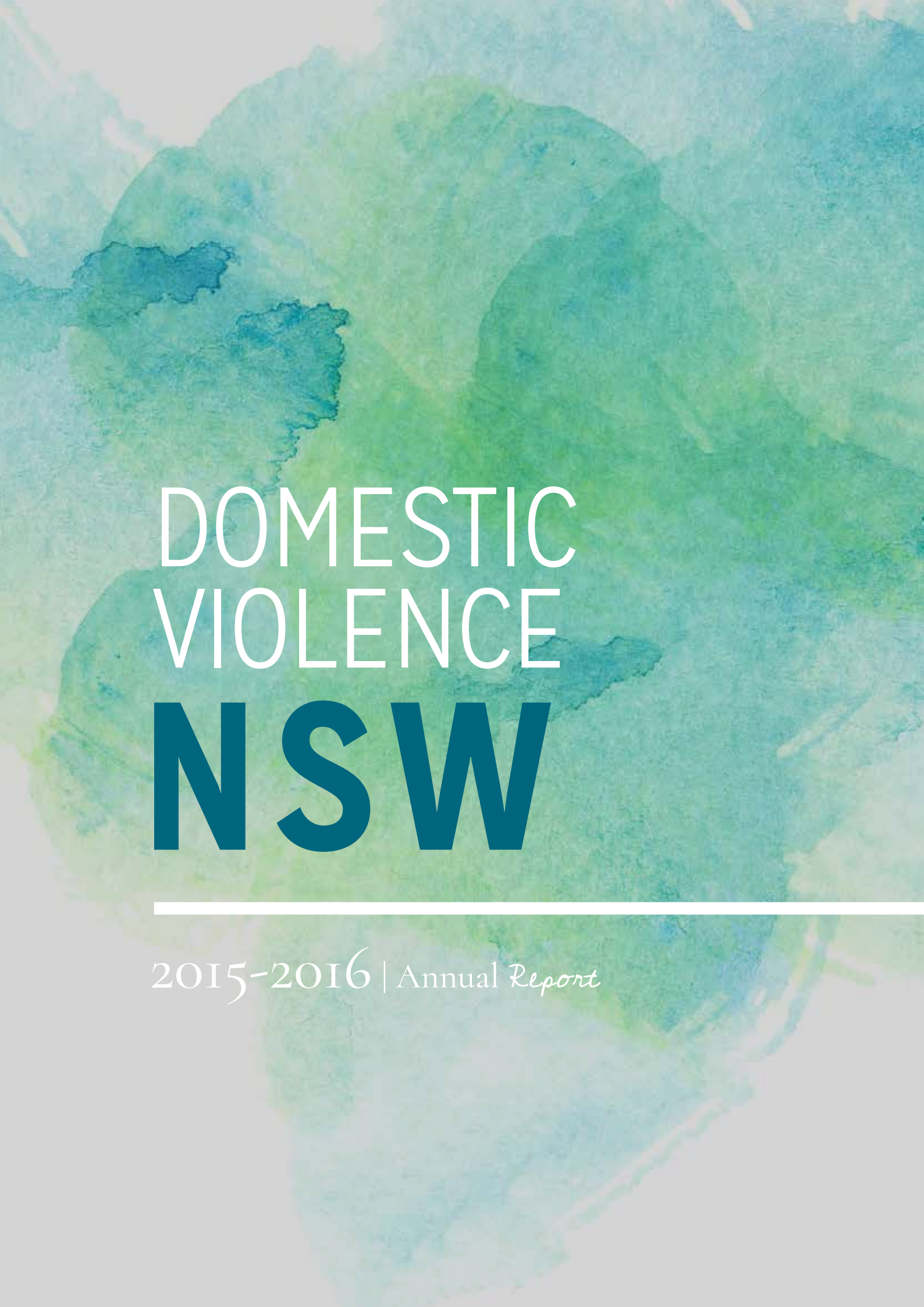




DOMESTIC VIOLENCE **NSW**

2015-2016 | *Annual Report*

About DOMESTIC VIOLENCE NSW

Domestic Violence NSW Inc. is the peak body for specialist domestic and family violence services in NSW. DVNSW provides a representative and advocacy function for specialist services and the women, families and communities they support. Our mission is to eliminate domestic and family violence through leadership in policy, advocacy, partnerships and the promotion of best practice. We work with our members, state and federal government and communities to create a safer NSW for all.

DVNSW member services represent the diversity of specialist services working in NSW to support women, families and communities impacted by domestic and family violence including:

- Crisis and refuge services
- Transitional accommodation and community housing providers
- Family support services
- Neighbourhood centres and drop in centres
- Specialist homelessness service providers
- Men's behaviour change programs and networks
- Community organisations working with high risk communities
- Specialist women's legal support services
- Women and children's support services
- Safe at Home programs

DVNSW members are all non-government organisations, some entirely government funded, others supported through philanthropic donations or through partnerships with industry or the corporate sector. Many of our members have multiple government and non-government funding streams. DVNSW advocates for best practice, continuous system improvements and innovative policy responses to domestic and family violence including building workforce capacity and representation at all levels of government.

We provide policy advice to multiple departments in the NSW Government on prevention, early intervention and response. We work with communities and the media to increase awareness and represent the sector on a number of state and federal advisory bodies including the **NSW Premier's Council on Homelessness, the NSW Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault Council, the NSW Early Intervention Council, the NSW Reference Group for Men's Behaviour Change, ANROWS' Practitioner Engagement Group, and the Australian Women Against Violence Alliance.** We co-convene and provide a secretariat function for the **NSW Women's Alliance** with **Rape and Domestic Violence Services Australia.**

We acknowledge the work and value of specialist women's services and the practice wisdom of domestic and family violence practitioners that underpins our work. DVNSW thanks the services and individuals who have developed best practice over decades of working with women, children, families and communities and shared their expertise with us over the year. We pay tribute to those who have experienced domestic or family violence, to their families and to our advocates, colleagues and partners in government and non-government agencies.



