Full Stop Australia

Full Stop Australia

Annual Report

2024–2025

My Country – Women's Ceremony by Bundjalung and Gomeroi/Euahlayi artist, Lee Anne Hall

Full Stop Australia acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We live and work on unceded Aboriginal land and pay our respect to Elders past and present. We acknowledge the impacts of colonisation and the over-representation of First Nations people affected by the far-reaching impacts of sexual, domestic and family violence. **This always was and always will be Aboriginal land.**

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CEO and Chair statement

It has been a privilege to lead Full Stop Australia in this important year leading up to our 50th anniversary of when we started providing support, advocacy and education to address and seek to end sexual violence and domestic and family violence.

It's been an incredible journey from our beginnings as the Sydney Rape Crisis Centre providing volunteer rape crisis response and taking action to force our community to acknowledge the shocking prevalence and impact of rape and sexual assault.

We have now grown to have a national footprint, working across sexual violence and domestic and family violence through helplines and direct service programs while making contributions to national and state jurisdictions in policy and law reform, supporting victim survivor advocacy and delivering high-quality training and consulting services.

For 50 years, we have provided the original Rape Crisis telephone counselling service, now funded by the NSW Government and known as the NSW Sexual Violence Helpline. It's the longest standing specialist service of its kind in Australia. What has never changed is our commitment to standing alongside victim-survivors, centring their voice and their experience and advocating forcefully for social, legal and policy change that ends harmful myths, norms, practices and systems that enable gender-based violence.

We recognise the incredible team of staff who have done this work over the years and acknowledge the powerful work they do every day. This year many staff stepped up into new opportunities and worked on important projects that contributed to expanding our impact, including the Sexual Violence Conference in October, the Priority Populations Project and the Safe to Speak social responders training program.

Thank you to our board, who have been steadfast in their support and diligent in their governance.

In the coming year, we will focus on developing our new strategic direction, building our pathway to long-term financial sustainability and continuing our commitment to ending gender-based violence, one step at a time.

Karen Bevan
CEO
Full Stop Australia

Georgina Smart
Chair
Full Stop Australia Board

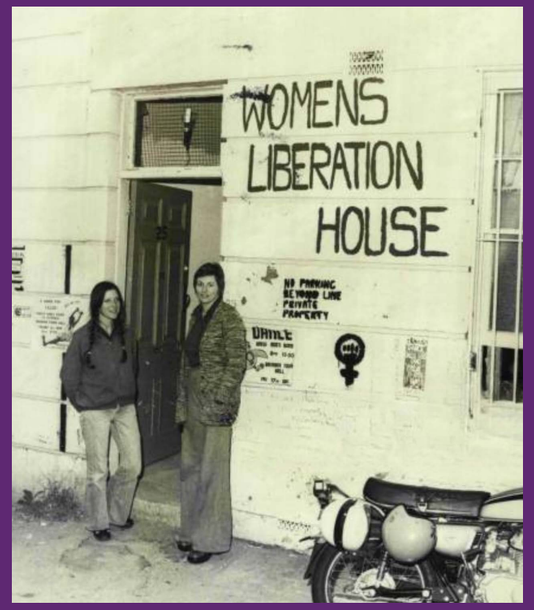
Commemorating 50 years of service

In August 1974, a group of women from the Glebe area wrote to the federal Department of Urban and Regional Development, asking the government to fund a new service. Concerned that women who had been raped lacked the support they needed, they were determined to help. They were ambitious, but their request was modest:

> *To achieve our aims we require the use of one large room, at least two telephones (two lines) to provide a twenty-four hour a day, seven days a week telephone service ...*

The women didn't wait around for the funding. By the time it landed in mid-1975, they had been helping women for several months.

In fact, the 'Sydney Rape Crisis Centre' had opened on 29 October 1974, and was operating out of a single room at Sydney's Women's Liberation House. It was the first service of its kind in Australia.



Sydney Rape Crisis Centre volunteers outside the Women's Liberation House, 1975

At the beginning, the centre's staff were volunteers, and as they noted in that original letter to the government, many were themselves victim-survivors:

> *Many of the women who will be involved in the Rape Crisis Centre have been through [rape] themselves and will be able to draw on their own experiences in supporting and helping the women who come to the centre ...*

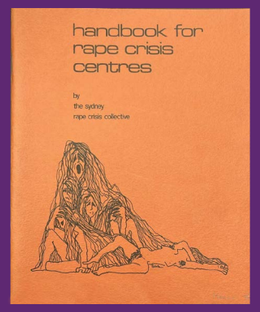
They faced some daunting challenges. Back in 1974, marital rape was still legal and hospitals were reluctant or simply unable to support victim-survivors of sexual assault. In workplaces, sexual harassment and sexism were common and condoned.

It is no exaggeration to say that this earliest iteration of Full Stop Australia helped lay the foundations for the support services available to women across Australia today.

From the start, we not only supported victim-survivors of sexual assault, but looked to influence change in society by advocating for law reform and educating women – and the general public – about sexual assault.

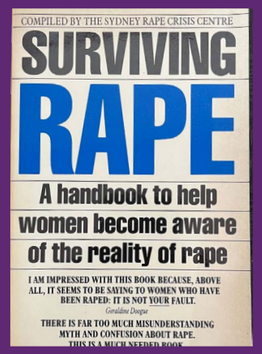
We have published widely in our 50 years, demonstrating our commitment to educating the public and offering practical assistance to victim-survivors.

In June 1975 we released our *Handbook for Rape Crisis Centres* to share our early experiences.

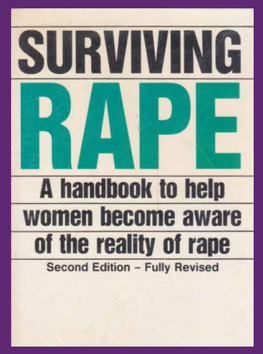


1975

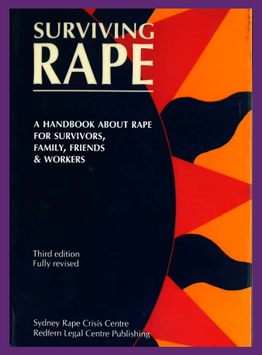
Among many other publications, we have also issued four editions of *Surviving Rape*, from 1984 to 2003, and four editions of a manual for sexual assault crisis telephone and online counselling.



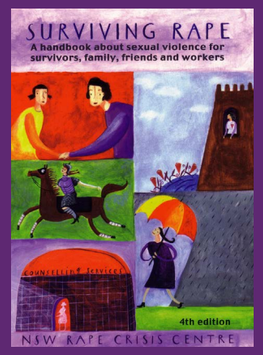
1984



1990



1995



2003

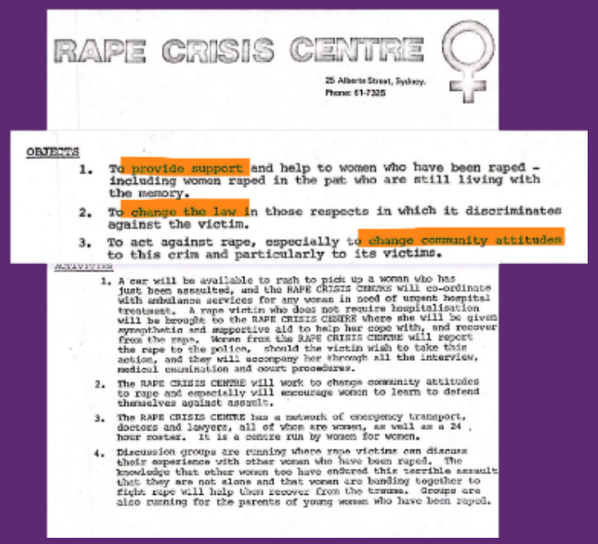
Our early education work included self-defence classes for women, which we introduced in 1976, and 'Girls in Schools', a rape awareness program that started in 1983, leading to many schools offering their students self-defence classes and assertiveness training.

In 1998, after also supporting women in rural and regional NSW for many years, the service rebranded as NSW Rape Crisis Centre.

Having gone to significant lengths to improve service accessibility to high-risk groups through translation services and message-bank upgrades, the service saw a significant increase in calls over the three years to 2000.

Our reach steadily grew, and in 2013 we changed our name to Rape and Domestic Violence Services Australia, reflecting both our national scope and the increased range of services we then offered. In 2021 we rebranded to Full Stop Australia, merging the fundraising foundation and the organisation, to reflect our purpose to put a full stop to gender-based violence.

Now, 50 years on, we continue to support victim-survivors of sexual assault and to influence community attitudes to sexual, domestic and family violence through the three fundamental pillars that we established from the very beginning: support, advocate and educate.


RAPE CRISIS CENTRE

25 Alberto Street, Sydney.
Phone: 61-7325

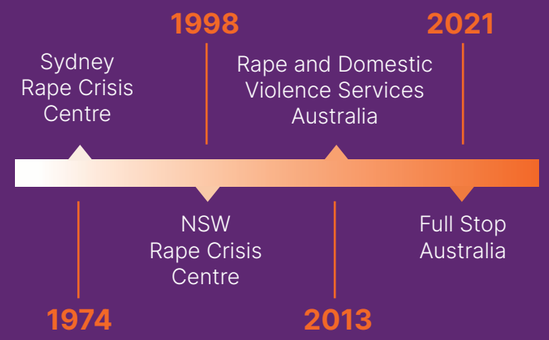
OBJECTS

1. To provide support and help to women who have been raped – including women raped in the past who are still living with the memory.
2. To change the law in those respects in which it discriminates against the victim.
3. To act against rape, especially to change community attitudes to this crim and particularly to its victims.

ACTIVITIES

1. A car will be available to rush to pick up a woman who has just been assaulted, and the RAPE CRISIS CENTRE will co-ordinate with ambulance services for any woman in need of urgent hospital treatment. A rape victim who does not require hospitalisation will be brought to the RAPE CRISIS CENTRE where she will be given sympathetic and supportive aid to help her cope with, and recover from the rape. Women from the RAPE CRISIS CENTRE will report the rape to the police, should the victim wish to take this action, and they will accompany her through all the interview, medical examination and court procedures.
2. The RAPE CRISIS CENTRE will work to change community attitudes to rape and especially will encourage women to learn to defend themselves against assault.
3. The RAPE CRISIS CENTRE has a network of emergency transport, doctors and lawyers, all of whom are women, as well as a 24 hour roster. It is a centre run by women for women.
4. Discussion groups are running where rape victims can discuss their experience with other women who have been raped. The knowledge that other women too have endured this terrible assault that they are not alone and that women are banding together to fight rape will help them recover from the trauma. Groups are also running for the parents of young women who have been raped.

