

Section 3. - The projects

1. Loddon Campaspe Family Violence Co-ordinated Community Response

Organisation: Loddon Campaspe Integrated Family Violence Services Consortium (Emergency Accommodation and Support Enterprise Inc. lead agency)

Location: Victoria (Regional)

Amount: \$50,000

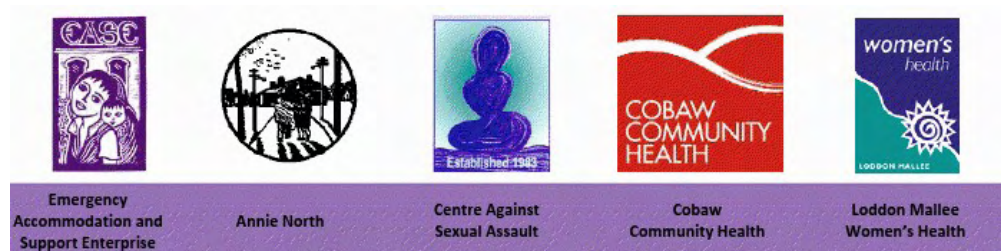
Category targeted: Integrated response

Description: The project worked towards implementing a fully integrated and Co-ordinated Community Response (CCR) to domestic and family violence for the Loddon Campaspe region based on the internationally renowned Duluth (Minnesota, USA) model.

The project consortium worked with Minnesota Program Development, Praxis International and an advisory committee to train key stakeholders, design, develop and implement a CCR, working towards the objective of implementing and evaluating the CCR through a community safety audit.

The project also involved working with the relevant community stakeholders to confirm a common philosophical understanding of the gendered nature of domestic and family violence and of the central issues of power and control that explain the dynamics of violence.

The development of a CCR in this community should lead to greater emphasis and capacity for the community to work on violence prevention activities.



Outputs and outcomes

Training through workshops and forums resulted in over 70 participants planning an integrated system response to intervening in domestic and family violence in the Loddon Campaspe area.

Participants gained an understanding of the system steps necessary to respond appropriately to a crisis family violence intervention.

Greater interagency co-operation in the development of integrated family violence programs has been achieved. Specifically:

- o partnership programs with key housing and family counselling agencies in the development of a case management response to men who use violence towards family members
- o partnership programs with Indigenous agencies in the development of intensive case management support for Indigenous women and children who experience domestic and family violence

- major steps towards the introduction of information sharing and case co-ordination meetings between women's family violence agencies, men's behaviour change and case management programs, courts, legal and police agencies.

The Consortium (predominantly women's services) has been confirmed as the experts in family violence in the community. The workshops and forums confirmed the Consortium's philosophical understanding of domestic and family violence and the importance of women's domestic and family violence services leading the co-ordinated response.

2. Pathways for Referral: Reducing Violence against Older Women

Organisation: Older Women's Network NSW Inc.

Location: New South Wales (National)

Amount: \$50,000

Category targeted: Older women, Indigenous, and CALD

Description: From their recently completed mapping project, OWN NSW found that studies report a low screening rate for violence against older women by GPs, even though the health system is a major source of support for older women, and domestic and family violence is a critical risk factor for women.

OWN NSW's project aimed to develop partnerships between the aged, health and domestic violence sectors in order to test appropriate responses for reducing violence against older women.

The project established trials in three sites for testing partnership protocols between the aged, health and domestic violence sectors. Three sites were chosen in areas of high concentrations of older people, Indigenous and CALD populations, one of which was in regional NSW.

The project tested that responses included appropriate language, safety planning, and community awareness. It also identified (1) those collaborative systems, training and resources that were necessary to improve the levels of identification of violence against older women, (2) available support options and (3) appropriate referral pathways.

Outcomes are to be reported through the Older Women's NSW and Australian Networks through the publications of the Australian Domestic and Family Violence Clearinghouse, various presentations and media outlets.

Outputs and outcomes

- o A literature review established best practice
- o A model was then trialled for engaging General Practices in the early identification of the health impacts of family violence on older women and for establishing an effective referral pathway to a specialist domestic violence service.
- o Ongoing collaborative agreements were reached among three agencies at the sites of Canterbury, Campbelltown, and Nowra
- o Local councils were identified as able to drive sustainable collaboration and training across sectors, and forums were developed to occur July-October 2009
- o Over 400 FAQ kits for GPs were distributed. GP training occurred at two sites, and ongoing follow-up was organised to maintain use of kits.
- o Baseline data collection was begun and will continue for the next twelve months.

Outcomes include:

- o identifying general practitioners as the critical professionals for recognising and responding to violence against older women
- o raising the hidden issue of violence against older women across a number of sectors, professionals, and the public through various media
- o a number of general practices better informed about domestic violence

against older women and ways of identifying

- o a model of collaboration across sectors available to improve the reporting about and support for older women experiencing violence

3. Partner Rape — Know about It, Respond effectively, Prevent it: An educational DVD for health professionals and community members

Organisation: Women's Health Goulburn North East



Location: Victoria (Rural)

Amount: \$46,170

Category targeted: Partner Rape, Resource, CALD

Description: The project developed an educational DVD to raise awareness of partner rape as a crime and to assist health professionals and other community members to know how to respond positively.

The DVD, to be disseminated to health, community and legal sectors, gives an overview of partner rape (as opposed to sexual assault generally) with background, context, prevalence and expert and victim/survivor perspectives as well as more specific 'chapters' targeted to particular audiences. The DVD also details self-help strategies for women experiencing partner rape, and for health professionals dealing with the issue.



The project meets an identified gap as literature search suggests that no DVD currently exists in Australia that is specifically on partner rape and how to respond effectively to it.

The DVD is described as a coherent and comprehensive examination of partner rape in Australia right now. The film is informed by key thinkers, workers and activists in the health, community and legal fields. Its credibility lays in these interviews, and importantly, in the participation of women who have suffered partner rape.

The film can be watched as a whole one-hour documentary, or it can be watched segment by segment. As a result, groups with different purposes can watch relevant parts to suit their needs. While the DVD can be readily applied to a training environment for police officers, legal sector workers, nurses, doctors and other health professionals, it can equally be used in community settings and with men's groups and women's groups.

Outputs and outcomes

This DVD on partner rape has been planned, researched, developed and produced.

The DVD:

- o targets a range of specific groups
- o details self-help strategies for women experiencing partner rape
- o provides insights and information for professional health workers

The DVD has undergone several previews in order to collect feedback and improve the final product.