Contents PAGE

2	About Domestic Violence NSW
4	CEO report
5	Chair's report
	Treasurer's report
6	Conference 2015
8	Advocacy and submissions
10	Working with NSW Government
	NSW Women's Alliance
	2016 NSW Budget analysis
11	Specialist Homelessness Services Industry Partnership
12	DVNSW & IARC partnership
13	Developing best practice standards
14	DVNSW member survey
15	Community engagement and awareness
16	Media Highlights
20	Partnerships
21	Financial Report
22	Donations
23	Supporters

**“THE ONE PLACE
I CAN CONTACT
FOR INFORMATION
AND KNOW IT IS
COMING FROM
A PERSPECTIVE
THAT PRIORITISES
WOMEN'S NEEDS.”**

DVNSW Member
– 2015-16

CEO REPORT

2015-16 has seen immense change again. It's been a largely positive year in our sector with lots of focus on the vital work of domestic and family violence services and we've had a number of new member organisations join the peak assisting us to strongly advocate for the diverse needs of communities across our state. We've seen a substantial increase in community awareness and a real will for people and organisations to be part of the long-term solution and generational change in relation to violence.

With a new constitution, new governance structure and the creation of the **DVNSW Policy Advisory Committee**, we are finding new ways to reflect the diversity of specialist service responses and getting more skilled at hearing what communities in NSW expect from the peak body.

It's been the year of new partnerships for DVNSW. We've been fortunate to work in collaboration with a number of services, agencies and communities to grow the profile of the important work of domestic and family violence support services and to improve policy and practice responses in the last 12 months.

Some of the major highlights for Domestic Violence NSW in 2015-16 include:

- Advising journalist **Sarah Ferguson** and her team on the production of **Hitting Home**, a world-first two part expose of the work of domestic violence services
- Supporting **Rosie Batty** to connect with local NSW communities and services to understand the challenges facing services and people on the ground
- MC-ing the launch of **Our Watch's** Change the Story Framework in Canberra which was unveiled by **Michaelia Cash, Christian Porter, Natasha Stott-Despoja, Heather Nancarrow** and **David Morrison**
- Visiting domestic and family violence services across NSW to hear your local issues, expertise and advocacy
- Supporting the **NSW Women's Alliance** to present a strong, united voice for better policy responses to sexual assault and domestic and family violence
- Working with **Board of Studies, Youth Action, Our Watch, NAPCAN** and the 3 school sectors to produce a toolkit for NSW teachers in response to curriculum change.

The small DVNSW team (Sophie, Kelly, Emily and Tracey) has achieved huge things this year. We said goodbye to Mahlie and Skylar who had been a core part of the team developing our campaigns, branding and social media.



Moo Baulch,
CEO DVNSW

We're also grateful for the huge contribution and energy of Keri Ahmet who organised our 2015 conference at the Sydney Opera House and made it two memorable days for our members.

We've had incredible input and support from our member organisations this year and have produced a number of detailed, evidence-based submissions for NSW and Commonwealth Governments which have resulted in improvements to policy in a number of areas. We have worked closely with our colleagues in the **Department of Family and Community Services and Women NSW** and across a number of departments.

Finally, we are eternally grateful to those who were part of the 2015-2016 DVNSW Board. It's been a year when the Board has helped us move to the next stage in terms of building a stronger, more representative peak body.

M. Baulch

Chair's REPORT

2015-16 has been a year of consolidation for DVNSW. Following on from 2015, we have continued our work as advocates for both service users and the service sector. Moo Baulch and her team are sought by government to provide advice and opinions on a range of domestic violence and homelessness policy issues. In addition, DVNSW has participated in a range of media events; in doing so, building on the achievements of the previous year, and ensuring that the dialogue on domestic violence continues to remain in the public sphere.

The team have also undertaken a range of sector development activities. Support has been provided via training sessions and consultative

forums across the state. Also, DVNSW has been a source of information to the sector, particularly forewarning of new initiatives and proposed policy changes.

I would like to thank all Board members for your participation and dedication. It is a wonderful experience to work alongside such professional and determined women.

On behalf of the Board, I thank Moo for her leadership of the organisation. In addition, I wish to thank Moo and the team of workers and volunteers for their tireless efforts to advance the cause of women and children who are, or have, experienced domestic and family violence.



Jan McDonald
Chair,
DVNSW Board

Treasurer's REPORT

We began the year with a new Financial Officer, a clear strategic plan and projected budget. We finished the year with an unqualified audit and positive feedback from our auditors in relation to our systems, processes and reporting.

We remain in a strong financial position and are extremely pleased that our efforts have contributed to the stability, efficiency and accountability of the organisation. Many thanks to the Finance Team, the Board and particularly to the Finance Officer, Tracey Kennedy who has been crucial to our success. We acknowledge the support of **Family and Community Services** for our core funding,

and the receipt of funding for our **Specialist Homelessness Services Program** through the **SHS Industry Partnership** with **Homelessness NSW** and **YFoundations**.

Once again, community and business support and donations, both financial and material, have all contributed to the improvement of access and capacity of service provision.

Thank you,
your efforts are much appreciated.



Denele Crozier,
Treasurer,
DVNSW Board

Conference 2015

“I was so impressed by DVNSW's connections and networks, which are largely responsible I think for the success of the conference. It was obvious the time that is put into developing relationships across the sector and with stakeholders. This shows strong leadership by DVNSW”



DVNSW's annual two-day conference was held at the Sydney Opera House on the 3rd and 4th November 2015 and was a sold-out event. The conference with the incredible **Meredith Turnbull** as MC, included a packed agenda exploring an array of topical research themes and forward-thinking practice in the domestic and family violence sector.

Rosie Batty, our keynote speaker was an inspirational start, reminding many of the devastating impacts that domestic and family violence has whilst giving hope that positive social change is now an unstoppable force.

Conference speakers included keynotes:

Dr. Michael Flood from the **University of Wollongong** on prevention work with men and boys

Peta Cox from **ANROWS** presenting on the Personal Safety Survey data analysis

Greg Yee on best practice therapy work with families

Jamie Rullis from the **Haymarket Centre** on safe trans* women's access to DFV services

Dr. Jess Cadwallader & Meredith Lea on the **PWDA/DVNSW** disability audit and toolkit to improve service accessibility

Shelley Baker & Jan Breckenridge on the success of **Staying Home Leaving Violence**

Clint Berry & Jen Lang from the **NSW Men's Behaviour Change Network**

NSW Minister for Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Pru Goward spoke to reform and the rapid changes affecting the domestic and family violence sector in the inaugural “Pru and Moo Fireside Chat”.