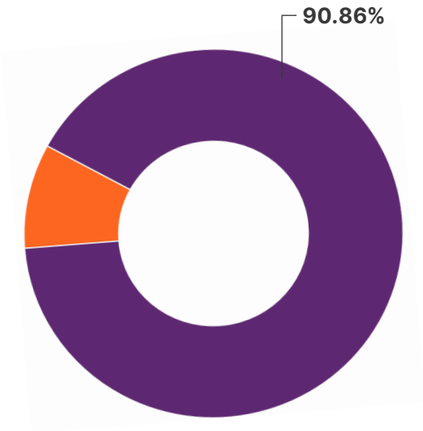
The first Sydney Rape Crisis Centre statement, 1974



2024–2025 at a glance

Full Stop Australia acknowledges all victim-survivors of sexual, domestic and family violence. To those we work with, thank you for your trust; it is a privilege to work with and alongside you.

Users across all services who reported a reduction in feelings of distress, anxiety or worry, 2024–2025



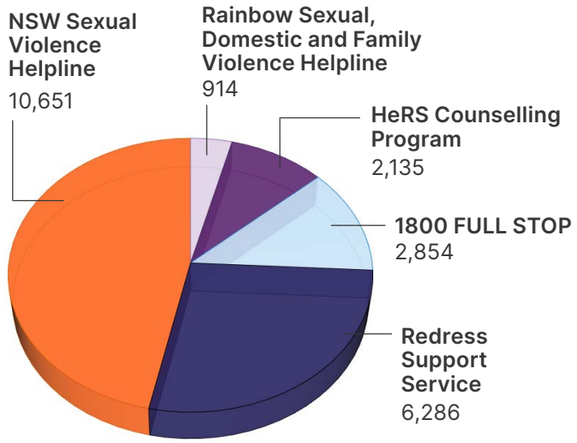
Note: We track internal distress using the Subjective Units of Distress Scale (SUDS), which allows a client to identify a number between 1 and 10 to represent their current level of distress or intensity of feelings.

In 2024–2025, NSAP membership grew by more than 17.5%

Over 94% of all training participants surveyed rated Full Stop Australia's content as informative, relevant and engaging.

507 responses were collected in 2024–2025

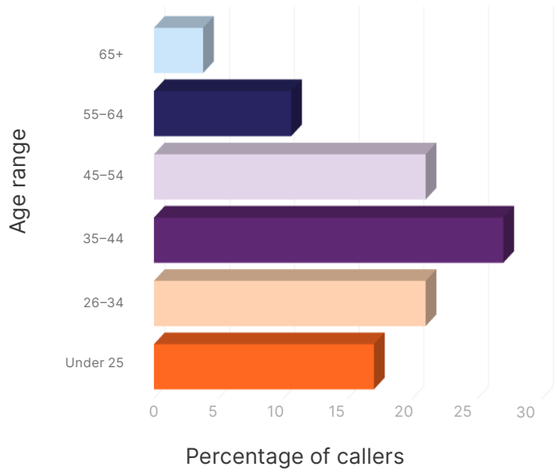
Occasions of service with all counselling services, 2024–2025



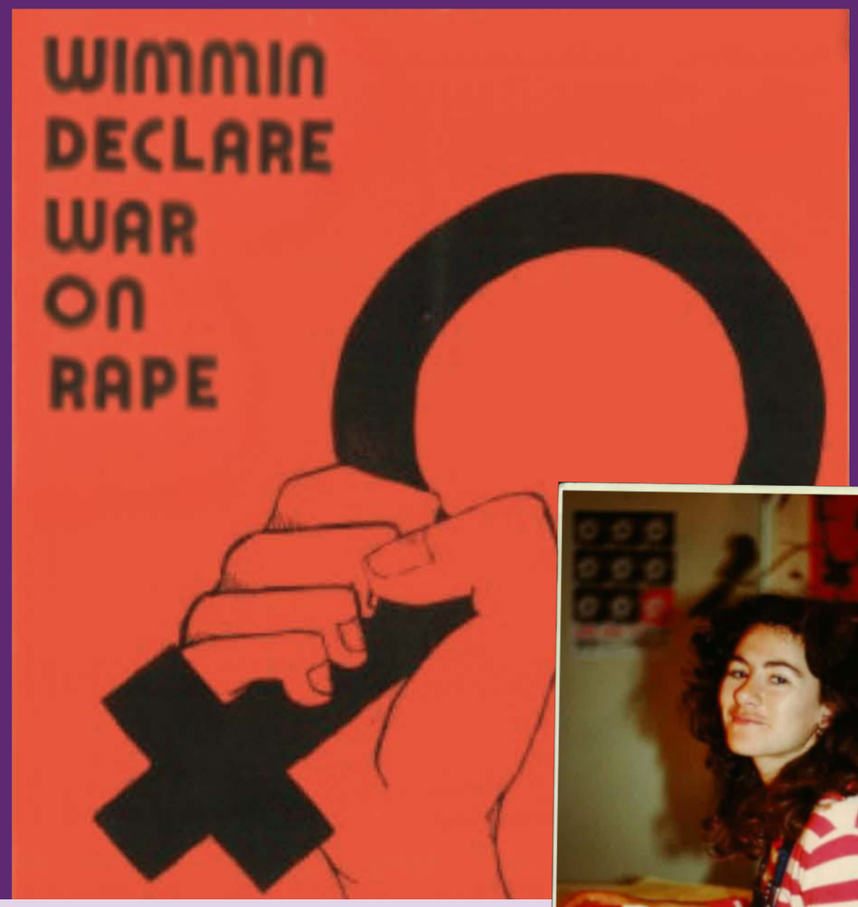
Mentions of 'Full Stop Australia' in Australian media increased by 12%

Source: Meltwater

Age of callers to all 24/7 helplines, 2024–2025



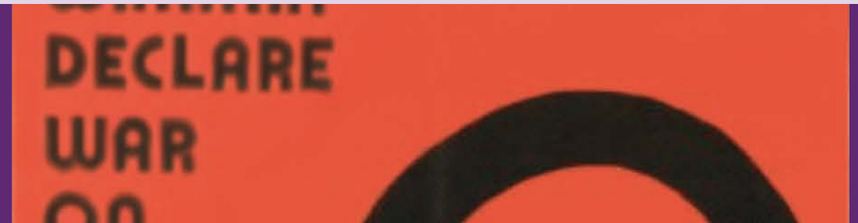
Poster promoting **Sydney Rape Crisis Centre**, 1979



SUPPORT

In 1979, Sydney Rape Crisis Centre moved to its first dedicated building, a terrace at 552 Cleveland Street in Surry Hills. The 'wimmin declare war on rape' poster hung proudly in the office, as seen in the background of this image provided by SRCC volunteer Kimberly O'Sullivan.

The office was simple. There was a long table, one phone and a large ledger book into which every call was logged in detail. Volunteers like Kimberly would record the time of the call, any request made by the woman ringing, who spoke to her and for how long.



Clinical Director statement

This year, Full Stop Australia entered its 50th year of uninterrupted trauma-specialist support for victim-survivors of sexual, domestic and family violence. This milestone has provided a valuable opportunity for reflecting on, consolidating and deepening our connections with the communities we serve. It is, as always, a privilege to lead the client-facing services of the organisation.

Our clinical work continues to inform national advocacy by amplifying the voices of lived experience and frontline clinicians.

This expertise also underpins our training programs and consultancy services, ensuring that our offerings remain evidence-based and responsive to emerging needs.

Throughout the year, our trauma-specialist Clinical and Client Services team delivered 24/7 trauma-informed counselling, training and consultancy. In the 2023–2024 financial year, we experienced a 63% increase in demand for 1800 FULL STOP, and in 2024–2025, demand continued to grow. This need for our service reflects the growing complexity of client presentation – driven by factors such as the increasing incidence of coercive control and technological abuse – as well as sustained pressure on frontline services.

Internally, we prioritised strengthening our systems and clinical governance to enhance service quality and operational efficiency. Key initiatives included the development of a real-time data dashboard and the establishment of a Clinical Workforce Review Committee to oversee workflow and rostering in response to demand. These measures have reinforced our capacity to deliver high-quality care around the clock.

Externally, we expanded our engagement with priority groups and populations who have been marginalised by systems, through targeted outreach and strategic partnerships. These efforts have improved awareness and accessibility of trauma-specialist services for communities facing systemic barriers. We also invested in building internal capacity by taking part in a series of clinical development sessions in collaboration with specialist organisations.

As part of our collaboration with Women's Health NSW's It Left No Marks project, staff joined three education sessions and we implemented clinical protocols addressing non-fatal strangulation and sexual choking across our helpline and face-to-face services.

Our Training and Consulting Services continued to grow, spanning the continuum of client needs from prevention to healing and recovery. We are an established voice in the prevention space and are represented on advisory bodies that are shaping responses to key government initiatives such as Respect@Work and in the university sector. The Safe to Speak social responders program fostered new partnerships with community organisations, while within our team, we focused on refining clinical training in areas such as vicarious trauma and complex trauma. Our training and consultancy offerings are directly shaped by our clinical experts, ensuring they are relevant and appropriately detailed.

Collectively, these achievements underscore our unwavering commitment to delivering specialist, evidence-based trauma services while prioritising inclusion for all across our services and to continuing to build our organisational capacity. We remain dedicated to the foundational work of engaging with communities and maintaining an intersectional lens on all aspects of service delivery.

Looking ahead, we are focused on enhancing access to the National Redress and Sexual Assault Service. This includes supporting individuals impacted by childhood institutional sexual abuse to engage with the National Redress Scheme – providing recognition payments, ongoing counselling and direct personal responses from the institutions responsible for harm.

Tara Hunter

Director of Clinical and Client Services
Full Stop Australia

Our Clinical and Client Services team

Our Clinical and Client Services team comprises skilled social workers, counsellors, psychologists and case workers, all of whom bring deep compassion and firm commitment to their work. Guided by evidence-based practice and practice-based evidence, team members walk alongside individuals and communities affected by violence, offering safety, care and hope. Together, they strive towards a future free from gender-based violence, where every person can live with dignity and respect.

In 2024–2025, the Clinical and Client Services team welcomed seven new staff members. Team members also took part in professional development opportunities that enhanced their ability to work with:

- people who are incarcerated – through training by Amy Reed from the NSW Government's Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network
- victim-survivors who have experienced trauma – through 'The body keeps score' training with Bessel van der Kolk at the Byron Clinic – and redress applicants with complex trauma
- culturally and linguistically diverse communities – through 'Culturally responsive practice for refugee clients' training with the NSW Multicultural Centre for Women's Safety and Settlement Services International
- people with autism and ADHD with trauma – through training with Anna Clarke, psychologist and play therapist and through sessions on working with neurodiverse clients
- LGBTQ+ communities – through 'Pride' and 'LGBTQ+ inclusive and affirming practice' training provided by ACON Sexual Violence Consult Service.

