

Information for General Public Clients Referred by Organisations

With esteemed Griefologist, Rosemary Wanganeen

"Griefology is a place where grief meets inspiration"

Contact us

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Rosemary Wanganeen is a proud South Australian Aboriginal woman. Her paternal heritage is Kaurna of the Adelaide Plains, while her maternal lineage includes Koog-a-tha and Wir-rang-gu from South Australia's west coast. She also embraces her proud English heritage.

As a Griefologist, Rosemary is a clinical loss and grief counsellor, facilitator, assessor, public speaker, and research consultant. With nearly 31 years dedicated to developing Griefology, she has pioneered a much-needed new discipline for the mental health and well-being sector, offering innovative ways to address social and emotional well-being challenges across all cultures.

The foundation of her industry experience stems from her personal 'lived experiences,' which she explored through intuitive research between 1987 and 1992. This research developed her peer-reviewed and published Seven Phases to Integrating Griefology® model. As a member of the Stolen Generation, Rosemary's experiences compelled her to embark on a healing journey, transforming her grief into a culturally appropriate counselling model for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people alike. Loss and grief are universal human experiences that do not discriminate.

Confidentiality is strictly adhered to; however, duty of care remains a priority to ensure the safety of our clients.



Posemary Wanganeen

Griefologist | Director | Founder

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For the General Public

Griefology provides individuals with innovative, trauma-informed tools to better understand, support and navigate their grief and loss experiences.

Rosemary Wanganeen's expertise in Griefology provides support in the following areas:

- Adults, Young People, and Couples Supports individuals aged 13+ through grief, loss, and life transitions.
- Mental Health Challenges Suicide ideation/prevention, PTSD, and emotional distress linked to unresolved grief.
- Addiction-Related Challenges Addresses underlying grief contributing to substance use and addictive behaviours.
- Mortality (Death and Dying) Guides individuals and families through end-of-life transitions and loss.
- Women & Leadership Challenges Supports women navigating leadership, workplace dynamics, and empowerment.
- Career Transitions and Challenges Helps individuals integrate loss and change for clarity and confidence.
- Loss of Cultural Beliefs, Concepts, and Practices Supports all Australians in understanding and healing from the impact of cultural disconnection and loss.
- Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Provides tailored support for government and NGO employees facing personal and workplace challenges.

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For the General Public

The Healing Centre for Griefology's point of difference lies in Rosemary's integration of her personal lived experiences into every aspect of her work. Grounded in a grief (trauma)- informed model, the Seven Phases to Integrating Griefology, her approach and delivery are deeply rooted in our shared humanity. Rosemary's model creates a safe space built on compassion and transformation and free from pity, paternalism, condescending beliefs, shame, blame, or demonising. Truth-telling remains at the forefront of instilling deep and meaningful allyship and healing.

Key Concepts and Terminology in Griefology:

Rosemary introduces new, culturally safe and innovative grief-related terminologies, including:

- Tangible and intangible losses: Recognising both visible and invisible forms of loss
- Grief emotions: Understanding the diverse emotional responses to loss
- Grief triggers: Identifying events or experiences that may evoke grief reactions
- Reflective and creative grief tools/activities: Using creative methods to process grief
- Intuitive intelligence: Trusting one's inner wisdom during the grief journey
- Grief fears: Acknowledging fears associated with the grief process

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Professional Recognition & Accolades

Due to her extensive industry experience, Rosemary is currently a candidate for the Master of Philosophy (MPhil) program at the University of Adelaide (2018).

Her work has been widely recognised nationally and internationally, with some of her accolades including:



- City of Port Adelaide Enfield, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Awards (2022) Elder of the Year
- City of Port Adelaide Enfield, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Awards
 (2018) Lifetime Achievement Award Nominee
- SA Health, Mental Health Excellence Awards (2016) Finalist
- Aboriginal Health Council (SA) NAIDOC Health Awards (2016) Outstanding Health Project/Program Winner
- Australian Ethnic Awards (2012) Nominee
- Australian Ethnic Awards (2011) State Finalist
- Gladys Elphick Award (2011) Winner
- South Australian of the Year (2009) Community Award Winner

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Healing Centre for Griefology and founder, Rosemary Wanganeen, acknowledge that the Kaurna people are the Traditional Owners of Country of the land on which we are privileged to live, work, and play, and pay respects to Elders of the Kaurna nation, past, present and future. Rosemary acknowledges her gratitude for the sharing of modern Australia, and at the same time, expresses her deep sadness for the cost of this sharing particularly for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. We all have a right, a role, and responsibility to support the Reconciliation process and forge a path to a place of equity, justice, and partnership for all Australians. The Healing Centre for Griefology further acknowledges all Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and Torres Strait Islands and pays respect to their continuing connection to the land, waters and community we are privileged to visit. We pay our respects to the people, the cultures and the Elders past, present and emerging.

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