Sarah Ferguson and Ivan O'Mahoney from the **ABC's Hitting Home** shared their unique insights gathered during the filming in NSW refuges and DFV support services. They played a preview of the two part documentary which had huge impact on the conference audience. For the first time our work was shown on the big screen and it inspired and enthused attendees.

For many, the highlight of the conference was a panel of prominent Aboriginal Elders and community leaders yarning about family violence. **The Honourable Linda Burney** led an inspiring discussion with **Christine Robinson, Cynthia Briggs, Dixie Link-Gordon** and **Carol Vale**. It was an incredible experience which left the audience with plenty of challenges for our work.

We were entertained on both days of conference by the **Bankstown Youth Development Service boys** and the **Sydney Street Choir**.

The conference provided a unique opportunity for NSW frontline DFV sector workers to explore systemic and emerging issues, relating to policy and practice and to engage in professional development. Feedback from the conference was overwhelmingly positive and suggestions have been incorporated in our preparation for the 2017 DVNSW conference.

Our thanks to **Corrs Chambers Westgarth, Colin, Biggers** and **Paisley** and **Lush** for supporting the 2015 DVNSW Conference.

99% OF RESPONDENTS STRONGLY AGREED OR AGREED THAT THEY FOUND IT WORTHWHILE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DVNSW 2015 CONFERENCE

“I have attended conference for a number of years and it keeps getting better and better.”



“I LOVED THE VARIATION AND THE DIVERSITY OF PRESENTATIONS ROSIE BATTY WAS INSPIRING”



“My favourite experience was seeing 5 strong Aboriginal women sitting on stage discussing domestic and family violence in Aboriginal communities.”

90% OF RESPONDENTS FELT ENERGISED AND INSPIRED ABOUT WORK IN THE DFV SECTOR 97% OF RESPONDENTS WERE OVERALL SATISFIED WITH THE DVNSW 2015 CONFERENCE

“I enjoyed the networking with other services and am really impressed with how the sector is responding to tackle the violence in our community.”



Pru and Moo's fireside chat

“THE YOUTH GROUP- BANKSTOWN YOUTH THEY GAVE ME HOPE FOR THE FUTURE WITH THEIR VERY STRONG MESSAGES.”

Advocacy AND SUBMISSIONS

DVNSW made a record number of detailed written submissions to the Commonwealth and to NSW Government inquiries reflecting practice, resource and policy challenges identified through the work of our services across NSW. Written submissions are available on the DVNSW website except in the case where the inquiry is confidential. Some of our submissions during the year include:

Commonwealth Attorney General and Family Law Council's discussion paper on "Families with Complex Needs and the Intersection of the Family Law and Child Protection Systems"

An unprecedented amount of feedback was received from DVNSW member services in relation to this long awaited discussion paper on Family Law. Our members identified that the Australian Family Law system routinely fails to protect those who need it, despite positive, evidence-based, domestic violence-informed policy amendments adopted in 2012.

DVNSWs recommended substantial improvements to policy and practice to ensure that the safety of children and young people is prioritised in Family Court practices. We highlighted the need to develop a range of comprehensive strategies so that workers in all parts of the Family Law system are trauma-informed, and wherever possible, trauma-specialist approaches are adopted by both the Family Law Court and the Children's Court.

Our submission highlighted that if we are to work effectively and fairly with women, children and families in a way that improves their safety, a comprehensive understanding of the nature of violence in the family context and the impacts of trauma on women, child, young people and communities must be integrated at all levels of legal proceedings including preparatory processes prior to the jurisdiction of the Family Court.

NSW Social Issues Committee: Inquiry into service coordination in communities with high social needs

DVNSW made a submission to the Legislative Council in late 2015 based on issues identified by member services. In addition to the written submission we were asked to appear before the committee to give evidence in relation to the impacts of Going Home Staying Home, communities impacted by DFV and effective service coordination. The Committee's report was released and made strong recommendations in areas that DVNSW put forward:

- Reviewing the competitive tendering process for human services
- Extension of funding periods to a minimum of 5 years with opportunities for extensions
- Longer lead times for tender preparations
- Codesign processes between government, communities and NGOs.

Women NSW DFV Blueprint 2015-16

After months of consultation with DVNSW members and broader sector specialists DVNSW submitted a detailed response to Women NSW's Blueprint scoping process. The paper reflected DVNSW member and partner expertise and made recommendations to NSW Government for better resourcing for the domestic and family violence sector.

DVNSW's submission to the Blueprint included 40 recommendations in four key areas:

1.	Preventing domestic and family violence by addressing its underlying causes
1.1	Promoting gender equality
1.2	Strong consistent leadership and community campaigns
1.3	NSW Government leadership
1.4	Whole of school approaches
1.5	Tailored high risk community approaches to prevention

2.	Intervening early to support those at risk of domestic and family violence
2.1	Definitions of early intervention
2.2	An integrated system with multiple access points
2.3	Mixed service models
2.4	Common tools to assess risk
2.5	Early intervention and justice systems
2.6	Safe, accessible housing and accommodation
2.7	Flexible support models
2.8	Residential perpetrator services
2.9	Coordination of reforms
2.10	Strengths-based procurement
3.	Supporting the safety and recovery of victims
3.1	A sustainable, well-resourced sector.
3.2	A valued and well developed workforce.
3.3	Client-centred, intensive, trauma-specialist service delivery with multiple supports wrapped around individuals to provide support and safety when DFV is identified.
3.4	Accessible services
4.	Ensuring perpetrator accountability
4.1	Coordinating NGO specialist and government approaches to perpetrator work
4.2	Funding for NGO Men's Behaviour Change work

We also emphasised the unique role of peaks in developing and supporting a sustainable, robust and accountable domestic and family violence system and continued our advocacy for further investment in specialist crisis, housing and longer term responses to meet increasing demand in refuges, women's and family services and other frontline support services as well as community-led responses to Aboriginal Family Violence, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities, women with disability and other high-risk groups.

