NORTH WEST METROPOLITAN REGION PRIMARY CARE PARTNERSHIPS

Identifying and Responding to Clients and Staff Experiencing Family Violence – Training for Managers

PARTICIPANTS HANDBOOK









Acknowledgements





The North West Metropolitan Region (NWMR) Primary Care Partnerships (PCPs) acknowledge the support of the Victorian Government.

The development of this training was led by Tania McKenna and Ilana Jaffe, Project Coordinators at Inner North West Primary Care Partnership. Refer to <u>www.inwpcp.org.au.</u>

Cover design by Justine Henry.

Inner North West PCP acknowledges the peoples of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our work in the community takes place. We pay our respects to their culture and their Elders past, present and emerging.

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October 2016

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## About the Workshop

This training has been developed for managers of health and community agencies, to provide them with the skills and knowledge required to:

- Support their staff to identify and respond to women and children experiencing family violence
- Provide appropriate support and responses to staff who are experiencing family violence.

Core components of the training include:

- Definition, indicators and appropriate responses for women and children experiencing family violence
- Key policy principles from the Client Policy Template
- Key policy principles from the Staff Policy Template
- Opportunity for participants from different organisations to discuss implementation of the policy templates within the context of their organisation.

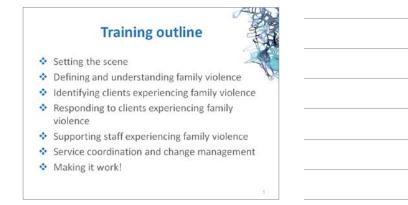
Learning outcomes of the training include:

- Managers have a clear understanding of the gendered nature of family violence and the dynamics of power and control that perpetuate family violence
- Managers are aware of family violence indicators, the difficulties that staff might experience in asking clients about family violence and strategies to support staff to do this
- Managers have a strong knowledge of the family violence sector and appropriate referral pathways
- Managers are able to support staff in safety planning for clients experiencing family violence
- Managers understand how to support staff personally experiencing family violence
- Managers are familiar with the client and workplace policy documents and implementation processes.

## **Training Slides**





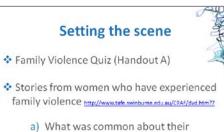




#### Group agreements



- Safety in the training room for you
- Confidentiality in the training room for your clients and staff
- No-one knows everything together we know a lot!
- Be aware of time
- Explore the learning space



- a) What was common about their experiences?
- b) What stood out in their stories?







- iv. is threatening;
- v. is coercive; or
- vi. in any other way controls or dominates the family member and causes that family member to feel fear for the safety or well-being of that family member or another person, or ...







Greater	pectations
h Care Professionals	Family Violence Specialists Services
Recognise the indicators/screen for family violence	Recognise and respond to the indicators     of family violence
sk the about Family Violence	Assess + Conduct a risk assessment
ovide a basic safety plan	Legal options, safe accommodation, counselling, other supports
ferappropriately	Satery Comprehensive safety planning
rk collaboratively with all services	Manage   Ongoing coordinated case management

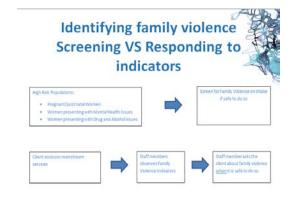
#### **Client Policy Template**

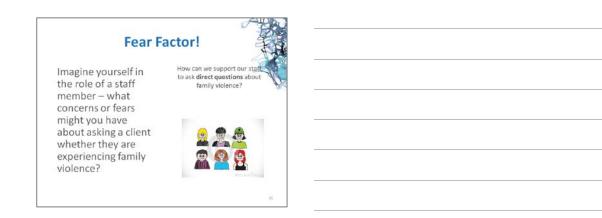
Provides guidance to staff regarding:

- Identifying family violence
- Responding to family violence
- Safety Planning
- Referrals
- Secondary consultation
- Documentation
- Self Care









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- Opportunities to speak to the client without the partner/family mer
- Not using a family member as an interpreter
- Up to date resources and information readily available
- Flexibility regarding the length of time allowed for client appointments
- Processes and procedures in place to ensure staff safety during home visits and outreach support
- Clear procedures regarding reporting to Child Protecti
- Debriefing and support to staff following a client FV disclosure
- Staff appropriately trained to respond to disclosures
- Referral pathways promoted to staff



#### **Responding to disclosures** Unhelpful

#### Helpful

I know this must be difficult for you to talk about but I'm warried about your safety and want to support you any way I can

You and your kids deserve to be safe

Yes perhaps he is stressed, but it is still his choice to use violence

My role is to give you information and support that will help you to keep safe. Would you like to talk about next steps?

