

Rape &
Domestic Violence
Services Australia

ANNUAL REPORT

2017 -
2018

OUR VISION
A Full Stop to
Sexual Assault,
Domestic and
Family Violence

“Aboriginal women ask Australians to pay attention to assaults and murders”

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Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia provides a 24/7 specialist trauma counselling service, via telephone, online and face to face, for anyone in Australia whose life has been impacted by sexual assault, domestic and family violence.

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CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT



2017 - 2018 has been a positive year for Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia. Having been through a difficult period the previous year it was inspiring to witness the resolve of all the Team in continuing the professional work and support they provide.

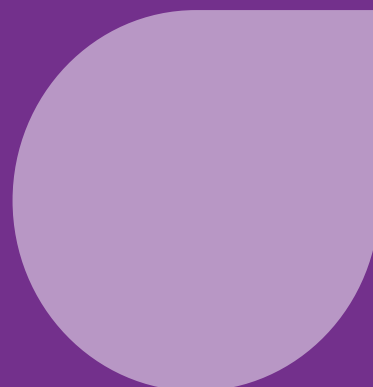
A significant contribution to the years' work and funding came from Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia's Training and Professional Services teams. Organisations as diverse as Universities, Department of Home Affairs, Justice Health, Department of Defence, CatholicCare and the Australian Bureau of Statistics have accessed the organisation's services.

The Full Stop Foundation has successfully promoted the work of Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia and secured donations and grants. Supporting the Full Stop Foundation drives change to create a society where sexual assault and domestic violence are no longer tolerated, while allowing anyone who has experienced sexual assault or domestic violence to access high quality care and support in their recovery.

Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia does not operate with this level of conviction, professionalism and foresight without great leadership. Executive Officer, Karen Willis and her Management Team are the Women who drive this Organisation to be its very best and to be well respected throughout our country and overseas.

My thanks and admiration go to Management, Workers and the Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia Board, who collectively have adjusted to and redefined the new organisation. Together we are going from strength to strength in pursuing our goal of a society free of sexual abuse and domestic and family violence.

Jane Gold



EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

2018 has been a successful year for Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia. It began with the decision to walk away from the 1800RESPECT Trauma Counselling service on ethical grounds. From there tenders with Universities Australia, the Commonwealth Bank, and the National Redress Scheme which came from the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse have been secured. Throughout, the organisation continued to provide its flagship NSW Rape Crisis and Community Based Counselling Services.



It is an absolute testament to everyone that in a year of change the organisation provided over 42,000 occasions of services to more than 18,000 individuals, offered training and professional services to 3,000 plus individuals, made 10 law reform submissions to government, presented at 13 conferences, and engaged on 56 occasions in media debate.

Behind the scenes Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia remodelled. Culture, policies, practices, and the research on which counselling and training programs are based have been reviewed. Importantly, through training, staff have expanded their skills so that many now operate across several roles. This flexibility has resulted in nearly 40% of organisational income being from non-government sources.

In 2018 Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia again achieved accreditation. The external assessor commended the organisation's work in human resource management, professional capacity building, and positive outcomes.

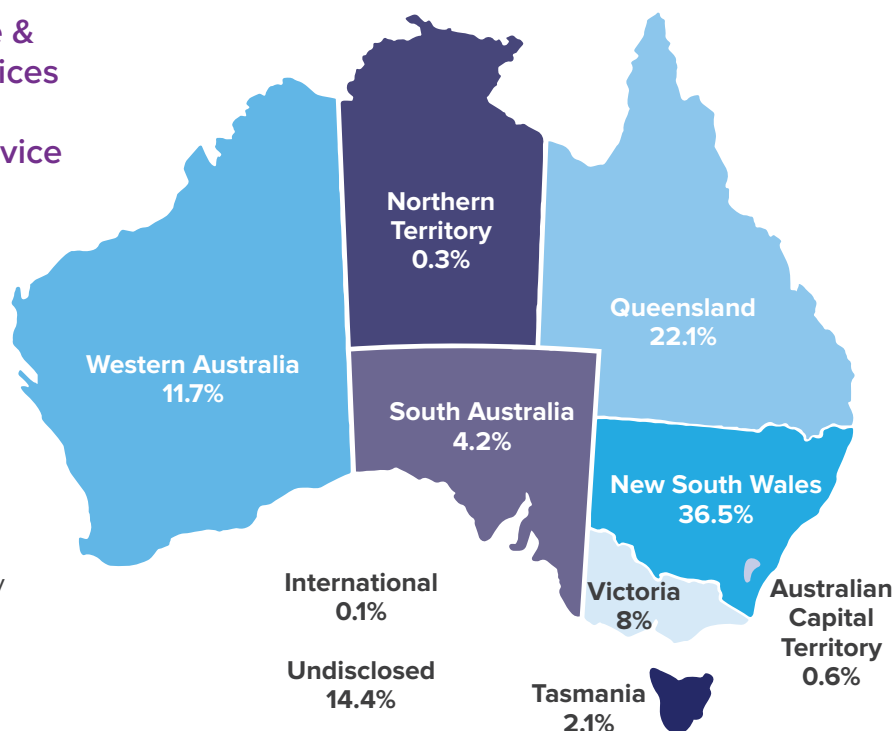
Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia is stronger and more committed than ever. The driving passion is a Full Stop to sexual, domestic and family violence. Together we can do this, together we must.