Department of Justice: Interventions for higher risk offenders.

DVNSW's submission focused on the case for funding of nuanced, evidence-based NGO work with perpetrators, as well as the highly-skilled partner and family support work undertaken by specialist DFV services. We highlighted the best practice partnerships between locally based Men's Behaviour Change Programs ((MBCPs) and specialist DFV services.

20% of DVNSW member organisations either currently deliver Men's Behaviour Change Programs or consider men's behaviour change work as a service specialisation area. Frontline domestic and family violence services that do not directly work in the area of perpetrator interventions are nonetheless impacted by interventions with high risk offenders through their work with victim-survivors and families regardless of whether or not the perpetrators are engaged in formal interventions.

Working WITH NSW GOVERNMENT

We have monthly meetings with **Pru Goward**, Minister for Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and a quarterly meeting with **Brad Hazzard, Minister for Family and Community Services**. We had regular meetings advocating for policy improvements throughout the year with a number of government departments including **Ministry of Health, Department of Education, Department of Justice, NSW Police and Corrections** in 2015-16 as well as local district staff.

NSW Women's Alliance

The NSW Women's Alliance works collectively to provide a unified voice on issues affecting the NSW domestic and family violence and sexual assault sector. It's a group of non-government peak and statewide organisations working from feminist, human rights and social justice perspectives to improve policy and practice responses. The Alliance brings together a range of agencies with a variety of expertise, knowledge and experience in both responding to, and working towards preventing, violence against women. DVNSW provides the secretariat function of the NSW Women's Alliance, facilitates meetings in a co-chair capacity, and manages submissions and official correspondence for the Alliance. In the 2015-16 year NSW Women's Alliance worked closely with government providing advice and advocacy on a range of issues with a particular focus on demand and capacity in services and unaddressed policy gaps.

NSW 2016 Budget Analysis

In May 2016 after the release for the NSW state budget, the NSW Women's Alliance released a comprehensive analysis of the NSW Budget. The analysis looked at every element of the state budget likely to have an impact upon victim-survivors as well as the domestic and family violence sector. It built upon previous work of the NSW Women's Alliance "A Safer State" and highlighted the need for adequate resourcing and consistent approaches across NSW's legal, justice, service support, housing, health and education sectors.

NSW Women's Alliance:

- ACON Health Ltd
- Domestic Violence NSW (co-convenor and secretariat)
- Immigrant Women's Speakout
- People with Disability Australia
- Mudgin-gal Aboriginal Women's Centre
- Multicultural Disability Advocacy Association NSW
- Muslim Women's Association
- New South Wales Council of Social Services
- NSW Men's Behaviour Change Network
- Rape and Domestic Violence Services Australia (co-convenor)
- Warringa Baiya Aboriginal Women's Legal Centre
- Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service NSW Inc
- Women's Health NSW
- Women's Legal Service NSW
- Youth Action



Budget Analysis Sheets

SHS INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

NSW Department of Family and Community Services funds an **Industry Partnership (IP)** that consists of the three homelessness peaks (**Domestic Violence NSW, Homelessness NSW and Yfoundations**) for the implementation of the **Sector Development Project (SDP)** to June 2017. The SDP assists the NSW specialist homelessness sector to implement key priorities under the Industry Development Strategy and to build the sector's capacity over the longer-term.

Our Project Officer, Emily Goldsmith, is employed to implement Project C - service access, design and delivery. A key element of this project has been to consult with the sector around the key issues (both systemic and reform based) that impact their service delivery. This consultation has included meeting with services face to face, attending district meetings such as the **District Homelessness Implementation** Group meetings, regional DFV meetings and relevant meetings/forums (such as the **Forced Marriage Network**, local DFV

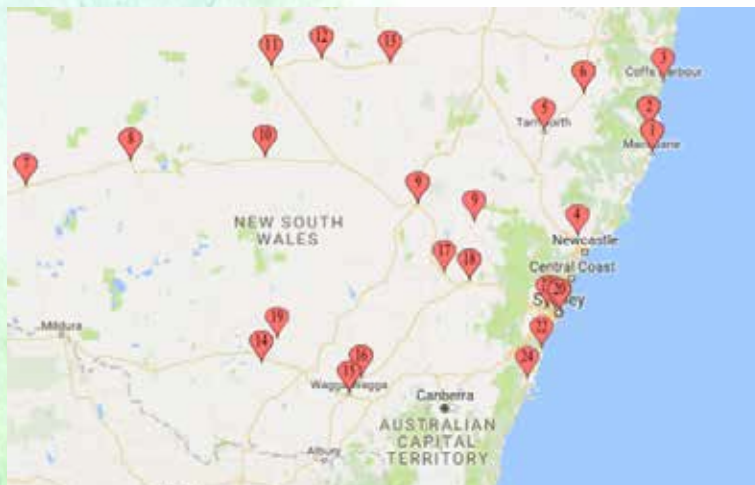
Committees and networks). From this consultation process, the work relating to developing draft Best Practice Guidelines and the training workshops on working with migrant women impacted by DFV were developed.

A key aim of Emily's project is to bring the sector together to improve collaboration and to explore systemic issues relating to DFV in the current policy space. On 2 November 2015, we convened a statewide forum attended by 74 frontline DFV workers and managers from SHSs from across the state, to explore ways to better work together and ensure those impacted by domestic and family violence receive best practice support and care. A major focus of the forum was on the role of DVNSW and **Homelessness NSW** as peak bodies in advocating for services and appropriate responses through improved policy and funding. In order to influence policy changes to improve the lives of women and children impacted by DFV, regular meetings are held with **Link2Home, DV Line** and senior staff from

the **Department of Family and Communities** (including **NSW Housing, the Homelessness Policy Unit and Community Services**). These meetings have resulted in positive policy changes such as ensuring any person impacted by DFV is given appropriate access to appropriate temporary accommodation, with funding to relocate her if required. Regular meetings are also conducted with **Homelessness NSW and Yfoundations** to keep abreast of common issues/concerns and policy updates in the homelessness and youth space.