Whatever you choose to do, we are here to support you



If you really care about your children then you'll leave him

So he just snapped? It sounds like he has some anger management issues

He really needs to address his drinking/drug taking behaviour

It seems like he loves you a lot and is experiencing some jealousy

There's not much we can do to help while you stay in this relationship



#### Safety Planning



- Ask about what strategies have been used to keep herself and her children safe in the past
- Always incorporate children into Mum's safety plan
   If you have training to engage with children support the child to identify their own safety plan as appropriate <u>or</u> refer to a specialist children's support worker
- Refer to a FV specialist or a children's support worker for comprehensive safety planning



- Identify a safe room in the house
- Keep your mobile phone on at all times switch off GPS
   Take photos and certify important documents and give to worker/support person
- Keep spare keys/case in a secret spot
- Reverse your car into the driveway so that it is easy to leave
- Choose a code word you can use with a friend to signal that help is needed
- Keep trusted friends informed about what is going on



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Referrals

Police



# RESPEC

1800 Respect Safe Steps Family Violence Outreach Services (WHW) Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention and Legal Service Intouch Multicultural Centre against Family Violence Seniors Rights Victoria Legal Services - CLC's, Women's Legal Service Child First/Child Protection



support staff responding to a family violence disclosure

External Consultations - External consultations recognise the limitations of the health worker role and the expertise of specialists family violence services in risk assessment

- \* Women's Health West
- Berry Street Safe Steps
- 1800 RESPECT (National)

#### Documentation

A Coroner's Court inquest into a family violence homicide will investigate which professionals were involved with the deceased person and what preventative actions were taken

Documentation should include:

- Date , details of worker, details of the client
- Indicators and details of the family violence disclosure
- Observations
- Actions (inc. safety strategies, referral and secondary consultations)
- Follow up



#### Care for Self

- Responding to family violence can be stressful and overwhelming
- It is important that staff involved in responding to family violence disclosures are offered debriefing, support, further training, access to EAP and external supervision (when required)

#### Workplace Policy Template.

The purpose of the Workplace Policy Template is to:

- Create a supportive environment that will encourage staff experiencing family violence to seek help and support
- Ensure all disclosures are treated confidentially and seriously
- Provide appropriate support and assistance to employees who are experiencing family violence

#### Components of a Workplace FV Poli

- Delegation of responsibility for staff disclosures
- Provisions for family violence leave
- Processes for protecting employees confidentiality
- Supporting work performance
- Implementation of a Workplace Safety Plan

#### Policy development considerations

Who will be the designated person for staff to raise family violence issues?

- HR
- Senior Management
- Team Leader
- CEO
- Trained family violence support/contact officer

#### Policy development considerations

What will your family violence leave provisions look

- Who can apply for family violence leave?
- How much leave will be provided?
- For what purpose will leave be allowed?
- What will be the application and approval process?

#### Policy development considerations: How will confidentiality be maintained for staff experiencing family violence? Family violence issues should always be discussed in a safe and confidential place

- No information about family violence incidents should be kept on an employee's personal file without their express permission
- Family violence leave can be recorded as 'personal leave/special leave'

#### Supporting work performance

Staff experiencing family violence may exhibit performance issues directly related to the family violence such as:

- Absenteeism
- \* Work interruptions
- Trouble concentrating
   Physical or mental health issu
  - Physical or mental health issues

No employee should be <u>penalised</u> or disciplined for being a victim of family violence.

