



Ahlia Griffiths

Ahlia Griffiths is a leading advocate for embedding lived experience in health and medical research. Drawing on a Lived Experience perspective, Ahlia has contributed as Chief Investigator, co-author, and presenter, and holds a distinctive lived experience role within Monash University's Health and Social Care Unit. In this position, Ahlia champions the integration of lived experience across all stages of research, ensuring end-user perspectives inform health policy, strategy, and review. Ahlia leads **VILLAGE (Valued Individuals Living and Learning About Growing Equity)**.



Michelle Gooley

Dr Michelle Gooley MBBS(Hons) MPH PhD FAFPHM is a Research Fellow and Public Health Physician in the Health and Social Care Unit, School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Monash University. Michelle is the project lead for **SEMPRE (Strengthening implEMentation Practice and Research with Equity)**.

The VILLAGE sits within Monash University's Health And Social Care Unit, SEMPRE (Strengthening implEMentation Practice and Research with Equity) body of work. SEMPRE aims to address the gap between scientific knowledge and its application in practice, known as the research-to-practice gap, is greatest for children, adults, and families experiencing social inequities and structural barriers to good health.

Bridging this gap is an urgent equity issue, fundamental to achieving healthy and thriving communities, requiring advanced Implementation Science – a science that emerged to enhance the uptake of research into practice. Consequently, there is now a global call to action for equitable Implementation Science.

SEMPRE responds to this call to action. Our vision is to develop the first programmatic, multi-sectoral and transcultural program of research focused on advancing equity-centred Implementation Science across health, social care, and education.

VILLAGE is a national network of parents and carers of children aged 0 – 17 years, who share a common goal of advancing equity in health, education and social services. The insights and contributions of Lived Experience Experts (LEEs)* are integral to shaping research that is inclusive, impactful, and reflective of real-world experiences.

Our approach is grounded in a commitment to authentic engagement, ensuring that all collaborations with VILLAGE are mutually beneficial, built on principles of equity, partnership, and shared purpose. The broader SEMPRE team involves, respects, and learns from VILLAGE from the outset, and across every single step of program and research planning, design, implementation and evaluation.

Our aim is for every researcher and research institute to embed community defined and non-traditional forms of evidence into research and practice, to genuinely and authentically hear and

incorporate the voice of those affected by research, to ensure positive health and wellbeing outcomes. Working closely with Lived Experience Experts is consistent with published evidence of how equity is operationalised in both health and social care settings.

*Please note our VILLAGE has chosen to use the language of Lived Experience Experts over consumer, patient, community, or public as they feel this is the most reflective terminology to describe our real-world experiences and impacts.

Ahlia and Michelle look forward to discussing how the inclusion of Lived Experience can be integrated into your day-to-day practice. If you are unable to attend but would still like to be a part of this conversation please contact VILLAGE-Network@monash.edu

Quick Links

To learn more about the SEMPRES (Strengthening impleMentation Practice and Research with Equity) body of work please click here - <https://www.monash.edu/medicine/sphpm/health-and-social-care/research/sempr>

To learn more about VILLAGE (Valued Individuals Living and Learning About Growing Equity), including our members, please click here - <https://www.monash.edu/medicine/sphpm/health-and-social-care/research/sempr/village>

Through the VILLAGE an array of supplementary material is also available to support the inclusion of Lived Experience Expertise.

Authentic Inclusion of Lived Experience Experts in Health and Social Care Research, (Report)2025
https://www.monash.edu/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/4067596/village-report.pdf

Working with Lived Experience Experts (LEEs)
https://www.monash.edu/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/3844528/working-with-lived-experience-experts.pdf

A short video inviting children and young people to describe what equity / Fairness means to them
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fRMUoL2uD6g>

Policy and Practice Packs

Advancing policy and practice through authentic Lived Experience involvement
https://www.monash.edu/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/4403704/hscu-policy-and-practice-pack-s3-p2-through-authentic-lived-experience-involvement.pdf

Voices that matter – Advancing policy and practice with Lived Experience Experts
https://www.monash.edu/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/3956147/hscu-policy-and-practice-pack-s2-p2-working-with-lived-experience-experts.pdf

Peer-review publication

Gooley, M., Morris, H., Madill, R. et al. Promoting equity for children and adolescents through implementation processes in health and social care: a scoping review. Syst Rev (2026).
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s13643-026-03176-z>