Karen Willis, OAM

OUR REACH & IMPACT

Over the past year Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia has provided 42,098 occasions of service to 18,363 individuals.

In addition, 3,226 people accessed the organisation's training and professional development services, 10 submissions were made to government in relation to Law Reform, the organisation presented at 13 Conferences, and on 56 occasions Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia engaged in community debate via the media.



CONTACT TYPES



PHONE



ONLINE



FACE-TO-FACE



LIAISON



EMAIL

OCCASIONS OF SERVICE

42,098

CLIENTS

18,363

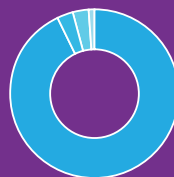


91%
OF CLIENTS
ARE FEMALE

8% OF CLIENTS
ARE MALE

CLIENT TYPE

- Survivors 93%
- Supporters 3%
- Professionals 3%
- Perpetrators 1%



CLIENT AGE

0-15	0%
16-25	22%
26-35	34%
36-45	25%
45-55	13%
55+	6%

FEEDBACK ON CBA SUPPORT:

"It will help tremendously, thank you so much for what you're doing and what Commonwealth Bank is doing."

"I couldn't afford the \$550 ever to change the locks. Thank you."

TRAUMA SPECIALIST SERVICES

Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia provides high quality trauma specialist counselling to those who have experienced sexual, domestic or family violence. The organisation's counselling practice is trauma specialist and client centered. It is informed by understandings such as the cause of sexual, domestic or family violence is gender inequality, the impact is trauma, empowerment is critical to recovery, and the person who experiences the violence is never responsible.

Services include NSW Rape Crisis, which has been offering 24/7 telephone trauma counselling and support for over 40 years. In 2005 the service was extended to include online counselling. Face to face counselling is provided from six NSW Women's Health Centers for women who experienced sexual abuse in childhood.

In 2010, in response to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia established a telephone trauma counselling service for those impacted by the Commission's work. This service also provides face to face counselling for people in NSW including those who are incarcerated.

Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia also offers out of hours trauma support for clients of the South Australian Sexual Assault Service, Yarrow Place. This includes activating forensic services when necessary. More recently the organisation has become a key referral point for Queensland Police in their response to domestic violence.



NSW Rape Crisis - Free Counselling 24/7

1800 424 017

FOR ANYONE WHOSE LIFE HAS BEEN IMPACTED BY SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Online Counselling: www.rape-dvservices.org.au

Last year Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia partnered with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia to provide the Bank's Domestic and Family Violence Emergency support program. This includes trauma counselling for Bank customers escaping domestic or family violence and access to financial support and services through the Bank.

Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia holds that it is every person's human right to live their life free of violence. Further, if a person experiences violence they must be fully and holistically supported in their recovery and, if they choose, have access to a responsive criminal justice system.

It is an honor to work with the many people who contact Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia services.



"I don't know what it is about you all, what you have that is different, but I always feel positive and supported when I get off the phone with the women here."

"So many times I wanted to go back to him and without the Rape Crisis Line I don't know what I would have done."

"TO ALL THE WOMEN WHO'VE SPOKEN TO ME... IN A COUPLE OF HOURS
I'LL BECOME TERRIFIED, ALONE, FROZEN, AND WILL PROBABLY RING
- KNOWING THAT THE PERSON WHO CALLS ME BACK CARES
AND GIVES HELPFUL DIRECTION FOR AFTER THE PHONE CALL ENDS.