Emily Goldsmith, DVNSW Project Officer



DVNSW & IARC Partnership

Improving responses to migrant women impacted by DFV

We've been overwhelmed with stories from migrant women who have no access to income and are experiencing domestic and family violence. This group of women are not entitled to Centrelink benefits or work rights, or are unable to find paid work. In our experience, this cohort primarily includes women who have arrived as spouses or partners of skilled migrants, NZ residents who arrived after 2001 and other visa categories that have restrictions. Women and children impacted by domestic and family violence with no access to an income rely heavily on the domestic and family violence (and the homelessness) sectors for support in NSW. The particular circumstances of these families' results in long stays in homelessness and domestic and family violence support accommodation with no exit options, which also prevents entry of new families to that service.

Our sector reported that they struggled to know how to best assist these vulnerable women. The complexities of migration law are often overwhelming and services reporting feeling like they did not have the training or resources to be able to assist these women confidently.

DVNSW has partnered with the **Immigration Advice and Rights Centre** to provide training to any staff member working with this client group on migration law. Three training sessions were provided in the first half of 2016 in Campsie, Liverpool and Maitland.

All of these training sessions were at capacity – highlighting the desire within the sector for more information on this issue. This training continues to be delivered to DFV specialist services, Police and other interested staff.

The training provides participants with a strong picture of the work **IARC** do and how they can assist services, what family violence provisions are and how they apply, information around protection visas and information on other family visas. Results from the evaluation surveys highlight the usefulness of the training. At the Liverpool training session, all attendees marked that they were either really satisfied (90%) or pretty satisfied (10%) with the training. All participants cited that they either strongly agreed or agreed that it was worthwhile to participate and that they learnt new skills and knowledge that they would share with others. This positive feedback was consistent across the other training days in Maitland and Campsie.

The success of the training has been acknowledged both from within and outside of the sector – as the partnership was recently nominated for a NSW Law and Justice Award. DVNSW and **IARC** continue to work together in the 2016-17 financial year, with further training sessions scheduled and an ongoing commitment to support migrant women impacted by DFV.



Developing BEST PRACTICE STANDARDS

Building on the decades of expertise developed by the **NSW Women's Refuge Movement**, Access and Equity Manual principles, specialist services working with women, families and communities (and agencies and services in other jurisdictions) DVNSW has begun creating a sector-driven set of Practice Guidelines and Standards that we hope will be a useful benchmark for DFV support and future allocation of funding for DFV service provision.

Best practice standards will ensure that victim-survivors are provided with consistent, quality support across NSW. Standards will provide services with a clear framework to deliver trauma-specialist responses, demonstrate the value of specialist service provision and benchmark against other similar organisations for continuous improvement. We envisage that the standards will provide options for services and practitioners to work from minimum to best practice. As part of the project we are working with services to put together a comprehensive toolkit of resources, policies, templates and models for practice.



As an initial scoping, Emily our Project Officer conducted a thorough literature review exploring existing standards and guidelines relevant to the DFV sector – both in NSW and elsewhere in Australia. This provided us with a framework to begin talking to services about what they identified as essential principles and practice when working with vulnerable, trauma-impacted families.

Consultations with services took place in Lismore, Kempsey, Dubbo, Cobar, Walgett, Brewarrina, Bourke, Griffith, Tamworth, Armidale, Wagga Wagga, Junee, Orange, Bathurst, Port Macquarie, Coffs Harbour, Broken Hill, Wilcannia, Maitland, and Sydney. Additional consultations are scheduled for 2016-17. We asked workers and managers what they thought was important in terms of core principles for specialist responses and key themes for the guidelines.

In the 2016-17 financial year, DVNSW will continue our sector consultations and to work closely with practitioners and experts on the ground to share examples of what works. We've developed a survey to gather additional feedback and detailed examples of practice in a range of community settings and we expect to have a first draft of the guidelines ready to share with you by December 2016. Our new **DVNSW Policy and Advisory Committee** (practitioners from a range of DFV specialist services across NSW) will oversee and provide comment throughout the process and we'll continue to listen to what communities are identifying that they need.

The consultation process to date has highlighted a strong, unanimous desire and support from across the NSW sector to have a set of best practice guidelines/standards in place and to have measures and benchmarks that value professional, specialist responses to women, families and communities impacted by violence.

We look forward to updating you on the completion of this work in the next DVNSW Annual Report.

NSW DOMESTIC & FAMILY VIOLENCE PRACTICE STANDARDS

Research & Scoping

Stage 1 - Complete

DVNSW - Literature Review



Stage 2 - Complete

State Scoping Consultations



Stage 3 - In progress

Consolidation of Consultations



DVNSW ANNUAL MEMBER *Survey*

In June 2016 DVNSW gave members the opportunity to respond to our annual member survey. Over the four weeks the survey was open, 75% of our member organisations responded with valuable insights into the ways in which DVNSW can improve our communication strategies, reflection upon the ways in which DVNSW has contributed to the positive outcomes of member organisations as well as highlighting areas of priority of work for DVNSW in the coming 2016-2017 year.

The results of the survey are informing our organisational planning for the next year and will allow DVNSW to experiment with new ways of keeping our members updated in a timely, relevant and concise manner. DVNSW will be focusing on increasing the number of members who can engage and contribute to submissions and our policy work as well as advocacy campaigns as a result of the insights contained within the survey feedback.

“I LOVE THAT WE CAN CALL ON DVNSW FOR ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE ON A WHOLE RANGE OF ISSUES.”

DVNSW Member – 2015-16
Annual Member Survey

“DVNSW STAFF HAVE BEEN VERY SUPPORTIVE AND PROFESSIONAL”

DVNSW Member – 2015-16
Annual Member Survey

DVNSW would like to thank all of the member organisations who gave their time to provide DVNSW with the invaluable information given via the survey. You are helping us to build a better peak and we are grateful for all feedback.