> *Thank you so much for your support. It means so much to me that such services exist. I am very grateful and talking to you was very soothing and felt safe although I was initially anxious. This gives me a lot of hope moving forward.*
>
> Feedback from Rainbow Sexual Domestic and Family Violence Helpline caller

Full Stop Australia staff alongside The Survivor Hub Co-founders Anna Coutts-Trotter and Brenda Lin at their third anniversary fundraising event on Gadigal Country, November 2024

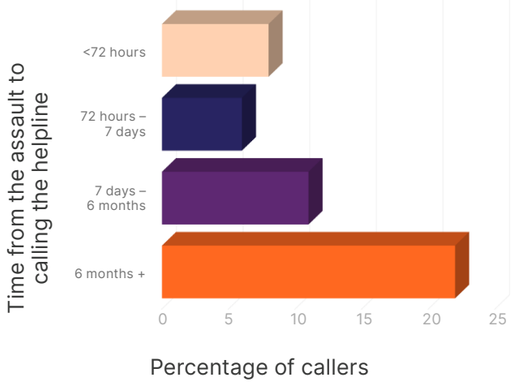
Our 24/7 helplines

In 2024–2025 our Clinical and Client Services team continued to provide free and accessible 24/7 counselling for anyone who had experienced or been affected by sexual, domestic and family violence (SDFV). Our services are staffed by trauma specialists who can provide safe, non-judgemental counselling to people of all genders, regardless of where they are in their journey – from crisis response, to healing and recovery.

NSW Sexual Violence Helpline
1800 424 017

This helpline is for anyone in NSW who has experienced sexual violence at any time – including in the past – as well as for their loved ones and supporters, and professionals and first responders.

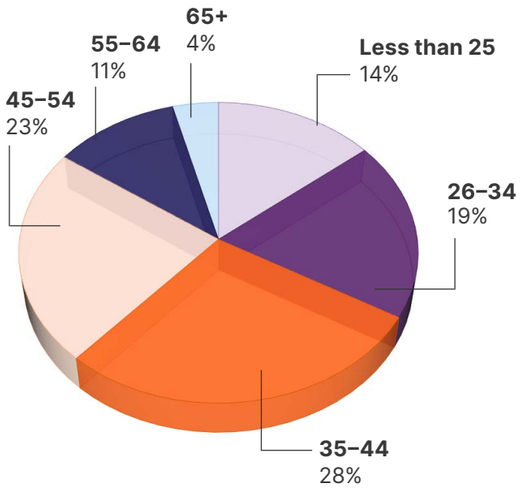
Callers to the NSW Sexual Violence Helpline in 2024–2025, by recency of assault



1800 FULL STOP
1800 385 578

This helpline is Full Stop Australia's national service for people impacted by SDFV. The service provides trauma specialist counselling that fills a critical gap between crisis responses and longer-term care and recovery, so that victim-survivors have continuity of support.

Age of callers to 1800 FULL STOP, 2024–2025



Rainbow Sexual Domestic and Family Violence Helpline
1800 385 578

This helpline is for anyone in LGBTQ+ communities impacted by SDFV. The service puts into action our commitment to stand alongside LGBTQ+ victim-survivors by proactively welcoming community members and providing front door to trauma-specialist counselling that is sensitive and supportive.

To demonstrate this commitment, in 2024–2025 we continued to build our capacity to support LGBTQ+ communities by undertaking specialised training.

> *Thanks so much for your help, you've been a godsend to me. This is life changing for me.*
>
> Feedback from Rainbow Sexual Domestic and Family Violence Helpline caller

National Redress Scheme

Through our National Sexual Abuse and Redress Support Service, in 2024–2025 the Clinical and Client Services team continued to support clients who have experienced institutional child sexual abuse to engage in the National Redress Scheme. We provided:

- the 24/7 nationwide Redress helpline, which provides people accessing the Redress scheme with timely and seamless access to specialist trauma-informed and culturally appropriate information, counselling and referrals
- telehealth and community-based counselling
- support to make Redress applications.

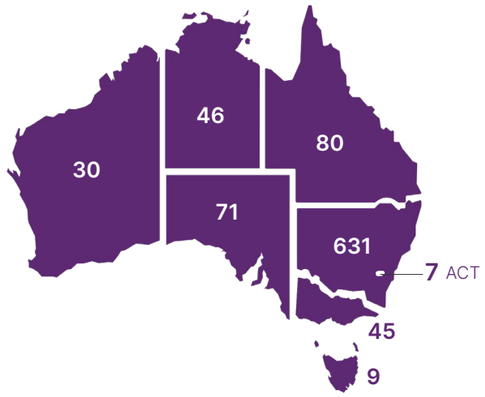
We also gained additional expertise in serving Redress clients through training with Knowmore, a service that provides free and independent legal advice to survivors of sexual abuse.

In 2024–2025, the team engaged with Redress clients over 6,286 occasions of service – these are direct engagements with a client, which can include follow up and case management support for the client's Redress application and holistic care needs as well as referral to other services. Around 60% of these occasions of service were scheduled sessions.

We also conducted 458 intake assessments, where we assess clients' eligibility for the scheme and level of risk and identify any other supports or referrals they need. Of the 458 clients who completed these assessments, 277 (around 60%) continued to engage with us, through scheduled sessions.

The demographic profile of clients engaging with the Redress Support Service was diverse. For example, 11.5% of clients identified as having a disability and 16.8% identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. Clients mostly came from NSW but we supported people from across the country.

Location of Redress Support Service clients, 2024–2025



Outreach to people who are incarcerated

In 2024–2025 Full Stop Australia continued its commitment to supporting access to the Redress scheme for people who are incarcerated. There are many access barriers that make it costly and time-consuming to communicate with correctional facilities but we continued to focus on supporting those clients to access the scheme. This year, 95.5% of the primary support services we delivered to people who are incarcerated were in NSW corrective facilities, with the remaining 4.5% delivered in South Australian Corrective Services facilities.

Full Stop Australia at the No More National Rally Against Violence in Hyde Park, April 2024

Full Stop Australia staff Rebecca, Dixie and Wanda at the Cessnock Walks Kawuma 16 Days of Activism March, November 2024

Full Stop Australia staff attending at a rally held by Trans Justice to show solidarity with transgender youth and their families, February 2025

Full Stop Australia staff at the 2024 Stop DV Conference, November 2024

Full Stop Australia staff at the Women's Health and Wellbeing Summit hosted by Women's Agenda, September 2024

Aboriginal Case Management and Community Engagement Officer Wanda at the Hamilton South Community Housing Expo, July 2025

Healing and Recovery for Survivors

Full Stop Australia's Healing and Recovery for Survivors (HeRS) Counselling Program is unique in that it offers free specialist therapy to adult women survivors of childhood sexual abuse for up to two years. The program provides women with a safe space to address childhood trauma and its enduring impact on their lives, addressing social and economic barriers to this much-needed specialist support.

131 women supported through the HeRS program

The program is offered through Women's Health Centres (WHCs) around NSW. In 2024–2025, the program was re-established at Penrith WHC, broadening its reach into Western Sydney.

Our professional services

Working closely with people who have experienced violence and abuse can be deeply meaningful for professionals, but it can also pose a significant emotional risk to them. Over time, exposure to others' trauma can lead to vicarious trauma and burnout. By connecting with victim-survivors, though, many professionals also experience vicarious resilience.

To complement the support we provide through our helplines, Full Stop Australia's specialist counsellors offer professionals trauma-informed, evidence-based assistance to sustain their wellbeing. These fee-for-service offerings include clinical supervision, debriefing, training and personalised self-care planning.

Full Stop Australia is regularly commissioned to provide counselling and support services and information sessions at conferences, forums and workshops dealing with trauma or traumatic content across Australia. Our services ensure that participants are supported to deal with the emotional impact of trauma work in the moment.

In 2024–2025, we:

- conducted **163 individual sessions** with professionals
- provided reports to **four organisations about vicarious trauma** impacts on staff
- provided counselling **support at six events**
- conducted **five consultations with organisations** that support traumatised populations.

> *It was an absolute delight to take some time each week to chat and reflect on ways to ensure my health and wellbeing. Even as a seasoned professional, it certainly doesn't hurt to have a regular reminder!*
>
> Feedback from client engaged with Professional Services

Priority Populations Project

The NSW Sexual Violence Helpline Priority Populations Project was a 14-month funded program running from March 2024 to June 2025.

It was designed to address accessibility barriers to accessing the helpline, with a specific focus on the intersecting needs of women living with disabilities, LGBTQ+ people, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women, and migrant and refugee women.

First Nations led

Full Stop Australia's Aunty in Residence Dixie Link-Gordon oversaw the project's cultural governance, facilitated community relationships, led Knowledge Circles and provided guidance on cultural responsiveness and Wise Practice.

Aunty Dixie centred reciprocity in the project's engagement – using a collaborative approach that sought to give more than we received and respect the knowledge and expertise shared with us by Aboriginal workers, advocates and organisations.

Literature review

We conducted a rapid review of existing research, reports and service models addressing accessible sexual violence services for priority populations, including academic literature, government reports and international best practice models.

Knowledge circles

We held culturally appropriate engagement forums that facilitated group discussion while honouring cultural protocols and creating safe spaces for sharing, including:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Knowledge Circles
- migrant and refugee women Knowledge Circles
- regional Knowledge Circles
- older women's Knowledge Circles
- LGBTQ+ organisational engagement
- Full Stop Australia Counsellor Knowledge Circles.

One-to-one consultations with advocates and lived-experience experts

We engaged disability advocates, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community leaders and service providers, migrant and refugee community leaders and bicultural workers.

Staff engagement and professional development

The clinical team took part in reflective practice sessions on cultural responsiveness. They also co-designed messaging, undertook training and supported delivery of Knowledge Circles and resources.

Ethical considerations in community engagement

Our trauma-informed approach, accessible information and activity design and fair compensation practices assured ethical engagement that honoured the dignity, knowledge and autonomy of participants.

Community engagement resource development process

To develop effective resources and communication materials for the program, we held more than 10 workshops with priority population groups. Through this participatory process, we created posters, brochures, business cards, stickers and a new website.

