



**D O M E S T I C
V I O L E N C E
N S W**

ANNUAL REPORT
2018 - 2019

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



Thank you to Lexie Reeves for allowing us to use her beautiful work for our front cover this year, and Catalina Valencia for permission to use her image.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Lexie Reeves is an Aboriginal social documentary photographer based in Sydney. As a visual storyteller and social documentarian, she is drawn to explore the customs, lifestyles and values that characterise her subjects. By recording social histories and building legacies using photographs and words, her work often sheds light on injustice, inequality and sidelined aspects of society. Lexie is a long-term friend of DVNSW and the person we go to, to take our pictures. Thank you Lexie.

ABOUT THE ART

This picture of one of our wonderful survivor advocates Catalina Valencia, was captured at the first of our two Voices for Change training sessions this year. We asked Catalina how she felt during this photoshoot. She replied, I feel 'empowered, no longer silenced and that I have a voice'. Thank you Catalina, for your incredible determination and involvement in this project.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Domestic Violence NSW's office is situated on Gadigal land in Redfern.

We pay our respects to the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and First Nations Elders past and present.

We thank the traditional owners and original custodians of lands throughout NSW for your wisdom, guidance and support to work on land that was never ceded.

We acknowledge the disproportionately high rates of violence impacting Aboriginal women, families and communities and the ongoing impacts of colonisation and institutional violence and racism.

We acknowledge that we work in the context of generations of resilient, strengths-based, holistic resistance to violence in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

DVNSW commits to actively supporting and promoting the voices of Aboriginal people and organisations in all our public policy work.

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ABOUT DVNSW

DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE
NSW



GENETIC
SCIENCE

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE NSW

Domestic Violence NSW (DVNSW) is the peak body for specialist domestic and family violence services in New South Wales. We work from a feminist, social justice perspective and recognise that domestic and family violence (DFV) is serious, prevalent and driven by gender inequality.

OUR ROLE

DVNSW is an independent, non-government organisation that provides a representative and advocacy function for specialist services and the women, families and communities they support.

We do this by:

- working, sharing and cooperating with our 60+ members, the NSW Government and Commonwealth as well as communities to create a safer NSW for all
- advocating for best practice, continuous system improvements and innovative policy responses to domestic and family violence at all levels of government
- supporting primary prevention and early intervention work
- providing training and sector information to our members.

OUR VISION

Women, families and communities in NSW live free from violence, have equal rights, equal opportunities and the freedom to reach their potential.

OUR PURPOSE

We work to eliminate domestic and family violence through leadership of the specialist DFV sector and the NSW policy environment, promoting best practice responses and primary prevention.

OUR PEOPLE

DVNSW BOARD



Helen Silvia
Chair



Jan McDonald
Vice Chair
(leave from Feb 2019)



Denele Crozier
Treasurer



Annabelle Daniel
Secretary



Yvonne Weldon



June Wilson



Nicole Yade
(joined Nov 2018)



Katy Jenkins
(joined Nov 2018)



Pia Birac
(resigned Nov 2018)



Deborah Banks
(resigned Nov 2018)

DVNSW TEAM



Moo Baulch
Chief Executive Officer



Trish Mitra-Kahn
Deputy Chief
Executive Officer
(joined April 2019-
September 2019)



Tracey Kennedy
Finance Officer



Shelley Booth
Policy and
Research Manager
(parental leave
from Oct 2018)



Gayatri Nair
Policy and
Research Manager
(parental leave cover
from Oct 2018)



Monique Dam
Advocacy and
Prevention Manager



Clare Gardiner
Sector Development
Project Manager



Charlotte Davies
Office and Operations
Coordinator



Renata Field
Voices for Change
Project Manager



“It is through our close relationship with our members that we are able to exchange knowledge, expertise and front-line service experience that allows us to strengthen our advocacy and support their work.”

Helen Silvia, Chair

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT



It has been both a challenging and successful year for DVNSW. Challenging, because we work in a volatile and changeable environment where there are never enough resources to meet the growing demand for our services. Challenging, because we live in a society where domestic and family violence exists at an intolerably high rate and where the consequences are dire. The challenges we face are real, they are structural, and they require an ever increasing unified and sophisticated response.

Our successes on the other hand, are borne from the dedication and hard work of our team and members, through their unwavering commitment to supporting quality practice, delivering effective advocacy and harnessing the strength of collaboration to deliver strong outcomes for the sector and community at large.

