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Speaker backgrounds:

- Dr Graham Jacobs MLA, who was first elected as Member for Eyre (Roe) in 2005. He was appointed the first Minister for Mental Health from 2008- 2010. Graham has been a member of the Education and Health Standing Committee since 2011 and was elected Chairman in 2013. He is a practicing medical doctor and has been helping his community in this position for over 35 years. He is married to Kathryn and with 5 grown children and he calls Esperance home.
- Timothy Marney is the Commissioner of the Western Australian Mental Health Commission and was previously Western Australia's Under Treasurer from 2005 to 2014. A graduate of Murdoch University, Tim has 20 years' experience in economics and finance with the State and Federal Governments holding the position of Under Treasurer of Western Australia since 2005. Since 2008, Tim has served on the board of beyondblue and been as deputy chair since 2010. A vocal advocate for progressive approaches to mental health issues, Tim has spoken openly of his own experience with depression and anxiety.
- Michelle Andrews joined the Department of Mines and Petroleum in 2011 bringing more than 25 years' experience in the public sector. In her role, Michelle is focused on improving the way the department works with other government agencies, industry and community groups, and is leading fundamental changes in the department's policy development and stakeholder engagement activities.
- Philippa Vojnovic holds a Master's degree in Psychotherapy and Counselling, a Graduate Certificate in Business and BSc in Psychology. Her doctoral research examines well-being and help-seeking Fly-In/Fly-Out (FIFO) workers in the resources industry. She has presented numerous workshops on topics relating to mental health and works as a counsellor/psychotherapist and published on the topics of mental health and suicide of FIFO workers.
- Adam Gale has 32 years' experience from childhood with living, studying and working in 'tough' communities across FIFO, regional W.A, the Army & Emergency Services. He has FIFO experience as a frontline worker, OHS service provider, family member and Master of Occupational Health Graduate.
- Associate Professor Judy Esmond is Head of Social Work and Social Policy in the School of Population at The University of Western Australia. Her research interests are extensive and varied including volunteering and student service learning. She is also considered a leading 'stresspert' having written, researched and given hundreds of presentations on the human response to stress across different life stages and in different environments. Her recent preliminary explorations have included FIFO families and particularly the children of Parents Working Away.