2000 copies have been produced and are ready for distribution once classification has been granted. A distribution list is ready.

The project has achieved:

- o a current, coherent and comprehensive examination of partner rape in Australia.
- o an educational resource that can be used by a range of health and community workers, the legal sector and the community generally.
- o enhanced capacity amongst front line workers
- o collaboration (through interviews) with the following organisations and local agencies:
 - Victoria Police
 - Australian Centre for Study of Sexual Assault
 - La Trobe University and VicHealth
 - Edith Cowan University
 - Victorian Department of Human Services
 - Goulburn Valley Community Health Service
 - Sexual Offences and Child Abuse Unit, Shepparton Police, and Wangaratta Police
 - Vermont Street Private Medical Practice
 - Border Family Planning Clinic
 - Upper Murray Centre Against Sexual Assault.

4. Engaging Multicultural Faith and Community Leaders in the Early Prevention and Intervention of Violence against Women

Organisation: Immigration Women's Domestic Violence Service (IWDVS)

Location: Victoria (Metro)

Amount: \$44,139

Category targeted: CALD

Description: The project's main goal was to create a heightened awareness of the benefits of early intervention and prevention of violence against women in CALD communities. With the commitment and assistance of local community and faith leaders, the project aimed at changing the behaviours and attitudes of individuals, to empower them and the community to decrease and ultimately stop the incidence of domestic and family violence. The project also fostered an examination of cultural attitudes, norms and traditions that contribute to the legitimisation of violence against women in their communities.

IWDVS supported and assisted community and faith leaders to create, plan and implement a series of early intervention and prevention strategies by bringing them together with service providers (child protection, police, court, ethnic organisations, refuge). These activities raised awareness and mobilised communities to strive to reduce family violence and foster a better understanding of diverse perspectives, cultures and systems.

Outputs and outcomes



- A one-day training session increased the skills and knowledge of bilingual facilitators for working with community and faith leaders.
- A two day workshop was organised during March-June 2009 to train the community and faith leaders as change agents to address domestic violence against women in their communities. 72 faith and community leaders were recruited from the four identified communities (Chinese, Arabic, Vietnamese and Sudanese).
- Interactive programs were conducted to facilitate interaction between the change agents and the service providers working with specific communities. Those service providers involved were *NoToViolence: Male family violence prevention association*, Victoria Police and Child Protection.
- Community activities in early intervention strategies were completed in the Chinese, Arabic, Vietnamese and Sudanese communities.
- Culturally and linguistically specific early prevention materials were produced and disseminated in an effort to promote changes in behaviour and attitudes of individuals and the community.
- Leaders were assisted to apply for WESNET funding and hence increase their capacity to submit proposals

Outcomes included:

- an increased level of understanding of differences between service providers and communities, increased collaboration between agencies, improved networking and increased level of awareness of resources in the community.
- by interactive discussions and learning approach, some success in changing attitudes towards violence against women from violence supportive to violence preventative according to the results of a pre



- and post test (Appendix 2) and a self report evaluation.
- increased knowledge of the faith and community leaders in violence prevention , mobilizing and motivating them to lead prevention activities within multicultural communities.
 - connecting multicultural faith and community leaders to resources and referral systems.
 - an increase in accountability and ownership of community and faith leaders towards eradication of family violence in their communities.
 - a marked shift in leaders' thinking towards victims' safety, confidentiality, holding men accountable and accessing authorities such as police and child protection.
 - media coverage that resulted in more awareness in the community about family violence and also resulted in more referrals to the IWDVS service.
 - overall knowledge and lessons into how violence against women is perceived in different cultures.
 - an understanding that targeting CALD communities through their leaders has a positive impact as communities engaged easily with them. Due to leaders' place in the community, they are in a better position to denounce violence and promote peace.
 - more referrals to IWDVS and other family violence services. Faith and community leaders have been contacting IWDVS staff for secondary consultation in family violence situations.
 - an increase in requests to conduct more community education sessions especially in child abuse, elderly abuse, working with police, child protection and engaging men in violence prevention.
 - a range of other partnerships in conducting similar training to traditional mediators in early prevention of violence against women.

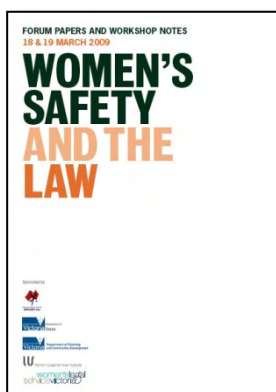
5. Keeping Women Safe: Best Practice and Comparative Legal Approaches

Organisation:	Women's Legal Services Australia (sponsored by Women's Legal Service Victoria)
Location:	Victoria (National)
Amount:	\$44,128
Category targeted:	Legal
Description:	Women's legal services from all states and territories came together for a two day workshop to share information on the different ways the law is used across Australia and internationally to protect women and children from violence, to learn from guest speakers about recent and innovative approaches in this area, and to undertake training in working with women affected by violence.

Outcomes from the workshop were documented and WLSA and members services used the material to advocate for change at a state and federal level, and to improve their own service delivery in this area.

Outputs and outcomes

This project:



- o provided a two day forum for 120 delegates to share information about different and innovative legal approaches to protecting women and children from violence. The 120 delegates attended from all the major cities and from regional towns including Kununurra, Geraldton, Bundaberg, Dubbo, Cairns, South Hedland, Bega, Bendigo, Mildura and Townsville.
- o provided professional development, education, training and networking for 120 delegates
- o identified and created a record of current Australian best practice in this area
- o enhanced the ability of members and WLSA to advocate at a state and federal level for changes to law and policy that would ensure that women and children are safe from violence
- o prepared a final report distributed to all delegates. This report is a valuable document that can be used to lobby government and other stakeholders.

Outcomes included:

- o shared information across workers from the States and Territories on the different ways the law is used across Australia and internationally in the area of legal protection of women and children from violence
- o Identification of best practice concerning the legal protection of women and children from violence.
- o Assistance to members in identifying ways to improve the delivery of their casework and community legal education to women experiencing violence.

6. Stopping Domestic Violence Billboard Project

Organisation: North Queensland Combined Women's Services Inc (also known as the Women's Centre)

Location: Queensland (Rural/Regional)

Amount: \$43,486

Category targeted: Community awareness/Education

Description: The project used Billboard messages to promote an early intervention, anti-domestic violence message to the people of North Queensland, both within the city of Townsville and the remote and rural populations travelling to and from Townsville, including Ayr, Ingham and Charters Towers.