I express my heartfelt gratitude to our outgoing Chief Executive Officer Moo Baulch for her tireless effort, passion, exemplary leadership and personal commitment as a campaigner for the rights of women and children and bringing an end to gender-based violence. In her six years of service to DVNSW, Moo has continually shown an adeptness and unfaltering commitment to her work, her colleagues and our members. Moo has grown our organisation and continued to ensure that DVNSW is regarded as a trusted, expert voice within our sector, as well as to all levels of Government, the media and within the community at large.

This year, DVNSW commenced and delivered on a number of significant areas of work including the Safe State Campaign, the innovative Voices for Change survivor advocate project, the establishment of our Inaugural Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Steering Committee as well as our continuing contribution to the elimination of gendered based violence at a national level through our attendance at COAG and contribution to the development of the Fourth Action Plan.

I would like to thank the DVNSW team who has continued to expand and grow along with the heavy workload of the year. I want to acknowledge the dedication, expertise and hard work of both former

employees and new staff. Without them, our peak would be unable to produce the thoughtful, evidence based and community-based practice that we see come into fruition across the state. We are truly thankful for their commitment, as they very often go above and beyond their job roles.

I also acknowledge and extend my gratitude to the Board of DVNSW for their loyalty and significant contributions in ensuring our organisation is well governed. This year we welcomed two new board members, Nicole Yade; Manager of Lou's Place and Katy Jenkins; Senior Associate Solicitor at Cominos Lawyers. Nicole and Katy bring a depth of expertise through their respective professions that have already made a very positive impact to the work of the Board.

As the leading peak body for Domestic and Family Violence Specialist services across NSW, our members are the backbone of our organisation. It is through our close relationship with our members that we are able to exchange knowledge, expertise and front-line service experience that allows us to strengthen our advocacy and support their work as they continue to deliver best practice services and contribute to our collective vision of a society where women, families and communities live free from violence, have equal rights, opportunities and the freedom to reach their potential.

This year we have seen a significant increase to our membership base. Therefore, I wish to end this year's report with a heartfelt welcome to our new members, we look forward to meeting you, working with you and for you in the year ahead, because together we are stronger and together we will continue to make a difference.

Helen Silvia
Chair



“...I know that the organisation will continue to grow and develop the momentum that started several decades ago. There is so much to do still in the journey to end violence against women but we have unprecedented public support behind us.”

Moo Bauch, CEO

CEO'S REPORT



I write this reflection of the 2018-2019 year with mixed emotions as a last small but important gift to DVNSW members, our partners and the communities we work for. We are halfway through our 2018-2020 Strategic Plan and well on the way to achieving some significant goals in improving responses to women, families and communities.

Sector Practice and Engagement: This year we've begun to concretely increase our engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, organisations and leaders. The DVNSW Board strongly supported a proposal to make peak membership free for Aboriginal community-led organisations and our next step was to begin asking Aboriginal women what our role was in terms of promoting their voices and putting their leadership at the centre of our work. From that, the DVNSW Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Steering Committee was born. It's an inspiring group of diverse, strong women from across NSW who are leading prevention and responses to violence in their communities. We are so privileged to be guided by their expertise and wisdom. A particular thank you to our friends and mentors Dixie Link-Gordon, Christine Robinson, Ashlee Donohue and Respected Elder Bronwyn Penrith for encouraging us to take the next step.

Public Policy: Development of whole of government approaches to domestic, family and sexual violence and sector resourcing has continued to be top of our advocacy agenda. NSW Women's Alliance launched the Safe State campaign at the Northern Women's Health Centre on the Central Coast in the lead up to the NSW state election and gathered enormous support from politicians across the spectrum. The Safe State campaign asks were adopted by the Sydney Women's March and the campaign platform continues to influence parliamentary debates and policy development. The biggest win this year was an extension for DVRE service funding. It was great to take the FACS Deputy Secretary and Director of Women NSW to visit SAHSSI services delivering DVRE and Start Safely in-house in the Illawarra and show them the power of collaboration between NSW Housing and specialist women's services. We were made to feel very welcome visiting services across NSW, especially on our visit to the Riverina visiting Griffith's Linking Communities Network and the Forbes Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention Legal Services.

Primary Prevention: The NSW government finally joined Our Watch! (I feel like shouting that in bolded capitals).