- DVNSW welcomed 26 new members in 2015-2016
- 100% of DVNSW members found our DVNSW member updates useful
- DVNSW regularly updates the sector on information relevant to domestic and family violence as well as broader social policy, change and developments. How helpful have you generally found this information to be?
91% - Very Helpful
9% - Helpful
- Overall, 100% of members were satisfied with how DVNSW has supported themselves and /or their organisation
- 91% of DVNSW members found that DVNSW submissions were helpful for their own work

The top 5 priority areas highlighted by our members in the DVNSW Member Survey are:

1. Domestic and Family Violence Prevention and Early Intervention
2. Domestic and Family Violence and Family Law
3. Domestic and Family Violence and Child Protection
4. Housing and Homelessness
5. Domestic and Family Violence Specialist Responses & Best Practice Standards.

- 71% of members reported they engaged and gave feedback (via Survey Monkey, face-face consultation etc) to the Women NSW Blueprint process via DVNSW
- 73% of members reported they engaged and gave feedback (via Survey Monkey, face-face meetings and phone interviews etc) to the NSW Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS) via DVNSW

“WE FEEL VERY SUPPORTED BY OUR PEAK” -

DVNSW Member
– 2015-16

Community ENGAGEMENT AND AWARENESS

2015-2016 was the year that Australia began to talk publically about domestic and family violence. Having **Rosie Batty** as Australian of the Year meant that we were able to have new conversations about the prevalence of violence in our communities, we became more aware of the impacts on children and young people and suddenly DFV was out in the open.

DVNSW team members, Board members and Ambassadors participated in a range of different community engagement forums, workshops, panels and presentations supporting events run by our organisational members but also extending the conversations to new and different places. A special thanks to **Kay Schubach**, DVNSW Ambassador for her tireless advocacy and willingness to support our work throughout the year.



Karen Willis,
DVNSW Board
and **Sophie Trower,**
DVNSW



Highlights in community engagement and awareness this year included:

- Discussing local responses to domestic and family violence with the Junee community including **Sister's Housing, NSW Police, a Corrections representative** and the **Junee Country Women's Association**.
- **Soroptimist** International Conference presentation
- Training **Australian Federal Police** to better understand the needs of LGBTIQ people impacted by violence
- **Royal Australian College of Surgeons** panel
- **Walkley's** Dangerous Women panel
- Participation in the **Aboriginal Women's Healing Summit** which resulted in the creation of the Mandalong Statement
- **Transgender Day of Remembrance** event
- **White Ribbon Day** panel for ASIC staff across Australia
- MC-ed the **Foundation for Alcohol Research Education** launch at Parliament House with **Rosie Batty, Bill Shorten** and prominent leaders.



Police, Pickle and Sophie at "Wear It Purple Day"



Kay Schubach,
DVNSW Ambassador

Emily and Moo,
DVNSW Junee
Community Forum

Media HIGHLIGHTS

PROBONO AUSTRALIA
NEWS JOBS VOLUNTEER DIRECTORIES EVENTS EDUCATION
MEDIA, ARTS & RESOURCES FOR THE COMMUNITY GOOD

NEWS / POLICY / GOVERNMENT

Outcry Over Loss of Govt Domestic Violence Leave

Community groups have condemned the decision to strip domestic violence leave from Commonwealth public servants' workplace agreements.

Wednesday, 10th March 2016
11:11 AM AEST
Eliza Cooper, Journalist

174 Comments

Print

1141 Views 10/03/2016

Like 1940

The Canberra Times reported on Tuesday night that the unions to remove the leave came from the federal workplace authority, which answers directly to Minister for Women Michaelia Cash.

Up to 50 public service employees insisted that the right of their workers to take time off for family violence be removed, including the Human Services Department and the Australian Taxation Office.

CEO of Domestic Violence NSW Moo Baulch said she was "surprised" by the news, which coincided with International Women's Day.

"Domestic violence leave is important on both a practical level but also a symbolic level, so it sends out a really clear message within workplaces that

Principals play 'key role' in domestic violence education

by Brett Henebery

11 Aug 2015



Domestic Violence CEO, Moo Baulch, told *The Educator* that other states must follow the example of NSW and introduce mandatory domestic violence prevention classes in their schools, pointing to the key role principals can play in raising awareness of the issue in their schools and communities.

Top Discussion

SCHOOLS IN CRISIS: One-in-four new teachers 'burnt out'

news local

SYDNEY'S EAST TURNS AN EYE TO ITS OWN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHAME

The eastern suburbs' very own domestic violence crisis will come into focus tomorrow.

Events will be held across the region to mark *White Ribbon Day*, including a presentation by the head of a Potts Point refuge who says harbourfront mansions are as susceptible as anywhere to violence and abuse.

"Domestic violence happens in every community, particularly in affluent suburbs where there may be more reluctance to seek help," said Lou's Place CEO Deborah Banks.

Tomorrow she and Domestic Violence NSW chief executive Moo Baulch will speak to a women's education and discussion group, *Conversely*, in Double Bay.



Lou's Place chief executive Deborah Banks kept the eastern suburbs focus of domestic abuse.

DAILY LIFE

HOME NEWS & VIEWS • LIFE & LOVE • HEALTH & FITNESS • FOOD

News and more from the Daily Life team

One-in-three myth unanimously busted on 'Hitting Home' finale of Q&A

November 20, 2015



Jenny Naylor
Author of *Hitting Home*, Daily Life
When asked if Hitting Home was a myth
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Jenny Naylor, CEO of Domestic Violence NSW, at the Q&A session during Hitting Home finale.

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Domestic violence affects LGBTIQ communities at alarming levels - report

NHS report finds people in non-heterosexual relationships suffer emotional and verbal abuse specific to their gender identity and sexual preferences



The Sydney Morning Herald Comment

News Sport Business World Politics Comment Property Entertainment Lifestyle Travel Cars

Talk will not do it alone: money needed for domestic violence effort

Australia's domestic and family violence system is stretched to breaking point and the budget fails to replenish its empty coffers.

Moo Baulch

We are halfway through the 2009 to 2012 National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children, which encompasses levels of attention focused on the issue of domestic violence. But in Tuesday's budget, the Commonwealth effectively and literally cut money from frontline specialist domestic and family violence service responses, including crisis services, women's and youth refuges funded under the National Partnership Agreement on Multisectoral, Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention Legal Services and Community Legal Services.