The aim of the project is to reduce violence against women, challenge and change community attitudes to domestic violence, and to increase public awareness of the services provided in the community that are available to women who have experienced violence.

The Billboard messages were developed with information from a focus group of women service users and workers and then displayed along major roads within the Ayr, Charters Towers, Ingham and Townsville area.

The messages targeted and highlighted the unacceptability of men's violence towards women and its effect on women and the community. It also informed the general public about organisations that can help those who have experienced violence by raising awareness of the services available.

Outputs and outcomes

Focus groups met to discuss, plan and trial billboard messages. As a result, fixed and mobile billboards were planned, designed and created. The billboards deliver messages to drivers in the Townsville area and environs about awareness of domestic violence and information about support services available in the area.

The billboard messages have:

- educated and increased awareness in the community about domestic violence
- informed people that help is available
- informed people that domestic violence is not one person's problem but a community problem
- encouraged everyone to take responsibility for domestic violence
- supported and reinforced other messages by governments and other domestic violence services all over Australia
- created discussion about domestic violence and its impact on people and the community
- been communicated to 31,492 drivers per day plus their passengers
- have provided a platform for significant media involvement



Anecdotal evidence suggests a positive response. Ongoing evaluation will take place over the next twelve months.

7. Domestic Violence Death Review Board Project, Stage 2

Organisation: Women's Legal Service

Location: Queensland (Metro)

Amount: \$43,030

Category targeted: Legal

Description: Informal data indicates that during the 2 year period of 2006 and 2007, a minimum of 58 Queenslanders died as a result of domestic & family violence. This is the leading cause of homicide in Queensland.

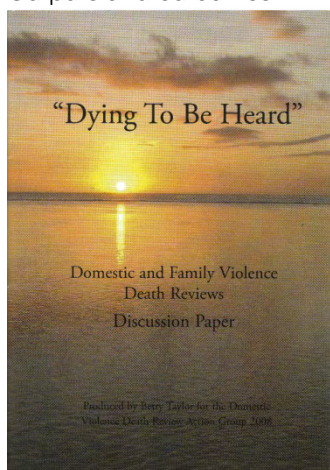
Domestic Violence Death / Fatality Review Boards have now been established across many communities internationally. Evidence from countries where death reviews have been established indicate a positive impact on reducing domestic violence related deaths and improving system and service responses to women and children.

The grant provided funding for Stage 2 of a collaborative project of the Domestic Violence Death Review Action Group – a coalition of organisations, academics and individuals – working towards establishing a Death Review Board in Queensland, reviewing and ultimately reducing and preventing domestic homicides.

The grant funded a law reform project on domestic violence death reviews, consolidating research and advice in an extensive Discussion Paper on review processes, jurisdiction, the purpose and possible models for a Queensland Domestic Violence Death Review Board. As part of the knowledge-sharing approach of the group, forums were conducted in Brisbane, Mount Isa and Townsville as part of the project.

Although the ultimate aim of the project is the establishment of an effective death review board, Stage 2 largely comprises completing a Discussion Paper, distribution of the paper, further consultation and lobbying as needed, and gaining community momentum towards supporting the project.

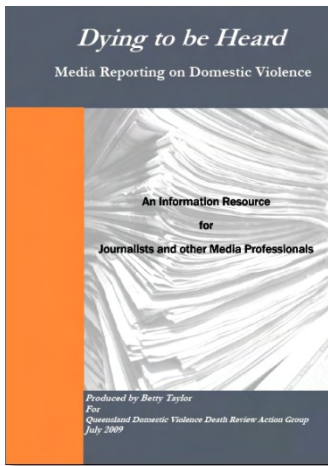
Outputs and outcomes



- A discussion paper on domestic violence death reviews was prepared
- The discussion paper, including recommendations, was presented to State Government (Minister of Communities) in December 2008.
- Two educational forums were held in regional Queensland – Mt. Isa and Townsville.
- One forum (prior to DV Prevention Month) was held to educate the media on domestic violence and death reviews in July 2009
- More than seven monthly monitoring and planning meetings of the DVDRAG Committee were held
- An addendum to the document was completed.
- A media breakfast and dissemination of a kit : Media Reporting on Domestic Violence.

Short term outcomes included:

- increased awareness of the need to have policies, processes and training in place in order to prevent deaths has been achieved
- highlighting to the government and the community that domestic



violence can end in death, and focusing attention on what a death review process means for their agencies and the need to implement the highest possible safety standards.

- o attracting Indigenous participants, particularly in the northern forums, who were very happy to take the floor and raise issues.

Unintended outcomes included:

- o Government announcements supporting death reviews coming much sooner than expected. During the course of the project three state governments, including Queensland announced domestic violence death review processes and the Federal Government announced its National Plan which included DV death reviews.
- o An extension of the campaign beyond Queensland.
- o The establishment of a National day of Remembrance. The first national day was held in May this year.

Please note that immediate benefits to clients were not expected from this project during the period of the project.

8. Access and Respite for Women with Disabilities Experiencing Domestic Violence by the ACT DV Sector

Organisation: Women's Centre for Health Matters

Location: Australian Capital Territory (Metro)

Amount: \$40,835

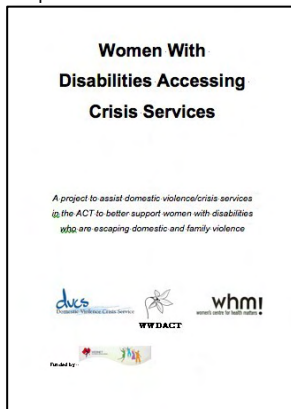
Category targeted: Disabilities

Description: The project, a collaboration between the Women's Centre for Health Matters, Domestic Violence Crisis Service and Women with Disabilities ACT, explored current practice, raised awareness and assisted organisations in the development of good practice policies, procedures and access to premises for women with disabilities escaping domestic violence in the ACT.

A project worker was employed to work with six crisis DV refuges and three crisis counselling services.

The project worker, under the guidance of an Executive Steering Group, conducted an introductory workshop, undertook an audit of each agency, developed model policies and procedures, provided other support to agencies as identified, and lead a process to look at identifying and implementing next steps with the nine crisis support organisations.