Having received overwhelming support from DVNSW members to embed the principles of Change the Story in our constitution, we started to consider ways in which we could begin supporting the work being undertaken at a local level through the Primary Prevention Collaboration. We were also fortunate to receive funding and support from Our Watch to run Voices for Change, a survivor advocacy media initiative building on the expertise developed by women's health services, DVVIC and others in Victoria. It's been a huge success and journalists and the advocates have developed a stronger narrative in NSW and Australian media on primary prevention as a result of the training and support that they've received.

Governance and Operations: In line with our strategic priorities we began to explore opportunities outside our core funding to make the peak more sustainable and to reflect best practice in both service delivery and primary prevention in our foundational documents. As a result, we incorporated the use of the DVNSW Good Practice Guidelines and Change the Story into our constitution as one of the primary criteria for full membership and we've begun to work with supporters such as the Commonwealth Bank of Australia and the Real Estate Institute of NSW to raise funds allowing us to develop projects in line with our purpose – to improve responses to women, children, families and communities impacted by violence.

This is my final Annual Report as the DVNSW Chief Executive Officer. I have made the difficult decision to retire from DVNSW. I've had the absolute privilege of working with a team and Board who have supported me personally and who care deeply about the purpose and vision of the organisation. I've had the opportunity to say several farewells over the past few months but it would be remiss of me not to use this opportunity to thank the NSW sector, our wonderful partners and all those who have supported our work in the 6 years that I've been a part of DVNSW. I know that the organisation will continue to grow and develop the momentum that started several decades ago. There is so much to do still in the journey to end violence against women but we have unprecedented public support behind us. I wish everyone the best of luck on the next phase of the journey.

Moo Baulch
Chief Executive Officer



**STOP
BLACK
DEATHS
IN CUSTODY**

www.socialist-alliance.org

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OUR WORK

POLICY AND RESEARCH

A core part of our work at DVNSW is to contribute to national and state policy related to sexual, domestic and family violence. This is done through our policy liaison and advocacy work, meetings with Ministers and government departments, formal feedback and submissions, and through participation on government committees. In 2018-2019:

NSW GOVERNMENT

Formal feedback and submissions on the:

- Residential Tenancies Amendment (Review) Bill 2018 NSW
- NSW Department of Justice Consultation on ADVO Duration
- NSW Law Reform Commission Inquiry into Sexual Consent Reform
- NSW Women's Alliance's submission to the NSW Legislative Council Health and Community Services Committee for the Inquiry into the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme and the provision of disability services in New South Wales
- Joint Letter with Youth Action to Attorney General on changes to the Crimes (Domestic and Personal Violence) Act 2007
- Open Letter to NSW Political Leaders on Sexual Harassment in NSW Parliament
- NSW Special Commission of Inquiry into the Drug "Ice"

DVNSW provides feedback through various committees:

The Department of Communities and Justice

- Criminal Justice Reforms NGO Consultation Group
- Domestic and Family Violence Advisory Group
- Domestic Violence Consultation Reforms Group
- DV Disclosure Scheme Evaluation Group
- Future Directions
- Housing and Homelessness Collaboration
- Housing and Homelessness Policy Officers Group
- Miranda Project Steering Committee
- NSW Sexual Assault Expert Group
- Office of Director of Public Prosecutions Sexual Assault Group
- Premier's Council on Homelessness
- Staying Home Leaving Violence and the Integrated Domestic and Family Violence Services Working Groups

DVNSW provided feedback on the following strategies and consultations:

- ADVO duration and related matters
- Automatic Referral Pathway for Men's Telephone Counselling
- Early Appropriate Guilty Pleas
- Men's Referral Service Privacy Codes
- Review of Domestic Violence Justice Strategy

COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT

- Development of the Fourth Action Plan under the National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and Their Children Women
- Issues Paper on Review of the Family Law System (Australian Law Reform Commission).
- National Women's Health Strategy
- Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia Bill 2018

DVNSW also sits on various forums and alliances including the NSW Forum of Non' Government Organisations and the Australian Women against Violence Alliance.



Moo Baulch at the Building Great Communities Launch Feb 2019

RESEARCH PARTNERS

DVNSW sits on various research committees and regularly provides research expertise to PhD students as well as circulating relevant research and surveys to our membership.

Some of the key research projects we supported in 2018-19 are listed below:

Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety (ANROWS)

Evidence to Action – Practitioner Engagement Group

- DVNSW is a member of The Practitioner Engagement Group, which promotes interaction and knowledge sharing between ANROWS, the specialist women's services sector (i.e. domestic and family violence, sexual assault, women's health, women's legal services, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, culturally and linguistically diverse communities and women with disabilities) and the broader community services sectors (i.e. mental health, alcohol and other drugs, housing and homelessness).