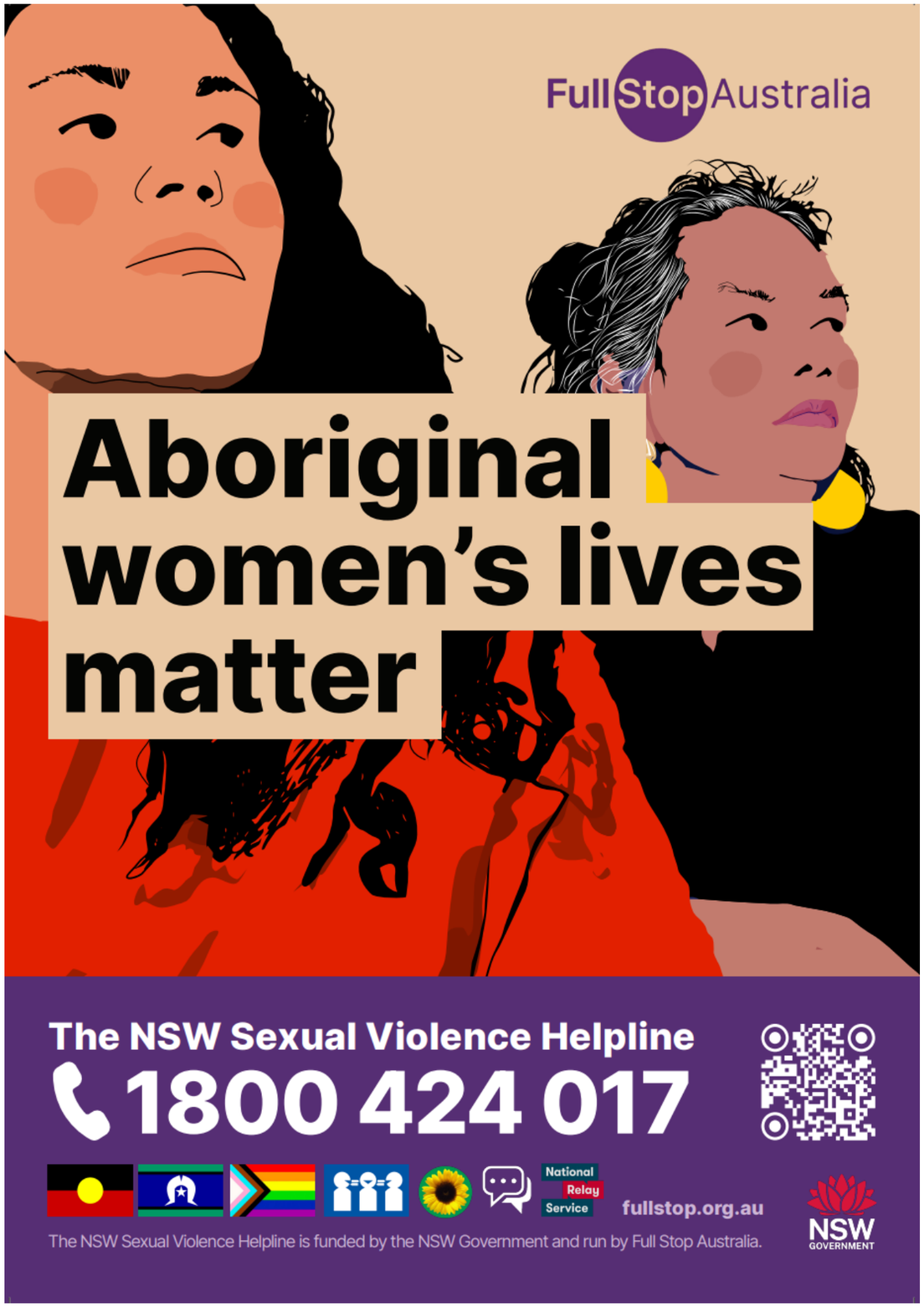
Thank you to our Advisory Group, who provided critical support for the project and comprised expertise from across government and health services, academia and research, community controlled and specialist services and the sexual violence sector:

- Rebecca Bell, NSW Health
- Karen Bevan, Full Stop Australia
- Distinguished Professor Bronwyn Carlson, Macquarie University
- Jacqueline Connelly, NSW Health
- Dr Madi Day, Macquarie University
- Belinda Green, STARTTS
- Mel Harrison, Safer Me Safer You
- Tara Hunter, Full Stop Australia
- Shannon Harvey, Benevolent Society
- Kylie Malone, Women with Disabilities Australia
- Emily Lachevre, Full Stop Australia
- Billie Jean Paris, NSW Health
- Esta Paschalidis-Chilas, Canterbury City Community Centre
- Astrid Perry, SSI
- Brianna Pike, Full Stop Australia
- Shaquille Robinson, AWAN
- Dr Mary Stewart, NSW Health
- Hamish Whelan, ACON.

Full Stop Australia is continuing to implement the recommendations from the project with a focus on addressing online accessibility, service design and continuing our relationship building with key communities.

Thank you to Brianna Pike, Priority Populations Project Lead.

Priority Populations Project resource launch day included group discussions and reflections at the National Centre for Indigenous Excellence, June 2025



NSW Rape Crisis Centre sticker launched in 2002

ADVOCATE

Raising awareness and advocating for action on sexual violence has been part of our mission from the beginning. By 2002, the NSW Rape Crisis Centre had expanded statewide and calls significantly increased as outreach into rural and migrant and refugee communities became a major focus.

New stickers and matching banners were launched in 2002 that prominently featured languages other than English including Turkish, Thai, Pashto, Farsi, Persian, Greek, Spanish, Vietnamese, Mandarin and Slovenian.

Partnering for change

Full Stop Australia wants to see victim-centric reform that:

- prioritises the agency, choice and safety of people who have experienced violence
- recognises the importance of sustainable funding for frontline services.

To help make this happen, in 2024–2025 we engaged with government departments and other organisations through making submissions, appearing at public inquiries, roundtables and other forums, and by working directly with departments and organisations to provide advice on law reform and practice development. We used this work to continue to influence public conversations about sexual, domestic and family violence (SDFV) through the media and online.

Our contributions	Date	Engagement type
Independent Review of the Queensland Human Rights Act 2019	July 2024	Submission
National Higher Education Code to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence	July 2024	Consultation and submission
NSW Sentencing Council Review of Character in Sentencing	July 2024	Submission
Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs Inquiry into Family Violence Orders	July 2024	Submission
NSW Department of Communities and Justice DFV Common Risk Assessment Framework (CRAF)	July 2024	Consultation
Central and Eastern Sydney Public Health Network Domestic Violence Needs Assessment	July 2024	Consultation
South Australian Royal Commission into DFSV	August 2024	Submission
National Suicide Prevention Strategy	October 2024	Submission
Australian Law Reform Commission Inquiry into Justice Responses to Sexual Violence	January 2025	Submission
Inquiry into the Impacts of Harmful Pornography on Mental, Emotional and Physical Health	January 2025	Submission
NSW Sentencing Council Review of Character in Sentencing	February 2025	Submission
Draft NSW Homelessness Strategy 2025–2035	March 2025	Consultation
NSW Government Strategy Committee for People Using DFV Reference Group	April 2025	Participation
NSW Government Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce development	April 2025	Consultation
Roundtable on the Safety of Women and Gender-diverse People in the Night-time Economy (hosted by the NSW Women's Safety Commission and NSW 24-Hour Economy Commissioner)	May 2025	Attendance
Penalties and Sentences (Sexual Offences) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025	June 2025	Submission
Domestic and Family Violence Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025	June 2025	Submission
NSW Mental Health Wellbeing Strategy	June 2025	Consultation

Full Stop Australia Director of Clinical and Client Services Tara Hunter and Head of Advocacy Emily Dale at a NSW Parliament roundtable into victims registers, February 2025

Full Stop Australia Director of Clinical and Client Services Tara Hunter with Kylie Druitt and Tabitha Acret at the Sydney premiere of 'Unanswered Calls', March 2025

Full Stop Australia CEO Karen Bevan and Director of Clinical and Client Services Tara Hunter at the NSW Women of the Year Awards, March 2025

Full Stop Australia staff at a Women's Community Shelters 'How the Law Silences Women' event alongside NSW Women's Safety Commissioner Dr Hannah Tonkin and human rights lawyer Jennifer Robinson, April 2025

Safe to Speak Project Lead Raia and Training Administrator Georgia with CEO of project partner 4C's, Esta Paschalidis-Chilas, at their Lakemba office for International Women's Day, March 2025

Full Stop Australia CEO Karen Bevan visiting the Muslim Women's Australia office and CEO Maha Abdo OAM, 2025

Pre-budget submissions

In 2024–2025, Full Stop Australia identified critical areas for government investment in NSW and nationally, and sought support by developing pre-budget submissions.

These submission drove significant conversation and engagement in these areas throughout the year.

2025–2026 NSW Budget: Invest in safety

In this submission, we requested that the NSW Government invest in evidence-based programs that support victim-survivors of sexual violence in the justice system and that ensure people feel safe when they are on a night out. We recommended that the government fund:

- a pilot of the Sexual Violence Justice Navigator program in NSW
- the rollout of the proven Good Night Out program across the Sydney CBD.

2025–2026 Federal Budget: Support 1800 FULL STOP

1800 FULL STOP continues to provide a vital service without any government funding. With at least 10% of calls to 1800 FULL STOP being referred from government-funded helplines, it is more important than ever that government invest in this service. In this submission, we outlined the growing demand for the helpline; highlighted its unique features; explained its benefits to the Australian economy; and detailed how investing in it would help the Australian Government achieve objectives of the National Plan to End Violence Against Women and Children 2022–2032.

Supporting surviving family members of domestic and family violence homicide

Domestic and family violence homicide continues to impact too many families around Australia. Full Stop Australia has been working closely with a group of surviving members of domestic and family violence homicide in NSW over several years, and we have identified important issues that must be addressed to support children and young people and other family members.

In 2024–2025 we co-presented with surviving family members about domestic and family violence homicide. The purpose of these presentations was to raise awareness of systemic gaps and propose strategies to address them, so that people who have lost loved ones to domestic and family violence are better supported.

Full Stop Australia attended the Community Vigil at Blacktown Memorial Grove, November 2025

September 2024

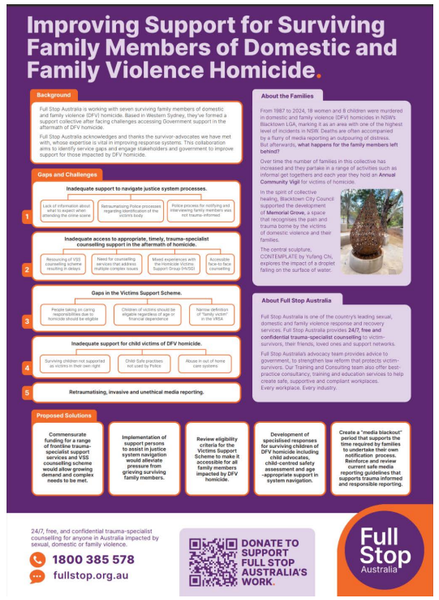
Presented to frontline workers at the forum 'Unmasking coercive control – The hidden abuse, how to spot it and how to stop it'

November 2024

Presented to the University of Sydney Domestic and Family Violence Conference

November 2024

Presented a poster at the Stop DV Conference in Adelaide



March 2025

Facilitated a meeting between family members and the NSW Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, the Hon Jodie Harrison MP, at a local community service in Doonside, NSW

April 2025

Presented to the NSW Domestic Violence Death Review Team

National Survivor Advocate Program

Full Stop Australia's National Survivor Advocate Program (NSAP) ensures that the voices, needs and insights of people with lived experience of sexual, domestic and family violence inform everything we do. The program empowers survivor-advocates to contribute to positive social and systemic change through collaboration, consultation and capacity building.