Outputs and outcomes



- Evaluation framework developed.
- A review of relevant national and international literature was conducted to examine previous research and practices related to ensuring access by women with disabilities to domestic violence/crisis services.
- A set of 'best practice' principles was developed.
- A questionnaire was developed as a basis for auditing women's with disabilities accessibility of the services using these best practice principles.
- Three women with disabilities were recruited to perform the accessibility audits of the participating services in conjunction with the Project Worker.
- An initial workshop was conducted with representatives of domestic violence/ crisis services within the ACT on 5 February 2009.
- Individual accessibility audits were conducted of 8 of the 9 domestic violence/crisis services within the ACT using the questionnaires developed. The audits aimed to identify any barriers and gaps that impacted on the capacity of the domestic violence/crisis service system within the ACT to provide fully accessible services for women with disabilities.
- Individual reports were prepared for each service identifying the key findings from the audits about service provision issues and barriers for women with disabilities accessing their services, as well as individual recommendations.
- A final workshop was conducted on 10 June to explore the overall findings and the issues from the whole network perspective.
- The final report – which used the common themes and findings from the individual Audit reports and the final workshop outcomes -

was completed and distributed to the services for feedback and comment.

- A range of further actions springing from the reports recommendations has been identified.

Project outcomes included:

- enhanced capacity of the services involved to extend their understanding of domestic and family violence to encompass the experiences of women with disabilities.
- identification of a range of actions which will ensure a better approach to early intervention and make the choice for escaping abuse or violence easier for local women with disabilities.
- the development of good practice principles which will guide services in the ACT on how and why they need to improve access for women with disabilities to domestic violence/crisis services in the ACT, and show that women with disabilities who experience violence have the same needs as other women.
- women with disabilities in the ACT who are experiencing domestic violence will benefit over time through improved service access when seeking support from the six crisis domestic violence accommodation services and three counselling services in the ACT.
- an understanding that when expertise and knowledge are shared between services and sectors which are resource and time poor, the financial and resource demands are shared.

An important lesson learnt from the project was a realisation of the importance of the lived experience of a woman with a disability as an excellent resource for services – ‘nothing about us without us’ . This changed the thinking of the services about the need to identify opportunities to consider how they could include women with disabilities in providing input to improving their services.

9. Leadership & Women with Disabilities: Capacity Building in Violence Prevention

Organisation: Domestic Violence Resource Centre (Victoria)

Location: Victoria (Metro)

Amount: \$37,444

Category targeted: Women with disabilities

Description: The project involved mentoring women with disabilities in order to promote their capacity to lead and facilitate community activities on violence prevention.

The influence of women with disabilities who speak out about domestic violence can be very powerful. This innovative project aimed to mentor women with disabilities in violence prevention by enhancing their existing skills and abilities. The Domestic Violence Resource Centre (Victoria) recruited women with an interest in violence prevention and provided them with training, support, encouragement, advice and resources based on DVRC's knowledge and expertise in violence against women with disabilities. The project facilitated their first steps into positive and empowering violence prevention activities.

- Outputs and outcomes
- The project provided participants with a reading and media list based on national and international research undertaken by women with disabilities for women with disabilities.
 - 24 women with disabilities were provided with information about, and resources on, prevention of domestic violence. 19 of these continued active participation in the project.
 - Two small informal information sessions were run: one for the Victorian Women with Disabilities Network and a second for Reinforce Self Advocacy.
 - A two-day workshop for women with cognitive impairments in March/April in central Melbourne was run based on the theme *The Right to Relationships Free of Violence*
 - Two sessions for six young deaf/hearing impaired women in rural Victoria were run based on the theme *Healthy Mind Body and Relationships: Self Care for Young Women*
 - two individual tutorial-style sessions were run for a woman whose current personal situation made it difficult for her to participate in group activities
 - A trial *Train the Trainer* package was developed and 10 women participated in the trial and provided feedback
 - The new Victorian Women With Disabilities Family Violence Policy Officer completed the DVRC competency based *Introduction to Family Violence* 4-day training program in February
- Outcomes included:
- increased capacity of the women with disabilities involved in the project to participate in community development and strengthening activities, forums and conferences. This participation enabled them to discuss and develop responses to violence against women, responses which are inclusive of the experience of women with disabilities.

- strengthened ability of participants to be involved in leadership roles and influence violence prevention outcomes.
- a better understanding of the needs of women with disabilities who have experienced violence by the service providers involved.
- having a group of women with disabilities to call on to support the Centre's community education activities, professional training on family violence, and for input and suggestions into further resources
- increased community understanding that family violence does affect women with disabilities
- the participants' taking violence prevention ideas and issues into their own support organisations and networks
- the acceptance of four participants on to newly formed government committees to develop a comprehensive State Prevention Plan to address violence against women, focusing on preventing violence before it occurs.

This project has demonstrated that the way forward is based on the notion of encouraging and building the capacity of women with disabilities to be active participants rather than making them passive recipients of the prevention agenda.

10. Children Growing Big and Strong

Organisation:	Aboriginal Family Support Services Inc.
Location:	South Australia (Metro)
Amount:	\$25,818
Category targeted:	Indigenous and Children
Description:	In many areas, little is available in the way of resources and assistance for children who have been the victim of, or witness to, family violence. Avenues are available for intervention and prevention for the victim(s) and for the perpetrator, but the psychological and even physiological damage done to children is not as widely recognised or addressed. Emerging research suggests that children who experience or witness family violence suffer damage to their ability to build and develop caring and loving relationships (resonance).

The project funded a series of professionally conducted workshops for Aboriginal children who have been victims of, or witness to, domestic/family violence in Port Augusta and Coober Pedy. The workshops were designed to build not only resilience to help the children cope with the associated trauma, but also resonance to help them learn/re-learn the ability to develop appropriate caring, family relationships.

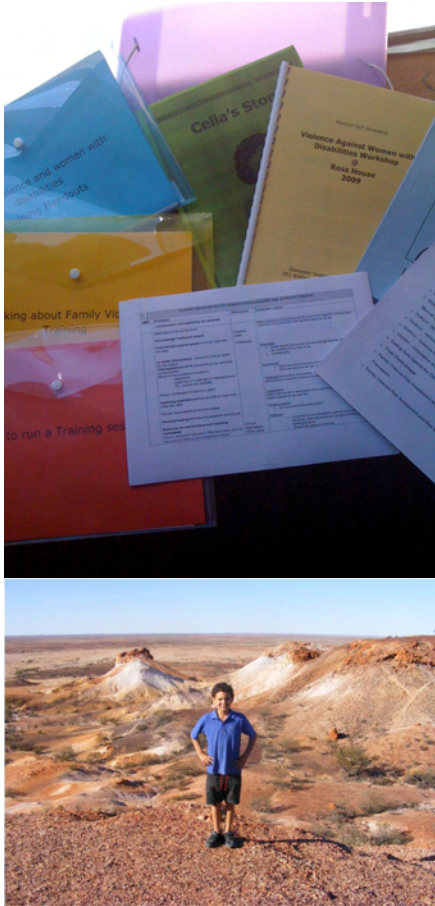
The target group was young Aboriginal children and young people up to 18 years of age, although directed more to those under 13 years old in the Port Augusta and Coober Pedy areas.