Project Advisory Committee

Safety and Health After Arrival (SAHAR): Identifying and responding to refugee women's experiences of domestic violence

- This research considers particular risks faced by culturally and linguistically diverse women in relation to partner abuse, their unique barriers to disclosing abuse, receiving help to interrupt cycles of violence and ensuing effects. In particular refugee and other vulnerable migrant women face specific risks, and are less likely to disclose their abuse in mainstream health services. This project seeks to identify a culturally sensitive model for identifying and responding to domestic and family violence and shows how this can be implemented in services used by vulnerable migrant women. In addition, important prevalence data on current experiences of domestic and family violence among recently arrived refugee women will be gathered. This will assist services responding to violence.
- This research is conducted in partnership with Settlement Services International, the Settlement Council of Australia, Department of Social Services, The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Western Sydney Local Health District, and the NSW Refugee Health Service.

Policy Lab

The Sydney Policy Lab is a major initiative supported by DVNSW and other Peaks, which aims to assist with the reform of the NSW Government's current commissioning framework. Set over 4 phases, this project presents one of the first opportunities for the peaks to test out more integrated way of working together with the NSW Government. At the conclusion of the research, the team will deliver a report that will include detailed analysis and recommendations.'

Specialist Homelessness Services Domestic and Family Violence Community of Practice

DVNSW continues to lead along with Homelessness NSW and YFoundations, the Industry Partnership through the Specialist Homelessness Services Domestic and Family Violence Community of Practice.

Membership of the Community of Practice comprises of practitioners from specialist domestic and family violence services, women's services, and broader homelessness services. Members work across a range of services, including small, rural and regional services and large metro services.

In 2018-19 the Community of Practice discussed critical practice issues, such as children, the funding and commissioning sector, and developed a video induction with voices from the sector and survivor advocates. People With A Disability Australia provided a disability and accessibility workshop for the domestic and family violence sector.

ADVOCACY

DVNSW advocates for best practice, continuous system improvements and innovative policy responses to domestic and family violence. We work closely with our members, alliances and the broader sector to advocate for change. Key areas of advocacy this year included:

DVNSW ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER WOMEN'S STEERING COMMITTEE

One of the most exciting developments at DVNSW is the creation of the DVNSW Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Steering Committee. The Steering Committee is comprised of a diverse group of leading Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women with cultural, community and sector expertise in prevention, early intervention and response to domestic, family and sexual violence in their communities.

The vision of the Steering Committee is to provide an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander lens on policy and practice opportunities and to have real influence through lobbying and advocacy. The committee amplifies the voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women as advocates in their survivor experiences and guides DVNSW's work. The group provides DVNSW with expert advice and advocacy on the issues that matter in their communities to DVNSW, government and the sector more broadly in order to ensure that culturally safe and appropriate practices are developed and promoted.

WOMEN ON TEMPORARY VISAS EXPERIENCING VIOLENCE

In partnership with Australian Women Against Violence Alliance and Harmony Alliance, DVNSW initiated a National Advocacy Group on Women on Temporary Visas Experiencing Violence. This was in response to concerns raised by DVNSW members about the lack of housing, income and other support for this group of women. DVNSW worked closely with members of the National Advocacy Group to coordinate a national survey and develop recommendations to the Commonwealth, State and Territory governments. The report 'Path to Nowhere' was released in December 2018 and is available on the DVNSW website.

DVNSW and Homelessness NSW co-convened the NSW Community of Practice on Women on Temporary Visas Experiencing Violence to bring together caseworkers to share challenges and learnings. Insights from Victims Services NSW and Settlement Services NSW detailing supports available to women and their children on temporary visas experiencing violence informs our policy agenda.

DVNSW presented to five conferences on this issue, including the Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy NSW Conference, the National Homelessness Conference, the Coffs Harbour Regional Domestic and Family Violence Conference, the Parramatta and Cumberland Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee Conference and the South West Sydney Domestic Violence Committee Conference. DVNSW engaged in three television and a radio interview on this issue.



Some of the DVNSW Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Steering Committee

NSW WOMEN'S ALLIANCE

The NSW Women's Alliance was established in 2012 by a number of NSW peak organisations and state-wide service providers working within the sexual, domestic and family violence fields. The Alliance brings together a range of organisations with a variety of expertise, knowledge and experience in both responding to and working to prevent violence against women.