The Sydney Morning Herald Comment

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Talk will not do it alone: money needed for domestic violence effort

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Moo Baulch

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MEDIA, JOBS & RESOURCES FOR THE COMMUNITY

Outcry Over Loss of Govt Domestic Violence Leave

Community groups have criticised the decision to strip domestic violence leave from Commonwealth public servants' workplace agreements.

Wednesday, 16th March 2016 10:10 PM AEST
By Kate Cooper, Jane Griffin

Up to 50 public service employees insisted that the right of their workers to take time off for family violence be removed, including the Human Services Department and the Australian Taxation Office.

CEO of Domestic Violence NSW Moo Baulch said she was "surprised" by the news, which coincided with International Women's Day.



CEO of DV NSW and Inner City Legal Centre Board member, Moo Baulch, presented highlights from the latest research *Calling it What it Really is* (2015).



Above: Moo Baulch, CEO DV NSW

NEWS LOCATION Sydney, NSW

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New women's refuge opens in Sydney to help victims fleeing domestic violence

By Michelle Brown
Updated: 10 Sep 2016, 11:55am

Domestic Violence New South Wales has welcomed the opening of a new women's refuge in Sydney's west, but says it is too early to say whether there has been an improvement in crisis care as the State Government believes.

The refuge was allowed a rare look inside the refuge called Kelly's Cottage, as it was inspected by NSW Minister for Family and Community Services Brad Hazzard and the member for Seven Hills, Mark Taylor.

The refuge, run by Linking Recovery/Linking Hope, had all its five bedrooms filled by the first week of operation at the end of August.

Kelly's Cottage provides short term accommodation and crisis counselling to women, including those fleeing domestic violence.

PHOTO: A new women's refuge Kelly's Cottage has opened in Sydney's west. (ABC News)

RELATED STORY: More regional women subject to domestic violence than city counterparts

RELATED STORY: Linking Health service targets students' violence and homelessness

MAP: Sydney 2008

Media HIGHLIGHTS



Advocates Support Roll-Out Of Program Across New South Wales To Target Domestic Violence...

"That means working across the community to change attitudes and behaviours of some men that feel it is their right to control and abuse women."

According to Moo Baulch, CEO of Domestic Violence NSW, the new program sends a strong message that police do not accept domestic violence and will be targeting individuals who are serial perpetrators.

"I think it's a new way that police are going to be targeting the particularly high-volume offenders," Baulch told The Huffington Post Australia.

"I think things are really shifting about the way police are dealing with domestic violence," she said.

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You are here: Home > News And Views > DL Opinion >

Moo Baulch on domestic violence: We've finally admitted we have a problem - now what?

November 25, 2015
Moo Baulch

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"There are a number of significant challenges. There are still many stories that aren't being told," writes Moo Baulch.

The CEO of Domestic Violence NSW, Moo Baulch, said rates of abuse in LGBTI relationships was similar to that between straight couples but awareness of the issue was lagging far behind.

"We find it hard to talk about this stuff in the same way that we do in the mainstream spectrum. It's a hidden thing, it happens in people's homes, there's a level of fear or shame about seeking support and you have these extra levels in LGBTI relationships."



CEO of Domestic Violence NSW, Moo Baulch, says the LGBTI community finds domestic violence a difficult topic to discuss. Picture: supplied. Source: News Corp Australia

CEO of Domestic Violence NSW, Moo Baulch, said the video did a great job addressing how we have to change sexist attitudes before we can really end violence against women. "Abuse of women and girls, particularly the insidious sexist name-calling, denigration, and put downs, is often explained away as being a joke or insignificant," she said, noting that it's those very jokes that help to encourage people to mistreat women in more severe ways.

Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull put it well when he **recently addressed** the "boys will be boys" attitude toward domestic violence, saying, "Let me say this to you: disrespecting women does not always result in violence against women. But all violence against women begins with disrespecting women."

Baulch added that the world needs more men to be "vocal role models, men who are willing to make the sorts of connections between disrespect and violence against women that [Prime Minister] Turnbull made a few weeks ago. That was incredibly powerful."



New research finds 'shocking' levels of domestic violence in LGBTI relationships

10 NOVEMBER 6, 2019 3:52PM



Domestic violence against LGBTI Australians has been physically hurt for their current partners, a new report reveals.



Partnerships

We worked in partnership with member services, peaks, local government, community organisation and advocates to improve responses in a range of settings including:

- **Women's Legal Service NSW** workshop on Family Violence and Family Law for Family Court Registrars
- **NSW Police Gay and Lesbian Liaison Officer Conference** presentation with **Sean McDermott** from **NSW Police DV Policy Unit**
- **Parramatta City Council Violence Prevention Forum**
- **NSW Board of Studies, Our Watch, Youth Action, NAPCAN** and the 3 NSW school sectors to produce a toolkit of resources for NSW teachers to teach DV in the curriculum for years 7-10
- Launch of the **Calling It What It Really Is** research with **NSW LGBTIQ Domestic and Family Violence Interagency** and **Centre for Social Research in Health, UNSW.**

Two of our partnerships have resulted in hugely positive impacts.

Two Good - our ongoing partnership with the amazing Two Good crew goes from strength to strength. More than 1000 beautiful care packs were distributed to frontline support services across NSW for Mother's Day 2016 and Two Good continue to distribute fresh, healthy, free meals to DV services across Sydney weekly as part of their buy-one, do



JOY Agency's Valentine's Day Card campaign won an international design award and got lots of publicity. The campaign showed the darker side of relationships with cards featuring quotes beautifully illustrated by some of the country's top female typographers.



good enterprise. DFV survivors are employed in the Two Good Kitchens and trained, paid and supported in their pathway to recovery. Two Good has expanded to Melbourne now and a number of top Sydney and Melbourne chefs continue to develop new dishes and recipes whilst doing good wherever they go.



Financial REPORT

Audited Financial Accounts for the 2015/2016 Financial Year are tabled at the AGM. Domestic Violence NSW continues to operate to budget and asserts that there are reasonable grounds to believe it will be able to pay its debts if and when they fall due.

Domestic Violence NSW has a strong finance team coupled with good financial systems and projected budgets for the year ahead.