Outputs and outcomes



In consultation with domestic and family violence expert Professor Judy Atkinson and AFSS staff, the decision was made to shift the direct target group from Aboriginal children to staff providing direct service delivery to children across alternative care, family and community violence, policing, child care, crisis accommodation, gambling, primary health services, legal rights, statutory child protection, family preservation, teaching, school holiday programs and youth work. The reason for the shift stemmed from concerns for the children originally directly targeted and the further damage their presence at workshops might cause them.

- o In the two workshops conducted in Port Augusta and Cooper Pedy, participants gained a working knowledge in the following areas:
 - the importance of cultural safety when working with children who have been hurt through family and community violence
 - theories and processes of child development and ability to identify the effects of trauma on the developing child
 - ability to describe and conduct emotional first aid and release work for children through sensory and tactile, narrative, dance, movement, play therapy, nature discovery,



storytelling, and performance

- skills for working with children that promote positive spiritual growth and identity
 - evaluation and referral of children with specific and critical needs to other relevant professionals.
- o The WESNET Project provided the funding for 27 participants to attend “Growing Children Big and Strong workshops” in Port Augusta and Coober Pedy. A further 55 participants attended two further workshops in Adelaide (all crisis accommodation staff in metro Adelaide) as a direct result of the success of the WESNET-funded workshops.
 - o Since the workshops, some participants have reported they have profoundly changed their professional interaction with children and families in and after family and community violence situations.
 - o The need for further formal training of AFSS staff was identified.

Overall as a result of the training given, the participants developed their theoretical and practical skills to provide and model healing environments for children who have been exposed to family and community violence.

11. "Strong Women, Safe Communities"

Organisation: Aboriginal Culture and Resource Centre Inc (ACRC)

Location: New South Wales (Regional)

Amount: \$24,499

Category targeted: Indigenous

Description: Indigenous women's access to domestic and family violence services is unrepresentative of the Blue Mountains area population yet Aboriginal women are over-represented as victims of family violence and child protection orders. Aboriginal women and children's access to mainstream services is also unrepresentative.

The project aimed at addressing many of the access issues for Indigenous women and children and provided an integrated, holistic approach through a 'one-stop shop' approach by bringing women, children, Elders and services together. Indigenous women and children living in the Upper and Mid Blue Mountains were the primary beneficiaries of the project.

The project piloted the establishment of weekly Women's Days at ACRC for a 14 week period and included care for participants' children by the provision of children's activities in a Children's Space programme. It also included two family fun days held during vacation periods.

The project was implemented in partnership with the Blue Mountains Women's Health Centre. Other local services were invited to be involved in the project.

The project was provided as an early intervention strategy (before women and children present at Domestic Violence services) and was strengths-based. It assisted women and children to build their own resilience and encouraged them to be able to say no to family violence in their community.

By providing two family fun days, the project worked to engage whole families and the broader Aboriginal community.

- Outputs and outcomes
- A service brochure/flyer to promote the Women's Day programme and allied services was created and distributed
 - A steering committee involving ACRC, Aboriginal Elders & local services was formed
 - Local Aboriginal women were employed as the project officer, artists and children's worker.
 - 16 Women's Day workshops were held during the project's duration in which Aboriginal women learnt about services available to women and children in the local community, in particular the local Women's Health Centre and services that support women and children affected by family violence.
 - Two family fun days were also held (31 January 2009 and 2 May 2009). Other services participated (Mountains Outreach Community Service, Blue Mountains Women's Health Centre, Mid-Mountains Rotary). Cultural and children's activities were held. The first family fun day was attended by about 80 parents, children & community members and the second by about 50 parents, children and community members. Both days provided an opportunity to get feedback from men and women and also allowed an opportunity for services to talk directly with families.

Outcomes included:

- strengthened links between local services, ACRC and Aboriginal women and children. In particular the links between the *Blue Mountains Women's Health Centre* and ACRC were strengthened-- the project has created a genuine partnership.
- women, children and families being more aware of how and where to get help.
- strengthened relationships and connections between Elders, women, children and services.
- an increased involvement by Aboriginal women in ACRC activities, services and groups since being part of this program.
- employment opportunities for the various women employed in the program, allowing them to share their skills and cultural knowledge with others.

Overall the project assisted women and children to build their own resilience and encouraged them to be able to say no to family violence in their community. It also enabled ACRC to strengthen its knowledge, awareness and ability to address family violence in the community.



12. “Getting Talking” – empowering Liberian women to address issues of domestic violence and promote healthy relationships

Organisation: Central Domestic Violence Service
 Location: South Australia (Metro)
 Amount: \$20,660
 Category targeted: CALD
 Description: The “Getting Talking” project worked to engage Liberian women in the Western and Eastern metropolitan regions of Adelaide and to begin conversations around their experiences of domestic and family violence.

Outputs and outcomes



The Central Domestic Violence Service worked with Liberian women and map their stories, understand perspectives about what constitutes a healthy relationship, and to develop a plan for ensuring the service is responsive and culturally appropriate.

Focus groups were held with around 50 Liberian women who shared their and others’ stories about domestic and family violence. They also shared stories on their experiences of war in Africa and their experiences in refugee camps prior to their arrival in Australia. These experiences clearly impact on their current and past experiences of domestic and family violence.

The project has:

- enabled around 50 Liberian women to have access to information about domestic violence and healthy and unhealthy relationships
- given the Liberian community information about where they can access support on domestic violence issues
- provided a number of Elders in the community with information that will assist them in supporting families in their community affected by domestic and family violence
- enabled the Central Domestic Violence Service to develop a strong relationship with the women of the Liberian community
- collated a range of informed recommendations that will assist the CDVS to continue and develop this work
- taught the CDVS the importance of connecting with women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds in a way which is culturally appropriate, rather than expecting that these women will fit a western model of service delivery. This will inform their work with other culturally and linguistically diverse groups.

To sum up, the Liberian women in the Western and Eastern metropolitan regions of Adelaide now have access to information and resources about domestic and family violence. They have information about the service system in Australia in relation to domestic violence and therefore have an understanding about where to go for help and what they can expect from service responses.

