

Research Program



Rochelle participated in the 2015 Research Program.

"One of the biggest impacts of being a part of the program was finding my tribe in real life.... it validated that I was not broken, I was different. I emerged from the workshop with confidence that I was okay - that I actually have things to say that are valued by others within my community and the professional community."

Rochelle says the program gave her connections and opportunities to do advocacy and activism, and through these she gained full time employment at one of Australia's largest banks

In her role, she now has the capacity to influence change within her workplace, creating more opportunities for the autistic community. Her employer now has an employment program specifically for autistic people, and she is part of an internal committee who advocate for supporting staff and customers who experience disability.



Above: Rochelle with the 2015 Research Program participants.

Rochelle also advocates for communities that intersect with autism and in her workplace she has become the Subject Matter Expert on transgender and non-binary issues, and is also part of the leadership team for Pride at her workplace. She has spoken at events, conferences and expos, as part of panels for other organisations. Through her role she has become the "go-to person" for those wanting to know more about autism and supporting autistic people in the workplace.

Rochelle says that being part of the program was lifechanging and the impact for her and others "by providing a place where confidence is gained and connections are made can't be underestimated."

The Research Program upskills autistic adults and autism researchers to work together as research co-producers. This ensures that what is being researched, and the way it is being researched is relevant to, and appropriate for, the autistic community.



Sylvia Rodger Academy

The Sylvia Rodger Academy delivers nationwide programs that empower autistic adults.



Above: The 2018 Future Leaders participants.

Our vision

Autistic people thriving through discovering and using their strengths.

Our mission

Providing programs, pathways and networks that create communities where autistic people fully contribute and influence policy, practice and culture in partnership with their peers.

Our Programs

Backed by research. Co-designed and developed by autistic adults, for autistic adults.



Research Program

Upskills autistic adults and researchers to work together as research co-producers.



Future Leaders

Australia's first holistic leadership capacity building program for autistic adults. Delivered in partnership with Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect).



Governance

Australia's first training program in corporate governance for autistic adults.

Our Programs involve

Interactive learning modules

Residential workshop

Practical experience

Contact us

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