#### Workplace Safety Plan

- Changes to work schedule, including space, pattern o hours or work location
- Changes to electronic payroll transfers or benefits
- Possible changes to job duties
- Changes to telephone responses or email to avoid harassing contact
- Review of parking/transport arrangements
- Permission to carry a mobile phone
- Intervention order on file with the employees permission
- Flexible work arrangements

### Making it work...

Choose one of the following:

- 1. Identifying and responding to women and children experiencing family violence
- 2. Responding to staff disclosures of family violence
  - a) What are the challenges in developing and implementing this policy in relation to either 1 or 2
  - b) What strategies can address these challenges



Further sources	of information
www.dvrcv.org.au	
www.thelookout.org.au	
www.safesteps.org.au	<b>Steps</b>







## **Family Violence Quiz**

1.	Who was announced the Australian of the Year in 2015?
a)	Adam Goodes
b)	Rosie Batty
c)	David Morrison
()	

2.	In 2015 how many women in Australia were killed by a family member?
a)	56
b)	43
c)	68

3.	What percentages of people seeking support from specialist homeless services are escaping family violence?
a)	One in three
b)	One in five
c)	One in ten

4.	Which of the following statements is true?
a)	A woman is most at risk of experiencing violence when walking alone late at night
b)	Men are most likely to experience violence that is perpetrated by a male stranger
c)	Men are most at risk of experiencing violence when fighting with their partner within the home
5.	A woman is most at risk of being killed by her partner:

a)	When she fights back
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- b) When she attempts to leave the relationship
- c) When her partner has a mental health condition

6.	What proportions of Australians believe that violence against women can be justified?
a)	31%
b)	4%
c)	20%



7.	What are the rates of hospitalisation for family violence assaults for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women in comparison to non-Aboriginal women?	
a)	10 times	
b)	26 times	
c)	35 times	

8.	What proportion of Australian women who had ever experienced family violence, experienced family violence for the first time when they were pregnant?
a)	17%
b)	5%
c)	12%

9.	How many recommendations were contained within the Victorian Royal Commission into Family Violence Report?
a)	227
b)	105
c)	144



#### DOMESTIC ABUSE INTERVENTION PROJECT

202 East Superior Street Duluth, Minnesota 55802 218-722-2781 www.duluth-model.org

## The Lookout Fact Sheet 7 – Statistics



Your place for family violence information

## **Fact Sheet 7 - Statistics**

There are high rates of family and domestic violence in Australia. Most cases involve men abusing their female partners.

- More than one in three Australian women (34%) who have had an intimate partner have experienced violence from a partner or expartner.
- More than one in 10 women (12%) who have ever had a boyfriend or husband have experienced sexual violence from a partner in their lifetime. Between 5 and 7% have been forced into sexual intercourse, and a further 3-4% have experienced attempted forced intercourse. (Mouzos & Makkai, 2004)

#### In Victoria

- The number of family incident reports submitted by police rose 23.4% between 2010-11 and 2011-12, from 40,839 to 50,382. (Victoria Police 2011-12)
- There was an increase of 72.8% in reports of family violence incidents to Victoria Police between 2004 and 2012. (Sentencing Advisory Council, 2013)

#### Family and domestic violence and homicide

- A woman is killed in Australia almost every week by a partner or ex-partner. (Mouzos & Makkai, 2004)
- Intimate partner homicides account for onefifth of all homicides in Australia. Of these, four out of five involve a man killing his female partner.
- In 2005-06, 59 women were killed by their male partners or ex-partners.
- Typically, women are killed in the context of a history of domestic violence. (Davies & Mouzos, 2007)

Some groups of women are particularly vulnerable to family and domestic violence

The Australian component of the International Violence Against Women Survey found that:

- > 20% of Indigenous women experienced physical violence in the last 12 months, compared to 7% of non-Indigenous women.
- Three times as many Indigenous women as non-Indigenous women experienced an incident of sexual violence in the last 12 months (12% versus 4%). (Mouzos & Makkai, 2004)
- Despite representing just over 2% of the total Australian population, Indigenous women accounted for 15% of homicide victims in Australia in 2002-03. (Mouzos & Segrave, 2004)

Women with disabilities are also more likely to experience violence from a partner, family member and/or carer than those without a disability.