IT'S EASY TO SAY 'THANK YOU' BUT TO PASS ON THE WARMTH AND
GRATITUDE I HAVE FOR THE WORK AND TIME YOU GIVE IS IMMEASURABLE.
THE KINDNESS WILL ALWAYS BE REMEMBERED."

MARY - CLIENT

*Name changed

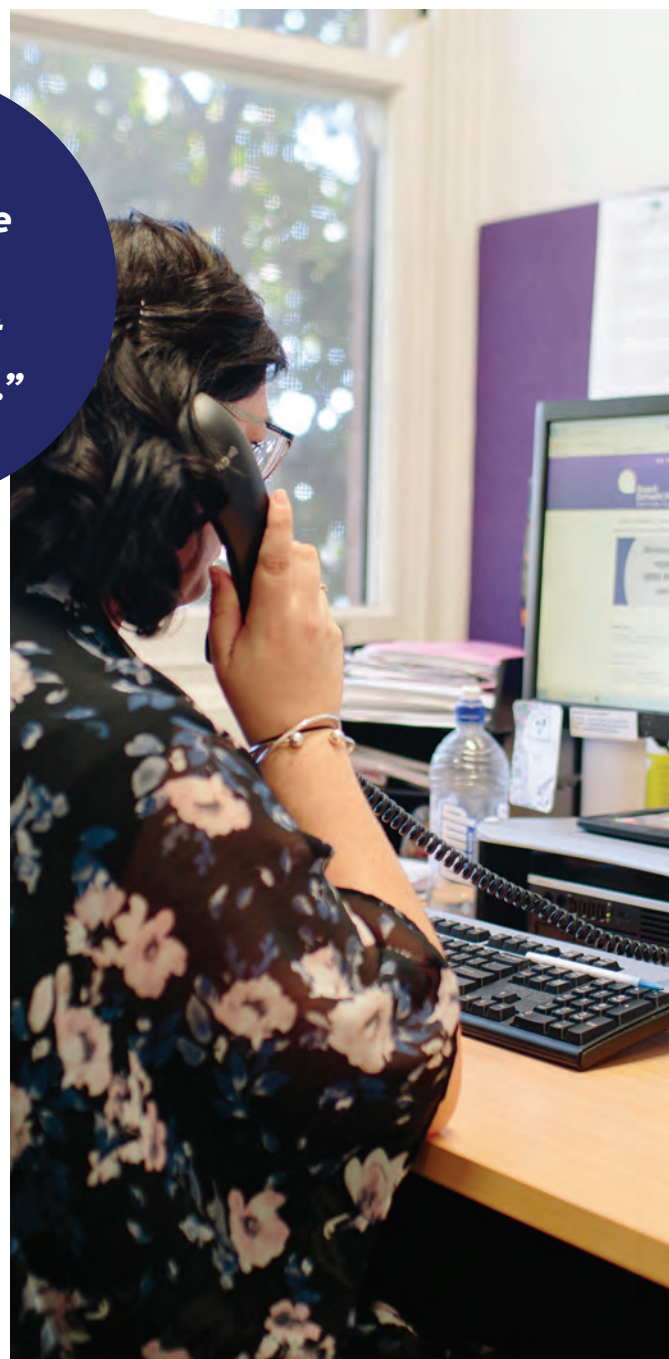


BEST PRACTICE & EVIDENCE BASED

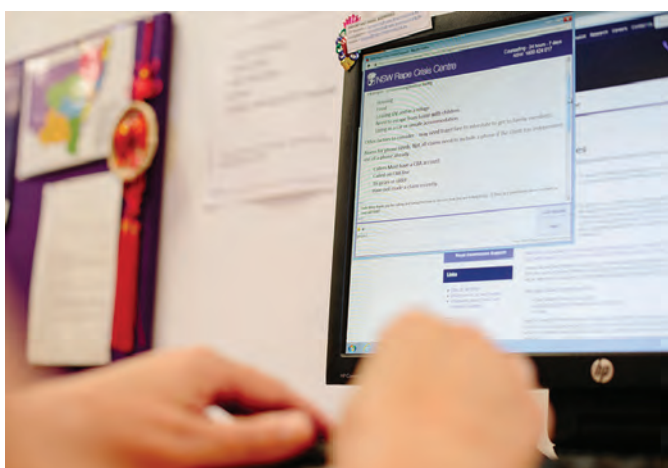
The focus of the Clinical team this year has been on continuing to build counselling expertise to ensure that counsellors are at the forefront of innovative best practice service provision. As well as providing 42,098 occasions of service across six programs a review of many aspects of operations, research, counselling policy, and procedure has been undertaken. The Clinical Review Committee is building effective communication strategies and collaborative processes for the organisation's counselling work. This work is being evidenced by the recently appointed research assistant who will focus on ensuring evidence continues to support the delivery of effective quality services. Regular clinical review of clients with high and complex needs commenced in January. The aim is to assure the right care is provided at the right time. Similarly, an in-house professional development program which recognises and builds on the immense skills possessed by all counselling staff has consistently added to Counselling knowledge, skills and capacity. Counselling staff are commended for their ongoing passion to remain informed of, and providing, best practice services. The most popular professional development this year have been Working with Shame in Trauma, Managing Dissociation, and Understanding Attachment Impacts in Complex Trauma.