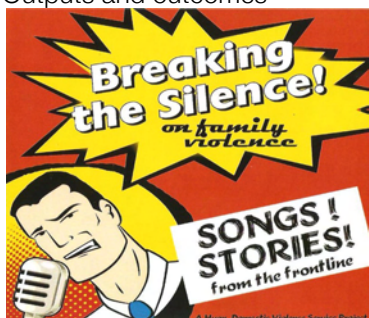
The collaboration between Community groups and volunteers for this project has developed a core support base for future community initiatives.

13. “Breaking the Silence on Family Violence”

Organisation:	Huon Domestic Violence Service
Location:	Tasmania (Rural)
Amount:	\$7,557
Category targeted:	Community awareness/Education
Description:	Rural and isolated families within Tasmania have little access to information about domestic violence issues or knowledge of support services available.

This project saw the production of a series of radio programs discussing domestic and family violence issues, early intervention and risk management strategies and community support information. The programs used the power of popular music and ownership by young people of a local radio program.

Outputs and outcomes



- The radio programs were produced providing information about warning signs, early interventions and strategies for controlling abusive relationships, and information about support services available have been produced.
- Introduction letters, advertising posters, media releases , CSAs and copies of the programs were disseminated amongst all community radio stations throughout Tasmania.
- Evaluation methodology and evaluation forms and SAE will be distributed alongside the product to the radio stations. Station managers will be encouraged to ask broadcast listeners to provide feedback about the programs.
- CDs of the radio programs have been sent to all Tasmanian Community Centres. The CD can be used as a group-work discussion resource.

Outcomes included:

- The collaboration with the Youth Services encouraged broad community involvement and ownership of this community-health issue.
- The project demonstrated to the communities involved that a violence prevention project does not need to be academic and prescriptive
- The use of “real” stories by real people and the use of popular songs enabled listeners to relate more easily to the messages being given.
- Because of the network involved in the making and distribution of these radio programs, the wider community has a better understanding of domestic violence issues and the support services available.

The use and power of community radio was harnessed to provide information about family violence and the support services available to all ages and family members in rural and isolated Tasmania.

14. Entering the Prison Kits

Organisation: ACT Women and Prisons (ACTCOSS Auspicing)
Location: Australian Capital Territory (Metro)
Amount: \$2,000
Category targeted: Prison
Description: The project involved the preparation of kits to be distributed to women upon arrival in the recently established ACT prison, either sentenced or on remand. 98% of women imprisoned in Queensland have a history of domestic violence and/or sexual abuse. Similar studies in other state's prisons have all found rates of over 85%.

The funding was used to prepare 100 kits to provide women with information about women specific support services, where women prisoners can feel safe asking for help (as they are separate from the prison system) and gain access to tools to put their life back together when they leave prison, by arranging housing, financial assistance and other supports, and building their capacity to address their own problems. This control may be enough to prevent women from returning to violent family settings or re-entering the prison system.

Outputs and outcomes

80 Entering the Prison kits were prepared. At the time of submission of the final reports, kits had been distributed to all women currently incarcerated (approximately 20) in the Andrew Maconochie Centre (the ACT Prison). The rest of the kits have been stored ready for distribution either at the ACT Prison or ACTCOSS Centre.



Support was provided to women incarcerated in the AMC (both remand and sentenced). Information was distributed to women about the support services, options and advocacy available to them. The kit also provided toiletries and puzzle books freeing up women's funds for phone calls. Feedback from the incarcerated women indicated appreciation of receiving the Entering the Prison Kits as this act had reminded them they are considered worthwhile, and not forgotten.



Through this small project, incarcerated women built relationships with the ACT Women and Prison group (WAP) based on goodwill created through the distribution of the kits. As a result, WAP was able more easily to offer support, mentoring and advocacy to the women incarcerated.

One of the objectives of the project was to support women feeling helpless and uninformed. By providing women with information about their rights and supports available to them, and by building a positive relationship with WAP, the project has been successful in meeting this goal.

The project ultimately aimed at reducing recidivism rates and supporting women to break the cycle of violence. As the AMC has only been in operation for three months, there is little data available at this stage about recidivism rates and the lives of women after leaving the prison.

Direct outcomes of this project are:

- Regular meetings with incarcerated ACT women have been established and continue on a fortnightly basis.
- Information has been shared about support services and some external linkages have been developed between prisoners and community sector service providers.
- Capacity of this at risk group of marginalised women to build resilience and approach issues in a more strategic manner through internal prison processes has been increased.
- Information and shared understandings of experiences of cycles of violence have been discussed during WAP visits to the AMC.

15. Choir of No More Knocks

Organisation: Carrie's Place Women's and Children's Service Inc

Location: New South Wales (Regional)

Amount: \$2,000

Category targeted: Empowerment/Community development

Description: This project funded transport, accommodation, food and child care to enable the women of the Choir of No More Knocks to perform in Melbourne at a concert with the Choir of Hard Knocks and Jonathon Welch.

The members of the Choir of No More Knocks are all women who have experienced some form of domestic violence in their lives. The choir has two main purposes: (1) a therapeutic role to build self confidence, break isolation, help women recognise their own personal power and (2) a community awareness raising role.

Outputs and outcomes The concert performance with the Choir of Hard Knocks was successfully completed. 27 women and eight children were transported to Melbourne and accommodated for three nights from 14 November to 17 November 2009.



The Choir's performance was used as a community education and awareness raising tool. Many songs of the Choir's repertoire carried an anti violence message &/or a pro human rights/social justice message. In addition, women who had experienced DV gave audiences insight into their own experiences, by way of narratives between songs. The general introduction given to audiences raised awareness of Carrie's Place as a DV service provider.

The Choir performed a therapeutic role for participants who have experienced DV. The performance in Melbourne, alongside the Choir of Hard Knocks, was a pinnacle for many of the women participants and a very empowering experience. They reported having a very real sense of connection with the audience and gaining strength in knowing that they had finally been able to tell their stories. Other therapeutic aspects included the bonds formed by the women with each other and the sense of camaraderie that they achieved from performing as a group.

The Choir continues to be a very effective tool for breaking the cycle of isolation in which many women find themselves as a direct result of DV.

16. Nambucca Valley Indigenous Women's Support Group

Organisation: MiiMi Mothers Aboriginal Corporation
Location: New South Wales (Rural)
Amount: \$2,000
Category targeted: Indigenous/ Community Development/ Empowerment
Description: The project aimed to empower Indigenous women to protect themselves and their children from domestic and family violence and develop a support network amongst Indigenous women that will reduce the effect of domestic and violence in the community.

