folk.”

“Calmness, empathy, coolness under pressure and adaptability. Excellent at getting us to think about our values”

“Dear Diann, Firstly, I would like to thank you for making time to come to our meeting to discuss all things Reconciliation in front of a predominately Indigenous group of organisations and services from the Illawarra / Shoalhaven region and board members, to talk about the importance and need of reconciliation in this country. You have a way with words that suits and attracts all members of community. Your presentation educated and inspired even the most reconciled driven people, me included. You adjusted what can sometimes, to certain members of our community be daunting or scary. We found value in your speech as it added new meaning in critically reviewing how far we have come and how we need to move forward bravely and with impact. I have full trust that you, an incredible Ally, can help lead us forward on our Reconciliation journey.”

Michelle Toms, Co-Chair, Illawarra Aboriginal Community Base Working Group (IACBWG) (7 June 2021) in response to my speech I was invited to give for the Illawarra Aboriginal Community Based Working Group (IACBWG) for Reconciliation, on 2 June 2021 at Southern Youth and Family Services in Warilla

“Morning Diann Thank you for giving me the opportunity in getting the Northern Territory Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women’s issues and concerns out and look forward in helping and assisting in Women’s issues in the future regards

Joy Cardona Aboriginal Heritage Co-ordinator Northern Territory Library Department of Natural Resources, Environment, the Arts and Sport Northern Territory Government

““Hi Dianne...thank you for the excellent night of Leadership conversations on Thursday night. Everything was perfect. Perfect venue, Perfect panel of inspirational women including yourself and perfect audience. What power and strength was in the room that night. Never have I participated with such amazing women on the panel who will always inspire me to be the best I can be as an Indigenous woman. Thank you Dianne and I will definitely be involved with you more. We certainly need more of these conversations going in the future. We have young strong Indigenous women in our community coming through and we have a responsibility to guide and nurture them when their times come to when they become leaders in the future that we can all be proud of. Thank you to Veronica, Jodie, Janellle, Carol and you Dianne for helping me to keep believing in myself Yours in Unity Always”

Sylvia Campbell” (Panellist for Leadership Conversations with Aboriginal Community Leaders which I facilitated in 2013 at the City Beach Function Centre in Wollongong)
<https://aclw.org/programs/leadership-conversations-event/>

“Woww how good was the night Dianne, I would like to Thank You for bringing a panel of Strong Aboriginal Women together, also promoting Aboriginal Women in Leadership in our local community. The night was a success...”

Janelle Brown - ACE - Aboriginal Community Engagement, Communities for Children Shellharbour <https://aclw.org/programs/leadership-conversations-event/>

Participant feedback for the Unique Leadership of Minority Women Conference in September 2017 at Parliament House NSW that I organised, facilitated and moderated.
<https://aclw.org/programs/unique-leadership-of-minority-women-conference-2017/>

“This conference has given me significant perspective and is an amazing initiative and will continue to push for rights for all women.” Ashlyn Hampton

“valued diversity of voices and inclusiveness about the conference.” Ana Tiwary

“ I valued everyone’s personal journeys and perspectives to make changes; figuring out how/what we can do to change or create change; the variety of speakers and their insights. Thank you for having me Diann.I hope to get involved and back the work you’re doing/aims for ACLW.” Akii Ngo

“Appreciated being a part of a leadership for women discussion for my first meeting in the field of women empowerment. Congratulations on a wonderful conference.” Wendy Saunders

“I valued time of listening to the inspiring stories of minority women. A day as such should be conducted regularly around Australia in order to attract attention.” Eugenia Pyne

“Everything was wonderful speakers, panels, discussion and hearing from all those amazing like-minded women. Thank you so much for making this conference happen and I look forward to the next one.” Sediqah

‘valued sharing life experience, advice on facing challenges when it comes to diversity, open conversations is important, that as a global citizen, we need to be more kinder to one another. Please continue to pave the path so that girls and boys grow up to respect each other and carry on the good work.’ Elizabeth Jowanie

“I took so much valuable leadership advice from the day’s presentations. I found everything extremely engaging and made some wonderful connections. Thank you for putting together such an engaging and rewarding conference with so many inspiring women. It has been a privilege to be a part of this conference.” Keziah Bennett-Brook

“I valued the space for discussion amongst minority women and the focus on leadership empowerment. Panel discussions were very informative and helpful. Absolutely inspirational important day.” Charmaine Morrison-Mills

“The diversity and broad based discussion. Sitting at a table connecting with amazing knowledgeable women. Well done Diann, Thank you.” Sarah Lisle

“Great connections, I am now better informed, The conference is the beginning of my journey and I am excited by the future of inclusion.” Keli McDonald.

“valued the opportunity to hear from so many diverse women. The opportunity to network with other women, discussion regarding strategy and practicality of how to create and promote organisational culture that supports minority women. Thank you for putting together a phenomenal conference.” Mikaela Belling

“valued the discussion about what minority women can bring to the table. Also to have some female role models and visibility, very inspiring as a young woman. Don’t give up on this event and lessons taught. If you need help advertising next year, happy to be an extra resource.” Samantha Peace.