The Alliance meets regularly to discuss policy, practice and legislative issues relating to sexual violence, domestic and family violence and child protection and this year developed the safestate.org.au policy and advocacy agenda.

The key focus of the Alliance in 2018-19 was preparing our policy platform and election advocacy campaign for the NSW Government election in March 2019. See Safe State for more detail.

NSW Women's Alliance members include:

- **ACON Health Ltd**
- **Domestic Violence NSW (co-convenor)**
- **Immigrant Women's Health Service**
- **Immigrant Women's Speakout Association NSW**
- **Multicultural Disability Association of Australia (NSW)**
- **People With Disabilities Australia (NSW)**
- **Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy**
- **Service NSW**
- **Women's Legal Services NSW**
- **Women's Health NSW**
- **Wirringa Baiya Aboriginal Women's Legal Service**
- **Youth Action**

Guest speakers at Alliance meetings this year included:

- Melinda Norton Women's NSW
- 1800 Respect
- NSW Law Enforcement Conduct Commission
- Good Shepherd MicroFinance
- NSW ProChoice Alliance
- No to Violence
- Assistant Commissioner Mark Jones APM, NSW Police Corporate Spokesperson for DFV
- DV High Risk Offender Team NSW Police

In 2017-18, the Alliance collaborated on the following submissions:

- NDIS Inquiry response
- Statement on Zoe's Law

A SAFE STATE

In the lead up to the 2019 NSW Election, DVNSW worked closely with members of the NSW Women's full policy platform Alliance to jointly develop 49 recommendations for law and policy change to prevent and end sexual, domestic and family violence.

'A Safe State' has six priority areas:

1. Create cultural change to prevent violence and promote gender equality
2. Provide immediate and ongoing support for people experiencing violence
3. Ensure people experiencing violence have a safe home
4. Ensure people experiencing violence can access justice safely
5. Enable Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander Peoples to lead change to end violence
6. Be accountable to specialist workers and the wider community

DVNSW deeply appreciates the contributions of the NSW Alliance Members, our members and our partners to the campaign. We thank our supporters who promoted 'A Safe State' at 12 events across the 16 Days of Activism in 2018 and the over 1000 people who signed our petition. In particular, we would like to acknowledge the efforts of Jaime Evans and Meagan Date, Women's March Sydney, Dorothy Tran, Amnesty International Australia and Shannan Ely, theatre maker.

A Safe State' is available at www.safestate.org.au



Launch of the Safe State Campaign at the Northern Women's Health Centre, October 2018

SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

Over the past twelve months, DVNSW has worked with partners, practitioners, other peaks and government departments to foster greater collaboration and adopt new approaches to improving the current system. We have also led and supported a number of campaigns that have resulted in increased funding to improve the provision of services to women and their children experiencing sexual, domestic and family violence.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESPONSE ENHANCEMENT (DVRE) CONFERENCE

On 12 September 2018, 47 sector experts from NSW DVRE-funded services met in Coffs Harbour to discuss current practice and systemic issue. Key items included:

- Access to safe, affordable housing
- Uncertainty around adequate and ongoing funding

Local partnerships are crucial to ensuring consistent appropriate referrals and effective service delivery. DVNSW would like to sincerely thank everyone who attended the forum for their invaluable contributions.