In 2024–2025, we saw NSAP membership grow by more than 17.5%

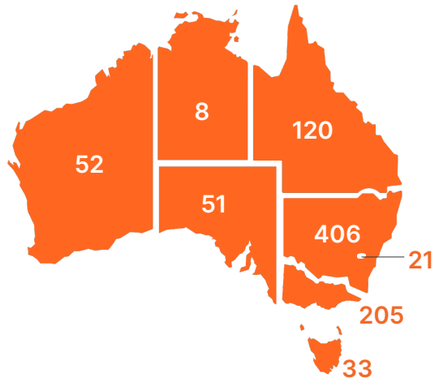
NSAP membership increased to 896 in 2024–2025, and members contributed to projects, surveys and focus groups designed to improve safety, support and system responses for victim-survivors.

Through the NSAP, members shared their lived expertise through media, research and policy partnerships. This year, with the support of Full Stop Australia, NSAP members:

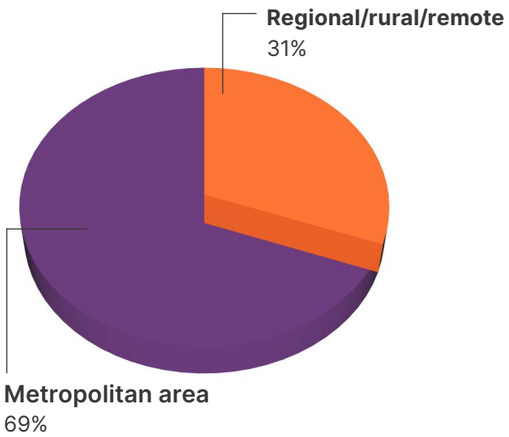
- contributed to research projects on the use of government systems and modern essential services to perpetrate domestic and financial abuse and ways to stop this
- contributed to the Dignity by Design study run by UNSW, which explores trauma-informed approaches to supporting young people aged 16–24 who are victim-survivors of child sexual abuse or exploitation
- collaborated with the NSW Police Force to record survivor stories about coercive control for inclusion in officer training programs
- co-facilitated the Sydney Local Health District's trauma-informed practice training for health staff
- participated in Fair Agenda's campaign to increase victim-survivors' access to forensic examinations
- participated in the Safety Measures Lived Experience Advisory Group, informing research on domestic and family violence service systems in the Northern Territory, South Australia and Victoria.

Through this work, survivor-advocates helped to shape research, policy and practice across a range of sectors, strengthening trauma-informed, survivor-centred responses nationwide.

Location of NSAP members, as of 30 June 2025



NSAP members who as of 30 June 2025 identified as living in regional/rural/remote or metropolitan areas



National Survivor Advocate Program Advisory Group

The NSAP is guided by an Advisory Group that brings together a diverse group of survivor-advocates who strengthen the program and provide advice on advocacy and research projects.

In 2024–2025, Advisory Group members:

- provided feedback that informed Full Stop Australia's advocacy positions, ensuring our submissions and policy statements were guided by lived expertise
- reviewed the NSAP governance approach
- co-designed updated governance documents including the 'Rules of engagement', 'Values statement' and 'Concerns and issues resolution process'.

As the Project Reference Group for the **Lived Expertise 'Ideas to Action' Incubator Program**, the Advisory Group guided the project design and implementation including:

- co-designing the Incubator's governance framework, values and trauma-informed approach
- co-designing the curriculum, content and tools to support the Incubator
- participating as expert speakers in Incubator webinars, sharing their advocacy experiences and learnings
- attending the Incubator launch event, where they met and provided peer support to participants.

National Survivor Advocate Program Advisory Group and Project Lead Deb Barndon at the Incubator launch event, July 2025

Lived Expertise 'Ideas to Action' Incubator Program

Full Stop Australia's Lived Expertise 'Ideas to Action' Incubator Program supports victim-survivors of sexual, domestic and family violence (SDFV) to build the skills, confidence and knowledge they need to engage safely in advocacy.

Co-designed with the National Survivor Advocate Program Advisory Group, who are the Program Reference Group, and funded through the Australian Government Department of Social Services' Strong and Resilient Communities Grant, the Incubator meets a clear need for survivors to have structured, trauma-informed pathways into advocacy and social impact work.

Why a moth?

The moth logo designed for the Incubator represents resilience, renewal and transformation. With the help of the Incubator, survivor-advocates are valued for the expertise they already hold and have the opportunity to build their skills and confidence in advocacy.

Emily Dale, Kowana Welsh, Deb Barndon, Dixie Link-Gordon, Belinda Casseldon and Tara Hunter on set at the Incubator recruitment campaign filming day, April 2025

June to December 2024

Program kicked off.

December 2024 to March 2025

Program co-designed and developed with Program Reference Group.

April 2025

Program webpage developed and made live; social media campaign to recruit survivor-advocate participants for pilot round launched.

June to July 2025

Pilot round delivered.

Incubator pilot round

- **Three in-person workshops** were co-delivered by expert contributors and supported by Full Stop Australia clinical staff.
- **Seven webinars,** featuring victim-survivor advocates, focused on providing practical advice on developing survivor-led advocacy initiatives and safeguarding wellbeing.
- **10 practical toolkits** were provided to participants.
- **10 survivor-advocates** completed the program.

July 2025

Program launch event.

Full Stop Australia officially launched the program at the Art Gallery of NSW, with guest speakers including the Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, the Hon Jodie Harrison MP, DFSVC Assistant Commissioner Jenna Roberts, NSAP Advisory Group member Samantha Schulte and Full Stop Australia CEO Karen Bevan.

Graduates from the first round of the Incubator, July 2025

Survivor-advocate and National Survivor Advocate Program Advisory Group Member Samantha Schulte speaking at the Incubator launch event

Binowee Bayles, Full Stop Australia Aunty in Residence Dixie Link-Gordon, Our Watch Head of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Strategy Regan Mitchell and DFSVC Jenna Roberts

DFSVC Assistant Commissioner Jenna Roberts, NSW Women's Safety Commissioner Dr Hannah Tonkin, Full Stop Australia CEO Karen Bevan and Federal Minister for Social Services Tanya Plibersek

Full Stop Australia CEO Karen Bevan speaking at the Incubator launch event

What participants told us about the program

> Wow, such a beautiful experience. I have never felt so safe and seen in a space.

> It has been such a transformative experience and truly wonderful to connect with amazing women, learn from incredible experts, have the support of Full Stop Australia. I want more time with this beautiful group.

> The workshops demonstrated to me that it isn't just the content of the program that is empowering. The safe space created for connection has brought me a sense of belonging and understanding.

> [The Incubator] has given me hope and allowed me to connect with my lived experience as a strength.

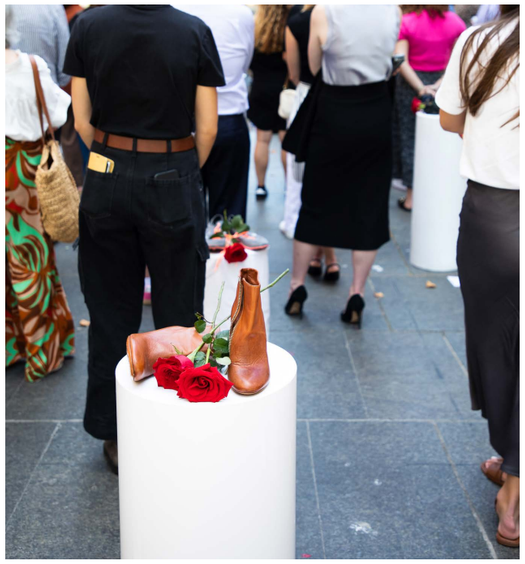
16 Days of Activism

The 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence is an annual United Nations initiative. In 2024–2025 it ran from 25 November to 10 December, with the theme #noexcuse.

Full Stop Australia's social media campaign to promote the 16 Days extended the theme of our 2024 Sexual Violence Conference, asking 'What Will It Take?'

As part of the NSW Vigil Collective, Full Stop Australia assisted in the coordination and promotion of the No More Empty Shoes Vigil at Martin Place on 25 November 2024.

Inner West Council 16 Days of Activism panel facilitated by Full Stop Australia CEO Karen Bevan, featuring Amani Haydar, Rebecca Glenn, Dr Ses Salmond and Biljana Milosevic



No More Empty Shoes plinth display, with each plinth representing a woman killed in domestic-violence related homicide in 2024

During the 16 Days of Activism we:

- facilitated **12 training sessions**
- presented at **8 events and conferences**
- raised **$6,500** in donations for our unfunded services

No More Empty Shoes plinth display

Inner West Council 16 Days of Activism event

Fundraising and partnerships

Corporate partnerships are essential to our fundraising and awareness raising efforts. We work hard to secure partnerships with organisations whose values align with ours, and in 2024–2025 we were delighted to welcome new supporters and partners.

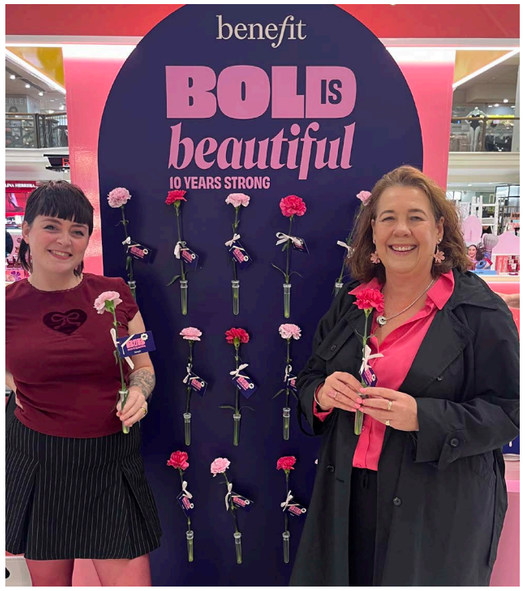
Benefit Cosmetics Australia: Bold is Beautiful campaign

Benefit Cosmetics chose us as their charity partner for their Bold is Beautiful 2025 campaign. For all of May 2025, Benefit Brow Bars across Australia donated $5 from every brow wax to Full Stop Australia, raising more than $65,000 – that's 13,000 sets of eyebrows!

The Bold is Beautiful social media campaign promoted 1800 FULL STOP and shared statistics about gender-based violence in Australia. Every customer who visited one of the three Benefit Cosmetics flagship Brow Bars in the Sydney CBD, Bondi and Melbourne CBD during the first four days of May received a flower and a card with information about the campaign and Full Stop Australia.