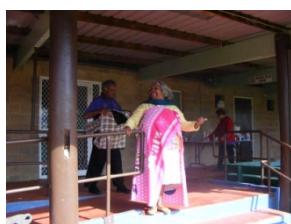
Outputs and outcomes Weekly group sessions/workshops were held with input from Bowraville AMS, Interrelate, Warrina Women's Refuge and the local magistrate. These sessions established a support network for Indigenous women

The group has been utilised as a means of discussing current law and order incidents, and engaging Elders in proactive measures such as a community Law and Order meeting.

The sessions have facilitated the development of technical skills in producing high quality textile arts. This in turn has enhanced participants self esteem, involved Elders and widened participants' interests to include some business training.

Outcomes have included:

- the introduction of additional workshops funded by TAFE North Coast Institute and Arts Mid North Coast.
- the development of capacity to commence a textiles business. (A grant has been obtained which will see the women continue over the next twelve months.)
- Many women have sought assistance through health, welfare and legal streams that they otherwise would have found difficult to access.



17. Creating Intentional Families: A resource to support mothers who have experienced domestic violence

Organisation: Central Domestic Violence Service Inc

Location: South Australia (Metro)

Amount: \$2,000

Category targeted: Parenting/Children/New learning

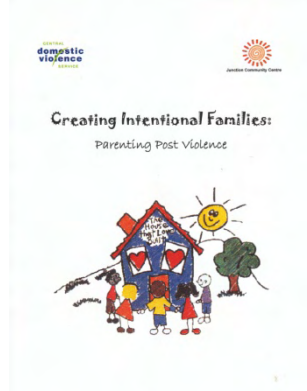
Description: The project developed a manual which was and can be used in a 10 week parenting course that addresses what mothers can do at different developmental stages to respond to children's developmental needs and promote peaceful parenting after domestic violence. Part of the parenting course enabled each woman participant to create a DVD telling the story of her new intentional family, including photographs of herself and her children, parenting strategies and affirmations. The manual is a resource for workers supporting women who have experienced domestic violence.

- A manual was developed by mothers who have experienced domestic violence themselves for mothers. The manual can be used by groups or on a one-on-one basis.
- A presentation by a trauma expert was given to the target group.
- The presentation was recorded for future use and also downloaded to individual DVDs
- Group members made individual DVDs to record their own stories, useful information and their intentions for their families.

Outcomes from the project include:

- The expertise of a specialised domestic violence service and the parenting expertise of a community centre were utilised together to address an identified gap in services, i.e. the parenting needs of mothers who have experienced domestic violence.
- A manual is now available for community agencies to facilitate parenting courses that respond to children's development needs after experiencing domestic violence.
- Some participants sought individual support from both services involved in running the group and will continue to access this support after the group finishes.
- Evaluation data suggests participants feel much better able to cope as parents, more aware of the impacts of domestic violence, less to blame for their children's behaviour and better supported.
- Social networks have been created for previously isolated women.

Outputs and outcomes



18. Intervention and Prevention of Domestic Violence for Australian Women and Children of Chinese Background

Organisation:	ACT Chinese Women Association (Inc)
Location:	ACT (Metro)
Amount:	\$2,000
Category targeted:	CALD
Description:	The project funded speakers for seminars about domestic violence and provided printed material in Chinese to educate Australian-Chinese women about the law, their rights and where to go for help.

Outputs and outcomes



- 2000 copies of a pamphlet covering domestic violence issues and giving support information were designed and printed in Chinese.
- Two seminars/ training sessions were held to inform members of the ACT Chinese Women's association of domestic violence issues: one was with Toni McInnes from DVCS; the other with Gayatri Nair from Legal Aid.
- Relationships with the Chinese community were built through social activities (BBQs and an International Women's Day) in order to encourage women to talk to the Association about domestic violence situations when they arise.
- An increased number of members in the Association were trained to work on intervention and prevention of domestic violence within the Australian-Chinese community in the ACT.
- Interest from people in the Chinese community about the support that the Association can offer to people experiencing domestic violence has increased.
- Association knowledge has been gained in how to provide information to the community on sensitive and complex issues.

19. Domestic Violence and Child Protection Forum: Exploring best practice from a feminist perspective

Organisation: Women's House Shelta

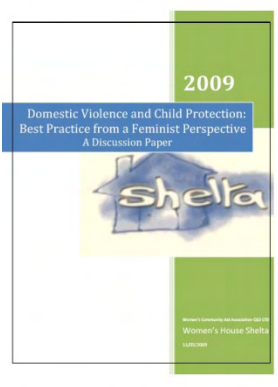
Location: Queensland (Metro)

Amount: \$1,965

Category targeted: Resource/Research

Description: This project funded a forum for domestic violence workers at the Women's House Shelta to look at the ways in which the system and workers collude with perpetrators and engage in victim blaming. It also explored issues regarding best practice from a feminist perspective, when working with women and children affected by domestic violence.

Outputs and outcomes



On 18 February 2009, a forum was held to provide domestic violence workers with the opportunity to come together to explore the intersection of domestic violence and child protection issues.

The information gathered from the forum was gathered in a discussion paper which subsequently was used as a resource for a meeting with the Department of Child Safety where the issues raised in paper were discussed.

Outcomes included:

- A discussion paper that documents the practice wisdom and recommendations of the domestic and family violence workers who attended the forum. This paper will provide community-based organisations with a resource and a starting point for safer, more effective work practice and strategic intervention.
- An improved understanding among participants of issues at the nexus of domestic violence and child protection.

20. FUTI/POP - "Facing Up To It and Playing Our Part"

Organisation: Clarendon Vale Neighbourhood Centre Inc

Location: Tasmania (Rural)

Amount: \$1,960

Category targeted: Community awareness/Education

Description: This project provided two FUTI/POP training sessions for teachers, support staff and community residents living and working in Clarence Plains. The sessions aimed at enabling the groups to recognise family violence, understand the messages children give that indicate they may be in an abusive situation or environment, and to know how to listen, respond and refer effectively.

- Outputs and outcomes
- o The project has trained 14 people in how to recognize the signs of family violence and how to respond appropriately when family violence is disclosed to them. The group trained consisted of workers from schools, Child and Family Services, local council, child carers and volunteers, and workers from Neighbourhood Centres
 - o A resource library has been developed which is available to anyone in the community. The library is extensive and continues to grow as more resources are developed and become available.

