



## Age Well Stay Connected (Brisbane) Event 31/3/25

### World Café Conversation on Diverse Voices – Promoting Inclusivity, Connection and Belonging

Key Themes	Participant Examples
Belonging in Difference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Belonging can be experienced among diverse individuals.</li> <li>• It requires openness, empathy, and willingness to step outside comfort zones to understand others.</li> <li>• Involves challenging stigma around social isolation and ageism.</li> </ul>
Individualised, Person-Centred Connection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connection is deeply individual; what works for one person may not work for another.</li> <li>• Consider each person's cultural background, lived experience and personal needs when planning programs and supports.</li> <li>• Plan services thoughtfully, reduce practical barriers, and balance meaningful relationship building with program objectives.</li> </ul>
Meaningful Connection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connection goes beyond everyday interactions; it's about feeling valued, noticed, and part of a community.</li> <li>• Be kind, empathetic and fully present with others.</li> <li>• Build trust through patience, compassion, and culturally competent approaches to support individual social needs.</li> </ul>
Safe, Supportive and Welcoming Spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safe, welcoming, and inclusive spaces strengthen social connection.</li> <li>• Listen patiently and inclusively, allowing space for all voices to be heard, especially when conversations are uncomfortable.</li> <li>• Provide culturally appropriate services, volunteer training, proactive outreach, and ensure physical and psychological safety.</li> <li>• Shared language and understanding are vital for diverse communities, including migrant and Deaf communities.</li> <li>• Building trust is key to engaging those hesitant to accept help.</li> </ul>

#### **Ideas generated** to inform future initiatives and collaboration included:

- Strengthening Meaningful, Person-Centred, and Culturally Inclusive Social Connections, including outreach and volunteer engagement.
- Creating Safe, Welcoming Spaces and reducing barriers to participation while addressing stigma and ageism.
- Enhancing Collaboration across sectors and communities, using interactive approaches and technology to support connection and independence.