- Compared to women and girls without disability, women and girls with disability experience violence at significantly higher rates, more frequently and for longer, in more ways and by more perpetrators. (Frohmader, 2010)
- > Women with disability were 37.3% more likely than women without disability to report experiencing some form of intimate partner violence. (National Council to Reduce Violence Against Women and Their Children, 2009)
- 9.7% of women with disability reported a history of unwanted sex compared to 8.2% of women without disability. (National Council to Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children, 2009)

#### Family and domestic violence is extremely costly

Intimate partner violence is responsible for more ill-health and premature death in Victorian women under the age of 45 than of

#### Fact Sheet 7: Statistics



any other well-known risk factors, including high blood pressure, obesity and smoking. 59% of the health impact experience by women is anxiety and depression. (Vic Health, 2004)

Violence against women and their children cost the Australian economy \$13.6 billion in 2009 (\$3.4 billion for the state of Victoria). With no reduction in current rates, it will cost the Australian economy an estimated \$15.6 billion by 2021-22. (National Council to Reduce Violence Against Women and Their Children, 2009)

#### Gender and domestic and family violence

The vast majority of perpetrators of all violence are men. Around 80% of all violent assaults (including sexual assaults) are carried out by men against other men and women. (Personal Safety Survey Australia, Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2006)

However unlike women, who are most likely to be assaulted by a partner or former partner, male victims are most likely to be assaulted by men they don't know (74%) and most assaults are single incidents in public places, such as in a pub or on the street. (Personal Safety Survey Australia, Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2006)

Of all the violence men experience, very little is domestic or family violence. Only 4% of men experience violence from a partner, while a third of all women are assaulted by a partner during their lifetime. (Measuring the Extent of Domestic Violence, A. Ferrante, F.Morgan, D. Indermaur and R. Harding, 1996)

#### Children and domestic and family violence

The Australian Bureau of Statistics' Personal Safety Survey (2005) found that, of all women who had experienced partner violence since the age of 15 years and had children in their care during the relationship:

- > 59% reported that the violence had been witnessed by children.
- 37% reported that the violence had not been witnessed by children.
- > 4% reported that they did not know whether the violence had been witnessed by children in their care.

(When considering this data, it is important to remember that, according to Victoria's Family Violence Protection Act 2008, the definition of family violence includes the exposure of children to the effects of the abusive behaviour, as well as them witnessing the abuse.)

The Australian component of the International Violence Against Women Survey found that, of women who had experienced partner violence and had children living with them at the time, 36% reported that their children had witnessed a domestic violence incident. (Mouzos & Makkai, 2004)

Victoria Police crime statistics for 2011-2012 show that children are present in a little over a third of family violence cases reported to the police.

Note: Most data on family and domestic violence in Australia comes from two major surveys:

- The Personal Safety Survey Australia, conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics – a national survey of 16,400 adults aged 18 and over. (ABS,2006)
- The Australian component of the International Violence Against Women Survey, conducted by the Australian Institute of Criminology – a national survey of 6,677 women in Australia aged 18-69. (Mouzos&Makkai, 2004)

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- The Health Costs of Violence: Measuring the Burden of Disease Caused by Intimate Partner Violence, Vic Health, 2004.
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## **Client Policy Template**

#### Available at:

http://inwpcp.org.au/current-activities/early-intervention-and-integrated-care/identifying-and-respondingto-family-violence/



# Identifying Family Violence and Responding to Women and Children

CLIENT POLICY TEMPLATE







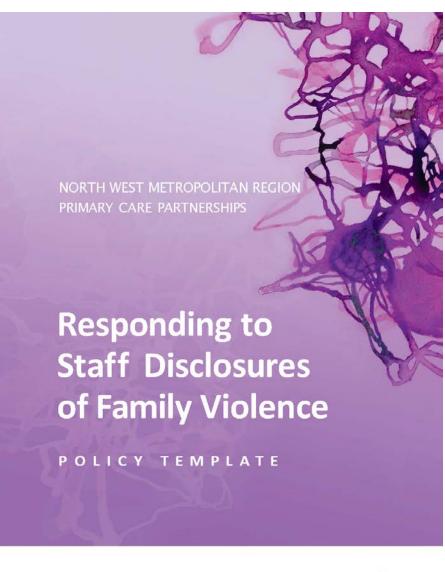




## Workplace Policy Template

#### Available at:

http://inwpcp.org.au/current-activities/early-intervention-and-integrated-care/identifying-and-responding-to-family-violence/











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