Participant feedback for The Power of a Woman Conference on 8 August 2015 at Sydney University that I organised, facilitated and moderated <https://aclw.org/programs/power-of-a-woman-conference/>

"I found this environment very empowering. Although it gave due importance to challenges faced by women, the themes focused on what had been learned in overcoming the challenges and how much can be done by a few strong individuals supporting each other. Thank you immensely. Love and Gratitude"

"An excellent variety of speakers. Very valuable points and ideas raised which I am taking home with me. Very well organised and smoothly run. I look forward to the next. Thank you."

"It was engaging, interesting, moving and inspirational. Thank you. It was such a great mixture of women from different areas and the stories they shared were profound."

"Thank you for all the insightful speakers."

"Congratulations Diann on a superb day. A very well thought out program. I loved the diversity there which grew through the day- but also the diversity of the program - perfect balance with speakers, panels and wonderful music. Thankyou for inspiring everyone here today to let their light shine, - the world will be a better place for what we have participated in together today. And now - Rest well!"

"An excellent day. Thank you for your fabulous organising and support for all your amazing friends."

"A most interesting and inspirational day. I thoroughly enjoyed our time together."

"A great conference. I CAN DO IT."

"I found all the women really inspiring - as a university student and student leader, it's great to hear from real people who I can identify with. It motivates me to work hard and take risks, not be afraid to try something new - or something that I may not be fully "qualified" for yet. Just give it a go!"

"Thank you for organising such an enlightening event. The diversity and inclusivity that has been a part of today’s proceedings is to yours and its credit. Great selection of speakers and events, I have taken so much from today."

"Enjoyed the honesty and sharing with other women. Loved the networking. Excellent speakers. The entertainment was lovely. Thank you for a great day."

"I enjoyed the range of presenter who spoke from their personal experience and perspective. I felt inspired to give voice to my experience and to believe in myself. There were no 'hidden' agendas. There was a feeling of belonging! No judgement. Common experiences despite our various backgrounds. Fantastically facilitated - well considered questions which brought out the best from the speakers."

"It was absolutely fabulous to hear about women's life stories and experiences not just policy and (as) such really was inspiring and uplifting - honest and wise, funny and heart felt."

"I'm going to continue striving to "follow a positive path."

"Thank you so much. I'll take a lot away from this conference today - the value of mothers, mentors, teachers, what many wonderful women have achieved. It's also reinforced what I've always believed, that humour and positivity take us a long way. And the feed was great! Many thanks again."

"Interesting, educational, inspiring day. Excellent. Thank you. Fabulous to have all the musical interludes."

"Thank you Diann and ACLW. It was a wonderful day - the speakers shared great insights and I loved the musical performances also."

Participant feedback for the public event on the topic of 'What makes a good life and a good death?' I moderated on 24 January 2020 <https://illawarracfe.com/programs/enabling-conversations-program/>

"Excellent forum to discuss a difficult community topic."

"Insightful provider (of) personal perspective to life and death. Excellent useful discussion."

"Interesting speakers. Fabulous conversations and discussion."

"An excellent generous program on an important topic relevant to us all."

"Loved the openness of the panel members sharing their life insights."

"I thoroughly enjoyed this discussion. I appreciate the diversity of the panel and thought this brought interesting perspectives. I would have loved this event to go for longer..."

"Great conversations and discussions from the panel. Very professional and non-judgmental, informative suggestions for future education and health."

"Excellent initial "conversation" Please continue with this Program. It will hopefully lead to greater tolerance and compassion between people and to a greater degree of introspection, mindfulness..."

"So needed. Well done"

“Facilitator encouraged open, generous, personal and interesting conversations on this difficult, but very necessary topic. To be informed is to be enabled. Thank you. It was enlightening.”

“Wonderful guest speakers. So much food for thought. Great range of skills opinions etc.

Catherine McGregor (wonderful!!) What a gem!!”

“Great idea – conversations are so important to enabling! To inclusiveness. To understanding/knowledge.”

“Excellent all through – Guest, MC, topic, knowledge, Wisdom, Necessary discussion for a good society.”

“Terrific. I would like to be informed of the next one.”

“Excellent, diverse panel. Well run and executed.”

“Excellent”

“Really liked it”

“Very interesting team on your panel. I really enjoyed listening to the different perspectives and experiences”

“Very thought-provoking”

“Excellent discussions – open and honest and from differing perspectives and life experiences”

“I feel privileged to hear the interesting stories from the panel.”

Letters of Thanks from recipients of ACLW’s Diversity Award 2016 are at
<https://aclw.org/awards/award-diversity/diversity-award/>

Letters of Thanks from recipients of ACLW’s Sustaining Women’s Empowerment in Communities and Organisations (SWECO) Award 2011 - 2015 are at
<https://aclw.org/awards/awards-sweco/about-sweco/>

Letters of Thanks from recipients of ACLW’s Leadership Achievement Award 2006-2009 are at
<https://aclw.org/download/letters-of-thanks/>