

good ideas put to good use

*New ways of thinking
to get your ideas to fly*

AN EXCITING PROGRAM FOR
WOMEN AT WORK

PROGRAM

This practical program provides new ways of thinking to help develop and realise the potential of women's ideas and projects.

The program has been developed and organised by Ruth Spielman and Belgin Besim. Ruth is a Partner at Ideas at Work and Belgin is an Associate.

The program will be facilitated by Ruth and Belgin, together with three highly skilled women:

Sandy McDonald, the Story Whisperer

Dr Desley Lodwick, GAICD, Coach and Adult Educator

Claire Edwards, Strategist, Designer and Futurist

Dates and Duration

The Program will comprise four sessions over three months on Wednesdays from 9.00am to 4.30 pm on the following dates:

17 July

7 August

28 August

18 September

PROGRAM

SESSION ONE – 17 JULY

STARTING FROM A POSITION OF STRENGTH

Belgin Besim and Ruth Spielman

- Introduction to the program
- Stories of your experiences and successes
- A Framework to understand complexity – Ruth will explain the Cynefin framework – a way to understand the types of issues or problems you are trying to solve and how that helps to craft the most appropriate responses.
- Teasers from facilitators – a zoom session that will give participants a taste of what is to come in future sessions

“...the best experience I’ve had in doing this work in more than a decade”

Sandy McDonald, facilitator

“I learnt new ways of talking and thinking about my projects and ideas which helped me to better communicate them to others.”

Liz Carroll, Social Planning and Policy Projects Officer, Shire of Mitchell, 2023 participant

SESSION TWO – 7 AUGUST

STORYTELLING AS COMPELLING COMMUNICATION

Sandy McDonald

This session will explore the science behind why story works as compelling communication. It introduces the storytelling model as tools essential to succinct, relevant, storytelling that can boost your audience’s recall and your credibility. In this session you will also complete and tell a story relevant to your idea, project, issue or challenge. It will demonstrate story at work and enable you to use the storytelling process in other situations.

“I witnessed firsthand the transformative power of turning ideas into action”

Claire Edwards, facilitator

“I left each session feeling inquisitive, energised and empowered. The program was really beneficial for me and I would highly recommend it to my peers.”

Meagan Merritt, Acting Manager - City Strategy, Melton City Council, 2023 participant

SESSION THREE – 28 AUGUST

MAKING PROGRESS ON COMPLEX CHALLENGES

Dr Desley Lodwick GAICD

This session will discuss:

- Power – when it is too little, just right or too much.
- Assertive Conversations - combining collaboration, negotiation and influencing in an accessible template.
- Deep diving into a pond - how to face complexity by applying the Assertive Conversation template.

“A breath of fresh air to facilitate because the topics were carefully curated with women in Local Government”

Dr Desley Lodwick GAICD, facilitator

“It broadened my toolkit for addressing challenges... and instilled a heightened confidence in making a meaningful impact.”

Wendy Castles, Project Manager City of Whittlesea, 2023 participant

PROGRAM

SESSION FOUR – 18 SEPTEMBER

POSITIVE DEVIANCE

Claire Edwards

This session is a collection of culture-shifting practices and perspective shifts designed to approach 'change' in some intentionally un-corporate ways. This session can help you embrace new ways of working that will enable your ideas to be heard. Packed with exercises and experiments, this interactive experience will guide you through the three phases of Intentional Deviant discovery and development while helping you develop a host of new intentionally deviant skills. Let's face it, if conventional change management practices addressed the real needs of organisations, they would be working better for more of us by now. Intentional deviance at work will empower you to approach and make change in simple, doable, yet oddly exhilarating ways. It will unshackle you from counterproductive efforts and help you to start racking up early wins. In the process, it will help you expand your sense of confidence, purpose and personal potential.

REFINING AND FINESSING AN IDEA OR PROJECT – A CRITIQUING PROCESS

Ruth Spielman

Ruth will take you through a critiquing process using a Complexity Theory process called Ritual Dissent.

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Venue

Oxford Scholar Hotel upstairs meeting space, 427 Swanston St Melbourne, opposite RMIT.

Getting There

There is easy access from Melbourne Central Train Station.

Parking

For nearby car parking options [click here](#)

Catering

Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will be provided.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information about the **Good Ideas Put to Good Use** Program, contact:

Ruth Spielman

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Belgin Besim

0409 519 184

Please visit our website ideasatwork.com.au for full comments from participants and facilitators about the 2023 program.



Ideas at Work (www.ideasatwork.com.au) is a service which can help critique, grow and prioritise the ideas at play in your workplace. We have experience and skills in research, planning, policy, advocacy and management. Strategic thinking, critical analysis and tapping into creativity underpin everything we do. Ruth Spielman and Robin Inglis are the partners. Belgin Besim is an associate.