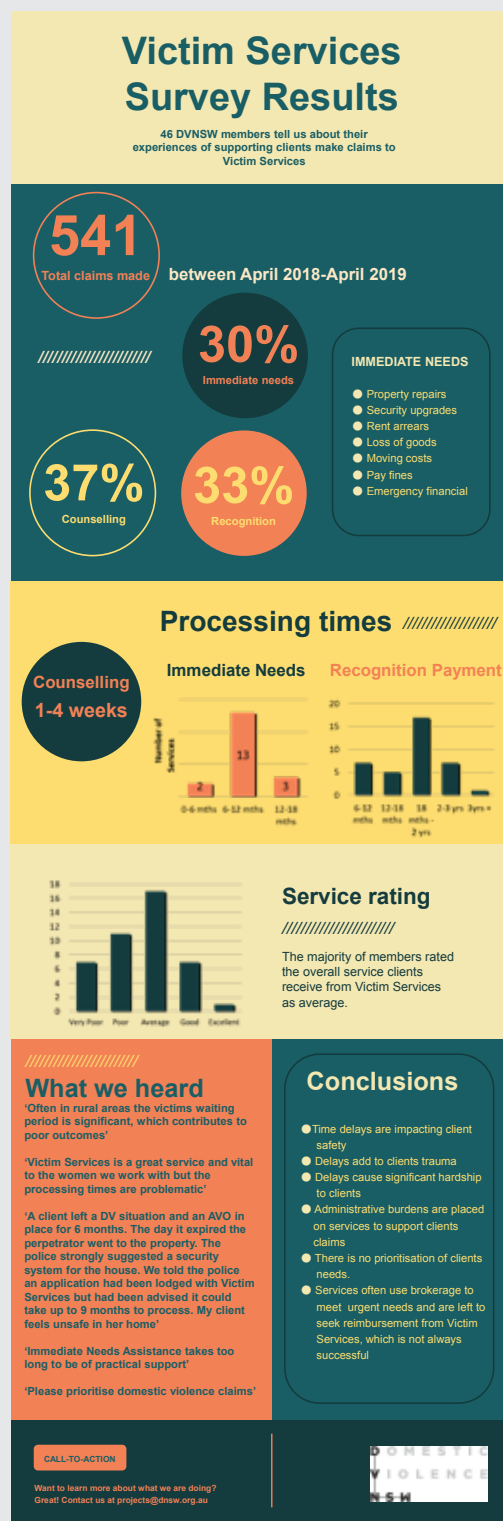
We would like to sincerely thank everyone who attended the forum for the invaluable contributions that have informed our advocacy over the past 12 months.

VICTIMS SERVICES

In April 2019, DVNSW launched a campaign regarding the barriers our members encountered when attempting to make claims for support payments on behalf of their clients. These concerns included making claims, such as the need to obtain 3 quotes and extended period of delays in processing claims.

In June, the Attorney General and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence Mark Speakman, announced the introduction of a new streamlined 'Immediate Needs Support' Package. The package addressed many of the above difficulties. The Attorney General further committed to reviewing existing backlogs and increase efficiencies by processing payments within 15 business days.

DVNSW welcomes the reforms and we will continue to monitor the new Immediate Needs package to ensure that it meets the needs of those accessing it.



Results of the Victim Services Survey, April 2019

CONTINUATION FUNDING FOR DVRE SERVICES

Following successful lobbying from DVNSW, Homelessness NSW and our members, FACS announced that the DVRE funding would continue for a further 12 months.

The campaign resulted from the invaluable feedback we received from DVRE Supported Accommodation & Homelessness Services Shoalhaven Illawarra (SAHSSI), who hosted a meeting with DVNSW and FACS to showcase the evaluation of their DVRE service by the Social Policy Research Centre at UNSW Sydney. The evaluation analysed the DVRE program for 2017/18 which demonstrated overall positive outcomes for women and children escaping domestic and family violence, in addition to providing evidence of a cost effective and suitable service.

A total of 44 DVRE services will benefit from the funding extension. DVNSW continues to advocate for ongoing and sustained DVRE funding.



SAHSSI DVRE Evaluation Report, October 2018

COMMISSIONING AND CONTRACTING IN HUMAN SERVICES PROJECT

DVNSW is working with a number of peaks to develop a new approach to commissioning and contracting for human services in NSW. This ground breaking collaboration is being supported by Sydney Policy lab and it aims to rethink what is possible and challenge current government methods of commissioning. The project aims to offer an alternative vision that can be harnessed by the Peaks to create a shift in the policy landscape and move towards community driven commissioning based on developmental and relational approaches.

PRIMARY PREVENTION

Primary Prevention remains a core activity of DVNSW. This year DVNSW welcomed the NSW Government signing up to Our Watch, as a clear and demonstrated commitment to the prevention of violence against women.

DVNSW CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE

At our November 2018 AGM, DVNSW received member support to update our constitution to reflect our commitment to primary prevention and the Our Watch 'Change the Story' framework and the Good Practice Guidelines.

NSW COLLABORATION ON THE PRIMARY PREVENTION OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

DVNSW and Parramatta Council co-convenes the NSW Collaboration on the Primary Prevention of Gender-Based Violence. The group seeks to promote coordination between organisations and to share information, learnings, resources and challenges relating to the primary prevention of gender-based violence. The group also seeks to identify the wider institutional, law, policy and program changes needed to prevent sexual, domestic and family violence in NSW. The group has over twenty members including NGOs, local councils, peak bodies, and independent consultants and academics.