Outcomes include:

- o Empowerment for trained workers and members of the community to act and make notifications to child protection on recognition or disclosure of the occurrence of family violence.
- o The promotion of brochures on specialist services, services in the community that can assist a person experiencing family violence, information on the impact of family violence and the tools available to work with those effected by family violence.
- o Impetus for the working group to put in an application for funding to support a drama production at the local primary school that will address the same themes as provided in the training.

21. Printing of Police Domestic Violence Handouts

Organisation:	Eastern Region Domestic Violence Services Network Inc
Location:	Western Australia (Metro)
Amount:	\$1,680
Category targeted:	Resource/early intervention
Description:	The project funded the printing of a handout for police officers to hand to both victims and perpetrators of violence when they attend incidents. The aim is to provide immediate information on domestic and family violence services along with local service contact details to try and encourage families experiencing domestic and family violence to engage with services as early as possible. This project is part of an overall strategy to improve engagement and case management of recidivist domestic and family violence families in the eastern region of Perth.

Outputs and outcomes



The pamphlet on domestic violence issues and services was designed and printed. After an initial draft, both victims and perpetrators of domestic violence were consulted and were able to contribute valuable suggestions for changes to both the final design and content. This consultation has enabled the production of a highly targeted and effective publication.

The pamphlets were distributed to police and are kept in all police vehicles ready for distribution when police attend domestic violence incidents.

Police were briefed on the use of the handouts and were made aware of their responsibility to distribute the pamphlets in relevant situations.

As a result of the project:

- Police have a useful resource to hand out when attending domestic violence incidents. The information in the pamphlet enables police to commence conversations about accessing support.
- The project has delivered a clear message that domestic family violence is not acceptable and that people involved in its cycle can receive support from regional agencies that understand the issues
- The briefings and pamphlet have increased the knowledge and understanding of Police officers attending domestic family violence incidents
- Feedback mechanisms are in place. An evaluation of feedback on the effectiveness of the pamphlet in encouraging the target group to directly access support is ongoing.

22. Domestic Violence Support Package for Staff and Families

Organisation: Malangenna Childcare Centre

Location: Tasmania (Regional)

Amount: \$765

Category targeted: Children

Description: The funding was used to purchase the Safe from the Start Toolkit and to undertake relevant staff training in its use.

Outputs and outcomes

- The Safe from the Start Toolkit was purchased.
- Free training was available to and undertaken by the Centre staff with the purchase of the kit.
- The Safe from the Start Toolkit has enabled staff to use the tools provided to include innovative and creative ideas into their programs at all developmental levels to support such topics as separation, feelings, physical abuse, bullying, in a sensitive manner.
- This toolkit has been made available to other LDC facilities, vacation care, and After School Hour Care, thereby reaching a wide spectrum of the community.
- Local knowledge has been gained in how to provide information to the community on sensitive and complex issues.

Appendix 1 – Appraisal Guidelines

APPRAISAL GUIDELINES

Scoring and Guide Notes

Selection Criteria	Max Score
<p>1. The extent to which the proposal demonstrates that it will contribute to the aims and objective of the WESNET Capacity Building Project (most important criteria – double points? If yes – need to note this most important criteria in the application form too)</p> <p>Things to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Proposal addresses project at least one of the objectives ○ Proposed methodology ○ Key deliverables are appropriate and significant ○ Proposal demonstrates that it will further the development of good practice in responding to domestic and family violence 	5
<p>2. The extent to which the applicant demonstrates relevant experience in relation to domestic and family violence and/or sexual assault</p> <p>Things to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provides examples of other work organisation has undertaken related to domestic and family violence and/or sexual assault ○ Provides information that demonstrates organisation’s knowledge of and responses to the specific and unique issues faced by victims/survivors of domestic and family violence and/or sexual assault. ○ Includes a description of current, relevant programs/projects delivered by organisation, the clients for whom such programs are provided and the period over which the programs have been provided. ○ Describes how organisation intends to work with other agencies to implement strategies and achieve outcomes 	5
<p>3. The extent to which the applicant can demonstrate capacity to successfully deliver the proposed project.</p> <p>Things to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Project team personnel have demonstrated qualifications, experience and skill relevant to the project aims, objectives and the proposal methodology. (referee support required) ○ extent to which the applicant can demonstrate experience in project management, research, evaluation and financial management. 	5

Rating Scale

Applications will be rated against each selection criteria in accordance with the following rating scale:

Rating	Score
Excellent quality – excellent claims against the criterion, exceeds expectations, supporting information confirms consistent superior performance	5
Very good quality – very good claims against the criterion, meets all expectations to a high standard with complete and comprehensive supporting information	4
Good quality – good claims against the criterion, meets all expectations with convincing supporting information	3
Satisfactory quality – adequate claims against the criterion, mostly meets expectations, but may be lacking detail and/or supporting information	2
Marginal or poor quality – poor claims against the criterion, does not meet expectations, has deficient supporting information	1
Does not meet criterion – very poor answer or no answer provided	0

Appraisal form – needs to include reasons for selection or reasons for non-selection in a special section.

Appendix 2 – Jurisdictional Contact Officers – Guidelines

Jurisdictional Contact Officers – Guidelines

Role of Jurisdictional Contact Officers

Role of Jurisdictional Contact Officers within the Capacity Building Grants project will be to :

- Support successful applicants carry out their projects.
- Act as liaison point between successful applicants and the Project Management Committee (PMC) and the Project coordinator.
- Undertake (subtle) monitoring of projects progress and provide early warning to project coordinator if required.

Responsibilities

During Selection process

- Provide risk assessment to GAT as required during selection process, if approached.

Grant Announcement

- Ring successful applicants to introduce self and provide information about JCO role for life of project.

During project

- Maintain a file for every project you are monitoring. Include the funding agreement, original proposal and attach a contact record sheet for every project.
- Record contact with grantee on contact record sheet and note any other issues.
- Have copies of relevant project and funding agreement for each project assigned.
- Ensure confidentiality
- Reminder calls (with some notice) when reports are due etc.
- Contact at least three times in life of project, especially for larger grants.

When there is suspected or actual non-compliance

- Contact project coordinator as soon as possible
- Discuss observation
- Agree course of action. Refer to PMC/project coordinator if required.
- PMC/project coordinator formally contacts project if required.

JCO support system

- Establish a JCO support system.
- If JCO is unable to answer question then contact Project Coordinator in first instance. Escalate to PMC if required.