Domestic Violence NSW asserts that the audited financial accounts tabled at the AGM is a true and fair view of the financial position of the association as at 30 June 2016 and that there are reasonable grounds to believe that we can pay our debts as and when they become due.

I am happy to commend these accounts to the membership.

Denele Crozier,
Treasurer.

	2015/2016	2014/2015	**2013/2014
Total Revenue	644,295	578,763	1,801,449
Wages and On Costs	422,298	451,855	1,125,303
Operational Expenses*	111,529	109,325	319,526
Professional Fees	32,950	46,931	135,423
Conference & Meeting Expenses	45,089	11,369	47,212
Client and Project Expenses	2,500	6,349	64,373
IT & Telecommunications	19,660	12,947	47,042
Total Expenditure	634,026	638,776	1,738,879
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	10,269	(60,013)	62,570
Total Equity	235,022	224,753	284,766

*Venue Hire expenses of \$5,691 were reclassified from Operational to Conference Expenses for the 2014/2015 financial year to more accurately reflect conference costs.

**2013/2014 financials represent a combined DVNSW & DVSM result.

Donations

The Domestic Violence NSW team and Board are extremely thankful for the kindness and generosity of those that have donated goods and services that go towards supporting women and children whose lives have been impacted by violence. At Christmas time and throughout the year we distribute your generous donations to our members who are working directly with families escaping violence.

We have been fortunate this year to be able to deliver in person many of the donations to our rural and regional members, due to Moo our CEO and Emily the SHS Project Manager conducting forums and getting out and about meeting members.

A big thank you to the ladies at **Eastwood Quilters, Stitching Hearts, Square Knitters** and **Knit4charities**. Your beautiful blankets and quilts will be greatly appreciated, particularly in the rural areas over the colder months.

Last Christmas we were able to provide some great gifts to women and children in refuges and transitional housing all over NSW. This meant that women and children who were unable to be in their own homes over the Christmas period could still receive a gift. We were also able to distribute brand new household goods to help families start their lives after violence.

A big thankyou to the young volunteers who helped pack and sort the goods ready for delivery.

A massive thankyou to **James and Geri** and the **Sendle** crew for making it possible to get our deliveries out to DVNSW members across NSW in time for the holiday season.

A big thankyou and acknowledgement to the following people, groups and businesses who have donated goods and or services over the course of the year:

ASIC
Bauer Media
Bondi Rotary
Camphin Boston Chartered Accountants
Christie Corporation
Colin Biggers and Paisley
Corrs Chambers Westgarth
Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu
JOY Agency
Eastwood Quilters
Emanuel Synagogue
Every Little Bit Helps
Fantastic Furniture
Knit4charity
Intimo Lingerie
Luke Batty Foundation
Lush
Mantra Group
Sendle
Square Knitters
Stitching Hearts
The Body Shop
The National Dental Foundation
The Yoga Room – St.Ives
Tracey Leyshon & Friends
Two Good
Walker Books Australia

And to all the individuals, friends and families who generously donated throughout the year, thank you. Your contributions have made a huge difference to many lives across NSW.



Charlotte, Kelly and Madeline Macdonald

Supporters

Much of our work would not be possible without the support of our colleagues, supporters, volunteers and ambassadors.

Thanks to all those who have partnered with us in 2015-2016 to create a safer NSW for our communities.

NSW Women's Alliance:

- ACON Health Ltd
- Domestic Violence NSW (co-convenor and secretariat)
- Immigrant Women's Speakout
- People with Disability Australia
- Mudgin-gal Aboriginal Women's Centre
- Multicultural Disability Advocacy Association NSW
- Muslim Women's Association
- New South Wales Council of Social Services
- NSW Men's Behaviour Change Network
- Rape and Domestic Violence Services Australia (co-convenor)
- Wirringa Baiya Aboriginal Women's Legal Centre
- Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service NSW Inc
- Women's Health NSW
- Women's Legal Service NSW
- Youth Action

Thank you to our Board members:

- Jan McDonald (chair)
- Denele Crozier (treasurer)
- Wafa Zaim (secretary)
- Deb Banks (vice chair)
- Tracy Asby
- Amanda Greaney
- Annabelle Daniel
- Pia Birac
- June Wilson
- Kara Beavis
- Karen Willis
- Rachael Martin
- Nadia Cassidy
- Cynthia Briggs

Our colleagues in government, particularly:

- Minister Pru Goward and staff in the Minister's office
- Minister Brad Hazzard and staff in the Minister's office
- Department of Family and Community Services
- Women NSW team

DVNSW Ambassadors:

- Kay Schubach
- Kelly L.
- Sarah Ferguson

Our sector colleagues who have kept us going:

- Karen Willis
- Meredith Turnbull
- Homelessness NSW
- Youth Action
- ACOSS
- Yfoundations
- NCOSS
- FAMS
- NADA
- SHS Industry Partnership
- DVVIC
- LGBTIQ Domestic and Family Violence Interagency
- Rosie Batty and the Luke Batty Foundation
- Jan Breckenridge and UNSW Gendered Violence Research Network
- Jess Hill
- NAPCAN
- Our Watch
- Chris and APACMS
- ANROWS
- DVSM
- AWAVA
- Michael Salter
- Fair Agenda
- Bonnie Souter
- NACLC
- Jenny Acheson and Leesa

- City of Sydney
- AFVPLS
- ALS NSW
- WLSA
- Ivan, Kylie, Nial, Sarah and In Films
- Julia Baird
- Katie Acheson
- The Project
- Shannon Murdoch
- Tracy Howe
- Trish Mitra-Kahn
- 2SER
- Graham Richardson
- Jude Marshall
- Jeannette Walsh
- Eastern Suburbs DV Network
- The Family Court Mothers
- The victim-survivor advocates and families who have spoken out this year
- All our member services

DVNSW Volunteers

- Blake Johnson,
- Madeline Macdonald
- Charlotte Macdonald
- Kieran Costello

DVNSW staff are forever grateful to our friends and family for supporting us to do what do.

Eternal thanks to our friend and colleague Craig Bulley from NADA. You are always in our thoughts and hearts.





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