Change the Story: A shared framework for the primary prevention of violence

NSW VOICES FOR CHANGE



Our first NSW Voices for Change training, February 2019

From September 2018-June 2019 DVNSW received funding from Our Watch to pilot the NSW Voices for Change project. The aim of the project is to prevent violence, sexual assault and domestic violence through supporting better media reporting on violence against women. Voices for Change fits with DVNSW's mission to eliminate domestic and family violence through leadership in advocacy, partnerships and the promotion of best practice and our strategic priority of primary prevention. The Voices for Change project is an opportunity to support the development of leadership skills in people with lived experience and invite them to be advocates in preventing violence. The Voices for Change project provides excellent opportunity to partner with other organisations in the sector and with journalists in the prevention of violence.

During the pilot, NSW Voices for Change trained 18 women, in Sydney and Wollongong, with lived experience of sexual, domestic and family violence to confidently speak about their experience. Two groups of women completed three days of free training on violence prevention and media and public speaking skills. Each were assessed for readiness and safety, and receive ongoing support and referrals. 14 women became advocates, using their lived expertise to educate the media and community about sexual, domestic and family violence.

The Voices for Change project supports the media in reporting the voices of women who have experienced violence in an accurate and safe way. We're proud to contribute to the improvement of reporting in NSW and will continue to relay the importance of understanding the gendered drivers of violence through our media contact.

We thank the Commonwealth Banks generosity in enabling DVNSW to continue this important work to improve media report and violence against women.

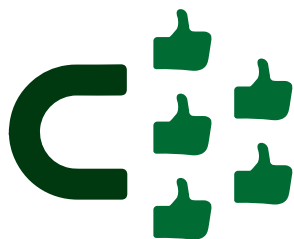
The Voices for Change project supports journalist to report on domestic violence through providing accessible contacts to sector knowledge, providing easier access to people with lived experience of violence who are well supported and engaging with them about better reporting practices. Through the pilot we also delivered media training to nine 'sector experts' connected with DVNSW in order to ensure we had a range of trained experts to refer to if necessary during the training.



Some of the DVNSW Voices for Change advocates with the Hon. Mark Speakman, Attorney General and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Rosie Batty AO.

INSIGHTS FROM OUR VOICES FOR CHANGE PROJECT

During our pilot, advocates:



Participated in 41 media engagements



18 of the 41 media opportunities were published in this period



Spoke at 9 public engagements

Our group of advocates:



Range between 24 and 76 years old



2 women identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander



1 woman identifying as a lesbian



4 women with disability including one woman with an intellectual disability



5 women from culturally and linguistically diverse communities



and 6 women living in regional areas

Our feedback tells us that:

“100% of participants and journalists surveyed said that they were satisfied with their participation in the project”

“Voices for Change is a great initiative, honoured to be part of it”

“It’s a great program and very important for survivor advocates to be heard. Renata is extremely positive and supportive and we all feel lucky to have her leading the program”

DVNSW 2019 MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS



2,931

Twitter
Followers
(June 30 2019)



8,381

Facebook
page followers
(June 30 2019)



3.46k

Total media
exposure



Trending themes on
social media

violence children
domestic + family violence
member Thanks time
WOMEN Australia
incredibly brave women
part Moo Baulch
#NationalDomesticViolenceRemembranceDay
Family Violence
#domesticviolence Delighted memory
Domestic Violence NSW



8,547

Facebook
page likes



3048

Social Media
Mentions



28,293

New visitors
to our website



70,353

Page views
on our website



PARTNERS

It's been another successful year of thriving partnerships with sector and non-traditional allies. Highlights include:

National Social Security Rights Network – launch of their report on DV and Social Security

ECAV and Country Rugby League's Tackling Violence – we participated in the making of a series of videos for use in the Tackling Violence program

Illawarra Women's Health – supported the campaign launch for the first DV Trauma Centre with Richard Dennis, Economic Costs of DFV

FACS Make No Doubt sexual consent campaign – provided advice and expertise on the framing and language

DVSM – ongoing partnership with our sister organisation, particularly report and resources on Acquired Brain Injury and DFV

Early Signals, Early Childhood Australia – providing expert advice to build awareness in early childhood workers on the impacts of DFV on children

In Their Shoes, Lou's Place IWD event – on International Women's Day, we supported Lou's Place in raising community awareness around the women who lost their lives to domestic and family violence

NSW Women's Alliance – support and partnership activities throughout the year, particularly the Safe State 2019 NSW election campaign

Illawarra Women's Health – provided support for Voices for Change advocate training in the Illawarra region



The DVNSW Team with Leading Indonesian Activists



In Their Shoes event with our friends at Lou's Place

Thank you:

Commonwealth Bank of Australia – for generous support of the Voices for Change program, in particular Melissa Clare and Catherine Fitzpatrick and the Customer Advocate's team

26 leading Indonesian Activists – for visiting our office and sharing knowledge with us

Real Estate Institute of NSW and members – for making DVNSW it's 2019 fundraising recipient

No To Violence – for sharing our workspace and providing us knowledge and updates about Men's Behavioural Change programs

DONATIONS

PROJECT HAPPY HOLIDAYS

In December 2018, we were able to provide 32 refugees and services with donations of gifts for women and children which included handmade blankets, toys, new household items and gift cards.