Full Stop Australia CEO Karen Bevan with Samantha Tonkin (L) and Mia Perusco (R) at the Benefit Cosmetics office for the filming of Friends with Benefit

Full Stop Australia CEO Karen Bevan even featured as a special guest on the Benefit Cosmetics Australia podcast, Friends with Benefit.



Full Stop Australia at the Myer Sydney brand activation for the Benefit Cosmetics Bold is Beautiful campaign, May 2025

RISING Festival: Swingers – The Art of Mini Golf Charity Tournament

In June 2025, the Naarm/Melbourne-based RISING festival partnered with us for a celebrity charity tournament at Swingers, a playable mini golf course art exhibition located above Flinders Street Station.

Celebrities competed in groups of two to see who could win – and raise the most money for Full Stop Australia. The golf may not have been of the highest calibre, but the tournament was a success for Full Stop Australia, raising $6,300 and awareness of our work.

RISING Swingers – The Art of Mini Golf Charity Tournament participants and event organisers, June 2025

Comedian Geraldine Hickey won the tournament, taking home a trophy constructed of resin-coated baguettes – an ode to feature installation by Nabilah Nordin, a Singaporean-Australian who composed a display with more than 800 salt dough sculptures.

RISING Swingers – The Art of Mini Golf Charity Tournament participants in competition, June 2025

Tournament host Dimmy Charms, fundraising champion and winner of 'RuPaul's Drag Race Down Under' Season 4, Ms Lazy Susan with Marketing and Communication Lead Izzy, June 2025

Ultra Violette

After supporting our 2024 Sexual Violence Conference – and gifting lucky delegates some top-shelf SPF – in 2025 Ultra Violette once again stepped up to further the Full Stop Australia cause, partnering with us to raise funds and awareness.

The partnership was officially launched on 8 March 2025, with Ultra Violette making a $10,000 donation to support 1800 FULL STOP.

In April, Ultra Violette gave customers the option of donating $5 to Full Stop Australia through the checkout on their Australian website, regardless of whether they bought a product. Ultra Violette then doubled the donation during that month. Their customers can still make a $5 donation via the Australian website checkout by adding the donation to their cart as an item.

Banner from the Ultra Violette website, April 2025

Women's National Basketball League

Back in September 2013, Women's National Basketball League (WNBL) superstar Lauren Jackson cut the ribbon to open Full Stop Australia's new office building. Our connection with the WNBL continued this year, with the WNBL, clubs and the Australian Basketball Players Association partnering with us over the entire 2024–2025 WNBL season in an awareness and fundraising campaign.

For the campaign, Break the Silence. Stop the Violence, Full Stop Australia collaborated with the WNBL on social media posts that spread awareness and encouraged the community to get involved, while on game days, players wore purple bands around the tops of their singlets, symbolising support for survivors of domestic violence. We were grateful for donations from the WNBL clubs and fans, who together raised more than $6,000 for Full Stop Australia over the season.

Marianna Tolo playing for Bendigo Spirit in the 2024–2025 Cygnett WNBL season

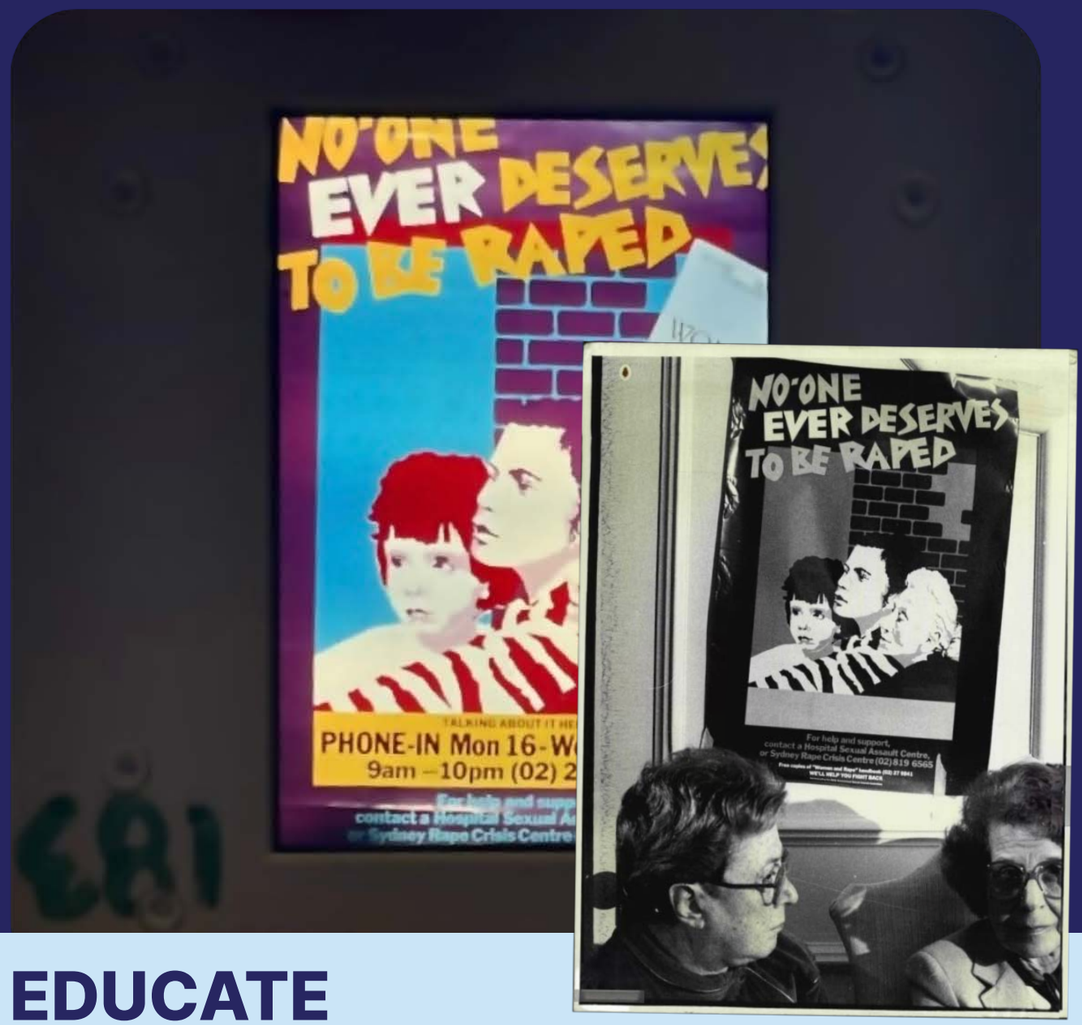
Our community fundraisers

A big shout out to Full Stop Australia's supporters, who stepped up to run fundraisers with their communities. We loved being part of birthday celebrations, running and fitness challenges, gatherings of family and friends and other special events.

In 2024–2025, all of Full Stop Australia's community fundraisers raised more than $20,000

Lace Up & Listen community fundraising event organised by Tommy Runs and LSKD, hosted at 7th Day Brewery in Brookvale NSW, May 2025

Poster promoting the **No One Ever Deserves to Be Raped** phone-in, April 1984



EDUCATE

In 1984, the Sydney Rape Crisis Centre held a phone-in for the **No One Ever Deserves to Be Raped** campaign, which had been launched by the Women's Coordination Unit of the NSW Premier's Department.

At that time, child sexual assault was not yet recognised by government or the community as the significant issue it is understood to be today. The information gathered through the campaign strengthened the case for establishing the NSW Child Sexual Abuse Task Force in 1985.

Our training programs

Full Stop Australia's training programs continued to grow in 2024–2025, with our trainers delivering 107 sessions.

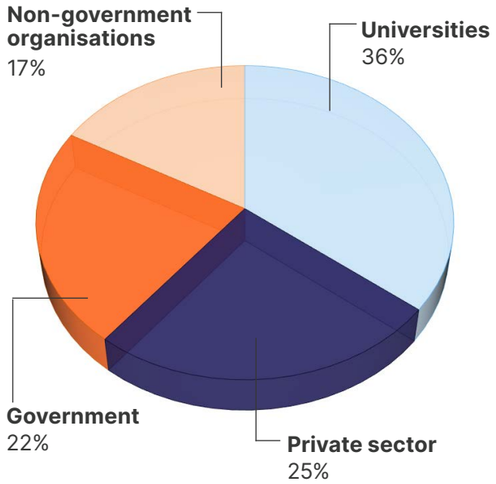
2,671 people attended Full Stop Australia's training sessions during the year.

Popular courses

- 'Responding with compassion', delivered **38 times**
- 'Understanding and responding to vicarious trauma', delivered **29 times**
- 'Ethical bystander' training, delivered **16 times**

Consent Labs team participating in Full Stop Australia's 'Understanding and responding to vicarious trauma' training, October 2024

Training delivered by Full Stop Australia in 2024–2025, by sector



eLearning modules

193 participants across three courses:

- 'Responding with compassion to someone who has experienced sexual, domestic or family violence or sexual harassment'
- 'Breaking barriers: Transition to telecounselling'
- 'Introduction to vicarious trauma'.

Highlights from the year included:

- delivering leadership courses at several institutions, including the University of New England and the Respect@Work Advisory Group's event, 'Awareness to action: Preventing workplace sexual harassment', hosted by Safework NSW and Business NSW
- ongoing engagement with and relationship building in the higher education sector, which has positioned us to support universities in implementing the new National Higher Education Code to Prevent and Respond to Gender-based Violence
- winning a NSW Department of Communities and Justice tender to develop a social responder capability-building program with multicultural communities, creating new partnerships with local and regional stakeholders and further embedding culturally safe practice in our programming.

> *Learning to emphasise on self-care and setting boundaries and debriefing was valuable. Mary created a supportive and engaging environment that made it easy to discuss such a sensitive topic. Workshop encouraged open discussions which helped me gain new perspectives.*
>
> Participant in the 'Understanding and responding to vicarious trauma' training delivered by Mary at the Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service on 27 March 2025

Full Stop Australia training team Georgia and Tash at the Ultimo TAFE Apprenticeship Support Expo, 2025

> *Bystander training is such an important skill; it empowers people to take action in difficult situations while maintaining their own safety. One key takeaway is that small interventions can make a big difference, even simple gestures like checking in on someone afterward can provide support.*
>
> Participant in the 'Ethical bystander' training delivered by Carly and Tash at the Perth Mint on 29 May 2025

Full Stop Australia Head of Training Tash presenting on trauma-informed responses to disclosures of sexual harassment to the Retail and Fast Food Workers Union, October 2024

> *Thank you for covering many relevant and vital components of working with people who have [complex trauma]. The work on [vicarious trauma] is incredibly important. Thank you!!*
>
> Participant in the 'Complex trauma' training delivered by Tara, Michele and Carly at the Hunter Women's Centre on 15 and 16 July 2025

Safe to Speak program

In 2023, the Australian Government funded a social responder capability-building program under the Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence National Partnerships Agreement 2023–2025, through the NSW Office of the Women's Safety Commissioner, Department of Communities and Justice.

