

FUND A SAFER TODAY

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE NSW
2026-27 PRE-BUDGET SUBMISSION

Domestic and family violence shatters lives; physically, emotionally, and financially – too often leading to homelessness or death.

In 2024, at least 25 women were murdered in NSW, the highest toll in nearly a decade. The impacts stretch across health, justice, housing, education, and the economy.

Demand, case complexity, and awareness are growing, yet the frontline specialist sector remains under-resourced, with no core funding increase in over a decade.

The result is devastating: women and children are turned away from the support that could save their lives.

Our 2026–27 pre-budget submission is informed by evidence, research, and extensive consultation with our approximately 200 members – the specialist workforce on the frontlines of this crisis.

Together, we can fund a safer today for women and children across NSW.

ON BEHALF OF OUR MEMBERS AND THE VICTIM–SURVIVORS THEY SUPPORT, WE CALL ON THE NSW GOVERNMENT TO INVEST IN SUSTAINABLE SAFETY ACROSS THREE KEY AREAS:

INCREASE CORE FUNDING FOR SPECIALIST DFV SERVICES

- Prioritise a 50% core funding increase for all specialist domestic and family violence services, so that frontline services have sufficient resourcing to meet demand (\$177.4 million increase from 2024–25).

MEETING THE DEMAND FOR SERVICES

- Provide a supplementary payment to all specialist domestic and family violence services operating in regional, rural and remote locations in NSW.
- Invest in flexible housing options to increase the availability of safe and accessible housing with wrap-around support for victim–survivors of domestic and family violence.

SUPPORTING STRATEGIC REFORM

- Fully fund implementation of the domestic and family violence Quality Standards.
- Commit a further \$11.4 million to effectively implement the NSW Common Approach to Risk Assessment and Safety Framework.
- Commit a further \$7.5 million to effectively implement Strengthening the *NSW Domestic and Family Violence Sector: Workforce Development Strategy 2025–35*.
- Commit a further \$8 million to effectively implement the *NSW Aboriginal Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Plan*.
- Commit a further \$50 million to effectively implement *Pathways to Prevention: NSW Strategy for the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence 2024–2028*.



THERE IS A CHRONIC LACK OF FUNDING TO PROVIDE DFV CRISIS ACCOMMODATION. HAVING TO TELL A WOMAN OR MOTHER WITH CHILDREN TO WAIT, KNOWING FULL WELL THAT ‘WAITING’ IN HER SITUATION COULD MEAN GOING BACK TO A DANGEROUS SITUATION WITH THE PERPETRATOR.
DVNSW Member, 2025