We'd like to thank the following donors for their generosity which enabled us to distribute beautiful items across NSW. It's something that we know our members are very thankful for and a project we enjoy giving back to.

Thanks to:

Stitching Hearts
 Quilts NSW
 Cambos
 Sonja McAlpine Mary's House Refuge North Shore
 Corrs Chambers Westgarth
 Maud n Lil Organics
 Department of Justice
 Emma Bowering (individual donor)
 Screen Australia
 Virginia Bleasel (individual donor)
 Mary's House
 Rhonda Newman and the team at Beaumont People
 Oliver Lewis, Lynsey Thorrington and Neil Lewis for packing up all our toys in record time!

We'd like to thank Good360 for assisting us in attaining gifts and offering discounts to our members across NSW.



Our wonderful helper Oliver sorting and packing gifts for our members

IN KIND, PROBONO AND SUPPORT

ACON Health Ltd and the Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People

We'd like to thank ACON and the ACYP Office for again providing us with free meeting rooms at their offices this financial year.

Corrs Chambers Westgarth

For providing space for our planning days and for their probono legal support.

Kennards

For providing free space to sort and pack for Project Happy Holidays.

Interns

We couldn't do the work that we do without our wonderful interns. Thank you to the following people who worked incredible hard for us in FY18-19:

- Natasha Niemann (our Sector Development and data expert)
- Shayma El-Ardenli
- Marion Andreani
- Brianna Delahunty
- Sarah Morris
- Rebecca Rosenberg
- Emma Chegwiddden-Hart

Contractors

We'd like to thank the people who work tirelessly behind the scenes to give us the tools to do our job.

- Chris Pamboris, APACMS
- Melissa Cook, Caper Creative
- Tony Garago, Miri Miri
- Caterina Giorgi, For Purpose
- Meredith Turnbull, Meredith Turnbull Consulting



OUR FINANCES



TREASURER'S REPORT



Domestic Violence has once again had a busy year with new ideas, new staff and considered strategies, all of which impact on financial management. With a good team and financial systems, we began the year with a clear strategic plan and projected budget and finished the year with an unqualified audit and positive feedback from our auditor 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 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 our Blueprint Program. We also acknowledge funding from Our Watch for our Voices for Change Project. Community and business support is always worth an additional mention for financial and material contributions consistently supporting the capacity of service provision. Thank you – your efforts are much appreciated.

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 2019 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.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Denele Crozier'.

Denele Crozier
Treasurer

FINANCIAL REPORT

Audited Financial Accounts for the 2018/2019 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. It is anticipated that prior year surpluses will be utilised to fund projects budgeted in the 2019/20 Financial Year.

Domestic Violence NSW has a strong finance team coupled with good financial systems.

	2018/2019	2017/2018
Total Revenue*	881,787	813,237
Wages and On Costs	603,637	400,684
Operational Expenses	86,193	97,407
Professional Fees	24,745	29,451
Conference & Meeting Expenses*	12,484	27,011
Rent & Occupancy Expenses	58,859	67,819
IT & Telecommunications	21,525	34,859
Travel Expenses	26,768	22,004
Total Expenditure	834,211	697,235
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	47,576	134,002
Total Equity	414,522	366,946

* The main DVNSW Conference was not held in the 2018/19 financial year.



CONTACT

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Twitter: [dv_nsw](https://twitter.com/dv_nsw)
Website: www.dvnsw.org.au

HELPFUL CONTACTS

NSW DV Line

Phone: 1800 656 463

Rape Crisis NSW

Phone: 1800 424 017

1800 Respect

Phone: 1800 737 732

Men's Referral Service

Phone: 1300 766 491

D U G V R I Y A K V B Z F
V T I L Z S U P P O R T D
N S W F O Q O N S I E C U
W A M H E L P J M C I A X
L U S X K G F R E E N U W