On 11 November 2024, Full Stop Australia was awarded the contract to deliver the program with our partners Canterbury City Community Centre (4C's) and Women Up North Housing (WUNH). In December 2024 we commenced work. The program, Safe to Speak, aims to equip faith and community leaders in migrant and refugee communities with the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to act as social responders to sexual, domestic and family violence (SDFV). Its objectives include:

- strengthening trauma-informed and culturally safe responses to SDFV by enhancing community-level intervention and early response capabilities
- fostering stronger collaboration between community leaders and specialist SDFV services
- creating spaces for target communities to share learning and engage in dialogue.

Consultation with Safe to Speak project partners 4C's and Women Up North Housing at the Full Stop Australia office, January 2025

Consultation and planning

We kicked off the project by holding a workshop with our partner organisations. We also consulted widely to understand the barriers refugee and migrant communities face in accessing support and explored good practice in creating culturally safe services.

Safe to Speak Project Lead Raia and Training Administrator Georgia visit project partner Women Up North Housing in Lismore, June 2025

The people and organisations we consulted included:

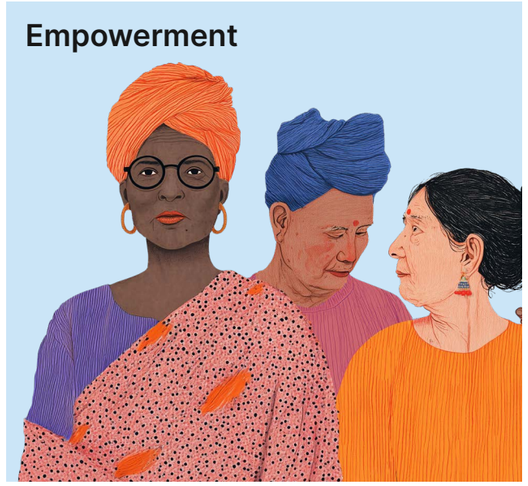
- organisations that have worked in the social responder space and similar areas, such as the NSW Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors, Settlement Services International, Arab Council Australia and the City of Sydney
- subject matter experts KJ, Dr Selda Dagistanli and our own Clinical and Client Services team
- 27 workers providing support services to refugee and migrant communities in Canterbury Bankstown and the Northern Rivers
- six bilingual workers and 35 other community members across Canterbury Bankstown and the Northern Rivers, bringing expertise and cultural insights from communities such as the Urdu-speaking community and the Bengali, Rohingyan, Filipino, Sudanese, Japanese, German, Thai, Argentinian and Brazilian communities.

To support program implementation, we created a pipeline of participants by building upon established relationships with bilingual workers and local service providers. We also recruited three new trainers who have lived experience as a refugee or migrant and significant training and education expertise to be part of Full Stop Australia's training team.

Safe to Speak Project Lead Raia and NSW Women's Safety Commissioner Dr Hannah Tonkin

Recognising the importance of clear and culturally appropriate communication with refugee and migrant communities, we also:

- consulted the Plain English Foundation on how to simplify language in program communications and increase accessibility for people from all communities
- began developing culturally appropriate artworks, graphics and digital illustrations for program collateral with partner organisations and artists.



Our consulting services

In 2024–2025 Full Stop Australia continued to expand our consulting services, engaging with a diverse range of organisations including government departments, non-government organisations and universities to help strengthen their responses to gender-based violence. We also broadened our scope by delivering large-scale projects and providing expertise in new areas of practice.

Highlights from the year included:

Public company

- We reviewed a public company's templated responses to complaints about sexual harassment and violence to ensure they were trauma-informed.

University

- We helped to develop a university-wide network of first responders to domestic, family and sexual violence by facilitating a focus group with key stakeholders and documenting its main outcomes.

NSW Government

- We reviewed draft legislation to update NSW Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) course material on sexual harassment prevention and response training for licensed venues so recommended changes reflected the evidence on how best to deliver effective, trauma-informed prevention of and response to sexual violence.

Australian Government

- We developed a workplace gender-based violence survey that was administered to more than 2,000 staff at an Australian Government department. We analysed the responses and presented the findings to the Department Secretary. This project also involved facilitating four focus groups with key cohorts in the department about the rollout of Respectful Workplaces polices and processes.
- We reviewed the department's training for staff who engage with the public on sensitive matters such as domestic, family and sexual violence to ensure it complied with trauma-informed best practices.

Peak body

- We reviewed podcasts a peak body had developed on domestic violence-related content so they aligned with current trauma-informed best practices.

All these projects highlighted the need for consistent, practical guidance and safer systems to prevent sexual, domestic and family violence and improve pathways for disclosure of and response to all these forms of violence. This work also drew attention to the importance of workplaces and institutions embedding trauma-informed, survivor-centred and inclusive practices into their everyday operations, making them stronger and more accountable. These insights will inform Full Stop Australia's strategy in the year ahead, both in our consulting work and more broadly.

Good Night Out means a safer nightlife for all

Nights out should be about fun and freedom, not fear. Yet almost a third of face-to-face sexual harassment of women occurs at a licenced entertainment or recreation venue like a nightclub, pub or restaurant. Full Stop Australia believes that licenced venues create vibrant and exciting communities and that like all strong communities, they must make it clear that they do not tolerate harassment, assault or any other form of violence.

Full Stop Australia is the Australian delivery partner of the Good Night Out Campaign, a UK-based initiative that started in 2014.

Good Night Out helps venues create a culture of safety and inclusivity by educating bar staff, managers, security and floor staff on how to become 'tellable people' to whom patrons can go if they experience sexual harassment.

Good Night Out supports venues to create spaces where patrons feel comfortable reporting unacceptable behaviour and where tellable staff are equipped to confidently disrupt, de-escalate or divert perpetrator behaviour.

2024 Sexual Violence Conference

On 5 November 2024 Full Stop Australia held our second sexual violence conference, **'What Will it Take? Putting a Full Stop to Sexual Violence',** at the NSW Teachers Federations Conference Centre on Gadigal Country, Surry Hills Sydney.

The conference helped celebrate and commemorate Full Stop Australia's 50 years of impact in supporting victim-survivors of sexual violence and leading the way in prevention, response and healing and recovery. Historian and archivist Kimberley O'Sullivan's reflection on the earliest iteration of Full Stop Australia, the Sydney Rape Crisis Centre, highlighted how far we have come.

Full Stop Australia Marketing and Communication Officer Izzy alongside Head of Marketing Communication and Fundraising Kristoff presenting the historical address written by Sydney Rape Crisis Centre volunteer Kimberley O'Sullivan

The conference also featured:

- a keynote address from Professor Kyllie Cripps, then Director of Indigenous Studies Centre, Monash University and Chief Investigator at the Centre of Excellence for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. Kyllie is a proud Palawa woman and a leading researcher on Indigenous family violence, child abuse and sexual assault

Professor Kyllie Cripps presenting her keynote address titled 'What will it take, to put a Full Stop to violence? Hearing the voices of Indigenous women'

- two panels, 'It will take centring First Nations voices', chaired by Aunty in Residence at Full Stop Australia, Dixie Link-Gordon, and 'It will take evidence-based practice', chaired by ANROWS CEO Dr Tessa Boyd-Caine, where a diverse range of experts shared their insights on how to affect change.

Left to right: Dr Rachael Burgin, Elena Campbell, Dr Tessa Boyd-Caine, Lula Dembele, Yumi Lee and Professor Bronwyn Carlson on the 'It will take evidence-based practice' panel

Full Stop Australia CEO and conference MC Karen Bevan

Four breakout streams gave participants a chance to dive deeper into the conference theme 'What will it take to end sexual violence?':

Centring survivor advocacy

Chaired by writer, activist and speaker Tarang Chawla and featuring survivor-advocates, activist and law reform campaigner Noelle Martin; Board Director of the Strong Side Dr Jocelyn Dracakis; and Executive Director of With You We Can Sarah Rosenberg

Bold and innovative primary prevention

Featuring independent LGBTQ+ prevention practitioner Jackson Fairchild; Director of Engagement at Cultural Perspectives Rea Singh; Founder of the STOP campaign Camille Shloeffel; Our Watch facilitator Cameron McDonald; and Full Stop Australia's Research and Project Manager Brianna Pike and Head of Training and Consulting Services Tash Mikitas

Healing and recovery

Chaired by Executive Director of the National Women's Safety Alliance Kat Berney; Co-founder of The Survivor Hub Brenda Lin; Senior Career Medical Officer at Northern Sydney Sexual Assault Service Dr Mary Stewart; Ya'djin Women's Collective Aunty in Residence of Chantay Link and Aunty Sharyn Malone; and Full Stop Australia's Director of Clinical and Client Services Tara Hunter and Head of Advocacy Emily Dale

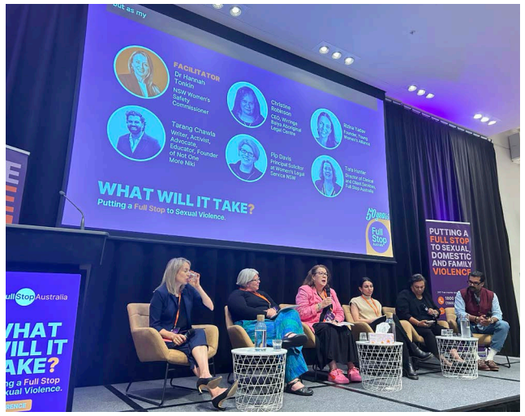
Centring LGBTQ+ communities

Facilitated by ACON and featuring ACON's Acting Manager (Sexual, Domestic and Family Violence) Jade Parker, Sexual Violence Consult Service Lead Hamish Whelan, and Starlady, Director at the Zoe Belle Gender Collective. We also heard from survivor-advocates Maeve, Vasiliki, Bronte and Tito, who spoke about their contributions to The Loud Way Home – an anthology of works written by LGBTQA+ victim-survivors of sexual violence and published by ACON in 2024.

Left to right: 'Bold and innovative primary prevention' stream presenters Cameron McDonald, Camille Shloeffel, Brianna Pike, Tash Mikitas, Jackson Fairchild and Rea Singh

The final panel, 'Looking ahead', acknowledged that while we may have answers to 'What will it take?' – including those explored in the breakout streams – this is not the same as ending sexual violence. Rather, it's just the beginning.

The conference generated passionate and thoughtful discussion about ending sexual violence. And with 385 delegates, it was more than three times bigger than our inaugural conference in 2023.



Left to right: Dr Hannah Tonkin, Pip Davis, Tara Hunter, Rizina Yadav, Christine Robinson and Tarang Chawla

Left to right: 'Healing and recovery' stream presenters Tara Hunter, Dr Mary Stewart, Brenda Lin, Emily Dale, Sharyn Malone and Chantay Link

Conference sponsors

The event was possible thanks to:

- major sponsors the **Neilson Foundation** and the **NSW Government**
- stream sponsor **ACON**
- product and service sponsors **Kate Spade New York** (provided lucky door prize); **Ultra Violette** (gifted SPF to all delegates); **Kwik Kopy Five Dock** (contributed $2,000 towards printing costs); **Visual Domain** (provided low bono AV support and live streamed the event); and **Smith St Coffee Roasters** (kept delegates caffeinated with free coffee cart all day).

Influencing the public conversation

Full Stop Australia has a strong focus on influencing the public conversation about sexual, domestic and family violence (SDFV). We leverage our significant media presence to:

- amplify the voices and experiences of victim-survivors of SDFV and let them know that support is available
- improve laws, systems and services to support survivors and hold perpetrators to account.

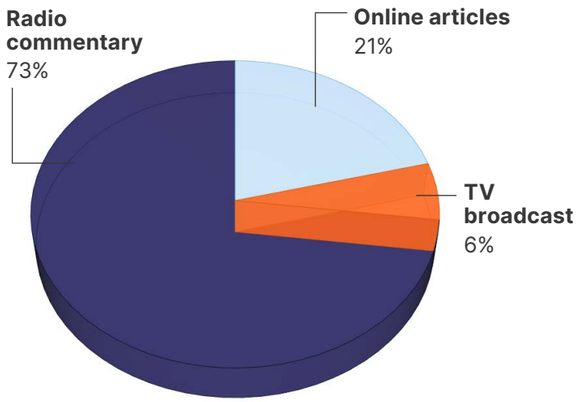
In 2024–2025 we spoke with a wide range of traditional and new media outlets in Australia and overseas to raise awareness of SDFV.

Some media highlights featuring our executive team – CEO Karen Bevan and Director of Clinical and Client Services Tara Hunter – included:

- an interview with Vogue magazine, 'An expert on Australia's roadmap out of its femicide crisis'
- an interview with ABC News presenters Bridget Brennan and James Glenday on the morning of Full Stop Australia's 50th anniversary
- an op ed on news site Women's Agenda, 'Sexual violence does not have to be a part of growing up in Australia'
- a Triple J The Hook Up podcast on financial abuse
- a podcast with the Gidget Foundation Australia on parenting with a history of trauma and child sexual abuse.

2,502 mentions of 'Full Stop Australia' in the Australian media, across TV broadcast, radio commentary and online articles

Mentions of 'Full Stop Australia' in the Australian media in 2024–2025, by channel



We also collaborated with the Gabby Petito Foundation, set up to honour Gabby Petito, for a national exclusive media opportunity. As recounted in the Netflix documentary 'American Murder: Gabby Petito', Gabby was subject to coercive control from her fiancé, who later killed her after law enforcement and others missed many opportunities to intervene.

After the documentary was released, the Petito family contacted Full Stop Australia because so many young Australians had reached out to them to disclose their own experiences of abuse, and the family wanted to refer them to appropriate services. They also wanted to partner with us to raise awareness of domestic violence and coercive control. Australians who are looking to the Gabby Petito Foundation's website for help will now find links to Full Stop Australia's services, ensuring they can access timely trauma-specialist support.

You can read more about Gabby Petito and how young Australians identified with her story in this ABC News article.

50 year commemorative artwork created by Full Stop Australia staff and NSAP Advisory Group, 2024

GOVERNANCE

This image is a flash point in Australian feminist history. It was taken on International Women's Day, 1974 at Bidura Girls Shelter in Sydney by Pat Fiske OAM.

The Handbook for Rape Crisis Centres published in June 1975 records that on this day, a forum discussion was held where the first rape crisis centre in Australia was conceptualised. The centre opened just seven months later and now, 50 years on, we're known as Full Stop Australia.

Our people

Full Stop Australia has a strong and consistent staff team with 59 people employed across the organisation over the year. Our team remained stable again this year with low turnover, keeping our foundations strong.

Our internal training team and contract trainers continued to deliver across our training suite. We were delighted to welcome three new trainers to our team to support the Safe to Speak social responders program and were deeply impressed by the depth of knowledge and experience we discovered in our recruitment process.

Our Clinical Workforce Review project was a consultative process that enabled us to gain a better understanding of demand across all our helplines and to hear the experiences of our counselling team. A huge thank you to our clinical leadership team and all our counsellors who provided frank and fearless feedback in the process and have continued to engage through the committee.

Our Marketing and Communication team worked incredibly hard to deliver our conference in October as well as carrying a significant ongoing workload throughout the year. Thank you to all the team members who stepped up to make this event such a success.

Our advocacy and lived experience engagement work grew and flourished this year – a small but mighty team of two have delivered advocacy and lived expertise engagement across the year.

Thank you to our Operations team, who kept our systems and structures strong and supported the team with IT, human resources, finance, roster management and premises oversight this year.

To all the people who bring so much passion and purpose to their work with Full Stop Australia, thank you!

Some of Full Stop Australia's clinical and operations staff and board, July 2025

Our board

Full Stop Australia is privileged to retain a dedicated board with a range of professional skills, backgrounds and lived expertise. This year the board re-established three subcommittees to support our operations across Board and leadership effectiveness, Finance, and Quality and risk. Our board members are generous volunteers who are committed to ending sexual, domestic and family violence.

Georgina Smart	**Chairperson**	Elected 5 December 2023
Carol Gutierrez	**Board member**	Elected 3 December 2024
Megan Prabhakar	**Board member**	Elected 28 November 2022
Siesum (Charity) Danquah	**Board member**	Elected 3 December 2024
Yatungka Gordon	**Board member**	Elected 5 December 2023
Kowana Welsh	**Board member**	Elected 3 December 2024
Jo Scard	**Board member**	Elected 3 December 2024

Our finances

Full Stop Australia continues to invest in expanding our service delivery, advocacy and education.

In 2024–2025, we were deeply grateful for the financial support of our corporate partners – Kate Spade New York, Panorama Global Fund for Women's Mental Health, Benefit and Ultra Violette. These partnerships made a significant contribution to supporting our core frontline service, 1800 FULL STOP. Ongoing generous support from the PNI Foundation and Neilson Foundation has continued to sustain service delivery, advocacy and lived expertise engagement.

Our budget benefits from the outstanding performance of our Training and Consulting team and our other goods and services including research partnerships, specialist sexual violence consultancy and clinical supervision.

Our Training and Consulting Services are a successful social enterprise, delivering excellent services and making a substantial financial contribution during 2024–2025, highlighting a precedent for increased investment in its capacity to deliver services in new markets.

State and federal government funding from NSW Health, NSW Department of Communities and Justice and the Department of Social Services supports our frontline services and new funded programs, namely the Lived Expertise 'Ideas to Action' Incubator and the Safe to Speak social responders program.

At the end of 2024–2025, we remain focused on financial sustainability. To support this, we will focus on business development in our Training and Consulting Services, seek to increase our philanthropic funding, and grow government investment into our critical services and into new programs that align with our purpose.

Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

For the year ended 30 June 2025

$	2025	2024
Revenue	6,365,314	5,951,755
Interest revenue	53,108	34,290
Other income	19,822	18,211
Consulting fees	(254,407)	(327,067)
Employee benefits	(5,428,995)	(5,463,755)
Resources	(27,402)	(31,562)
Travel expenses	(49,169)	(50,022)
Subscriptions	(61,278)	(67,589)
Telephone and IT expenses	(255,834)	(446,444)
Printing and stationery	(21,233)	(29,576)
Rent	(68,778)	(69,059)
Other expenses	(369,727)	(450,867)
Surplus before income tax	**(125,579)**	(931,685)
Other comprehensive income, net of income tax	–	–
Total comprehensive income	**(125,579)**	(931,685)

Full Stop Australia's full financial statements are available on request and at the Australian Charities Register on the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission website: www.acnc.gov.au

Statement of financial position

For the year ended 30 June 2025

$	2025	2024
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	2,773,024	2,412,808
Trade and other receivables	67,959	439,234
Other assets	45,828	46,342
Total current assets	2,886,991	2,898,384
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment	12,679	29,833
Intangible assets	3,356	5,468
Total non-current assets	16,035	35,301
Total assets	2,903,026	2,933,685
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	401,042	374,581
Contract liabilities	914,210	856,397
Employee benefits	604,383	597,480
Total current liabilities	1,919,635	1,828,458
Non-current liabilities		
Employee benefits	26,942	23,199
Total non-current liabilities	26,942	23,199
Total liabilities	1,946,577	1,851,657
Net assets	956,449	1,082,028
Equity		
Reserves	148,400	148,400
Retained earnings	808,049	933,628
Total equity	956,449	1,082,028

Statement of changes in equity

For the year ended 30 June 2025

$	Retained earnings	General reserve	Total
Balance at 1 July 2024	933,628	148,400	1,082,028
Loss attributable to the entity	(125,579)	–	(125,579)
Balance at 30 June 2025	808,049	148,400	956,449
Balance at 1 July 2023	1,551,147	148,400	1,699,547
Loss attributable to the entity	(931,685)	–	(931,685)
Refund from workers compensation insurance	314,166	–	314,166
Balance at 30 June 2024	933,628	148,400	1,082,028

Full Stop Australia's full financial statements are available on request and at the Australian Charities Register on the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission website: www.acnc.gov.au

Thank you

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ACOSS

ACON

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Champions of Change Coalition

Domestic Violence NSW

Knowmore Legal Services

LGBTIQ+ Health Australia

National Association for Servces Against Sexual Violence (NASASV)

National Women's Safety Alliance

NCOSS

NSW Vigil Collective

Office of the Women's Safety Commissioner

Older Women's Network NSW

Our Watch

Purpose Accounting

Wirringa Baiya Aboriginal Womens Legal Centre

Women's Community Shelters

Women's Health NSW

Women's Legal Service NSW

Zoe Belle Gender Collective

Thank you to all our regular givers, one-off donors and communty fundraisers.

We need your support

With your help, we can meet growing demand, support more victim-survivors of sexual, domestic and family violence and make real change in the community through our training and advocacy.

Donate

Become a regular giver, one-off supporter or donate by leaving a gift in your will.

donate.fullstop.org.au

Fundraise

If you are looking for an opportunity to contribute financially through a fundraising scheme, get started on our fundraising hub:

fundraise.fullstop.org.au

Partner with us

If you can see synergies between your organisation and Full Stop Australia, email us to discuss partnership options.

info@fullstop.org.au

Connect with us online

Stay in the loop and find out about opportunities to get involved.

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