Inhouse and external training ensures the service continues to be at the forefront of delivering innovative, cutting-edge services to best meet the needs of clients.

***“the best line
by far that
I’ve ever got
support from.”***



“You helped me clear the fog and understand what was really happening. If this service had existed when I was a child I would have known all of this so much earlier - thank you so much for the compassion, patience and giving of yourself to this service!”





SOCIAL ENTERPRISE ACTIVITIES

Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia has established a range of training, professional support, and consultancy services. The services are grounded in the organisation's expertise in trauma and violence prevention. All funds raised through these fee for service activities flow directly back into providing counselling and other services for clients.

“Training covered everything I needed it to. Excellent delivery, empathetic delivery, trainer listens, practical examples, thanks!”

~Australian Human Rights Commission, Responding with Compassion and Introduction to Vicarious Trauma

TRAINING

In 2017-18, the organisation's Training Service had its strongest year to date, delivering 206 workshops and training presentations to a total of 3,226 individuals.

The core programs of *Understanding & Responding to Vicarious Trauma* and *Responding with Compassion* continue to be in high demand. In 2017 the release of *Change the Course: National Report on Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment at Australian Universities* saw an uptake in primary prevention training amongst the tertiary sector. Trainers delivered *Understanding Consent & Preventing Sexual Violence in Universities*, *Ethical Leadership* and the *Sex, Safety & Respect: 4-day educators training* to students and staff in NSW, Victoria and Queensland. Participants said they felt 'empowered to act as ethical bystanders', 'have more clarity around sexual decision making', and 'are more confident when responding to those who have experienced sexual assault'.

Additionally, the Training Service has been developing an introductory Vicarious Trauma e Learning module for regional and rural workers, and organisations who want to introduce the concept of Vicarious Trauma to their staff en masse. The program will be ready for use in 18/19 financial year.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

In 2017/2018, the Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia Professional Services assisted organisations to respond to vicarious trauma, and design and implement effective vicarious trauma management frameworks. Clients include a wide range of non-profit and non-government organisations, government, universities, and private and public agencies working across very diverse settings. In total 25 tailored solutions were delivered. A clear principle of the work is that a collaborative process is the foundation for effectively managing vicarious trauma. Professional Services work closely with all clients to ensure that the framework and services provided are tailored to their organisational needs.

Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia also provides vicarious trauma focussed external clinical and non-clinical supervision and debrief for supervisors, managers and front-line workers. Client feedback shows that these supervision sessions are well received and effective.



“R&DVSA advised us on our intervention strategies and have provided intensive training to key staff in providing VT supervision.

I have found the people I have engaged with to have high levels of expertise, well developed skills in working with people who may have Vicarious Trauma and offering support to the network from a strategic level through to logistics and problem solving.”

~ Michell Eason, Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network



Full Stop Foundation

The Full Stop Foundation raises funds and awareness for Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia. This year 982 supporters generously donated over \$307,000 to fund trauma counselling services, prevention programs, and advocacy work.

Across Australia, supporters and their friends found creative ways to support the Full Stop Foundation. Some ran the City to Surf, others organised rock concerts, morning teas, flash tattoo events, grew out their body hair and gave what they could to put a Full Stop to sexual, family and domestic violence.

Supporters include generous philanthropic and corporate partners who share our vision. Through their support vital counseling programs have been funded. Special thanks go to the Neilson Foundation and the Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

“I am proud to be an Ambassador for the Full Stop Foundation and support the extraordinary life-saving work providing counselling for people who have experienced sexual and domestic violence. Full Stop works tirelessly to end this violence through education and advocacy.”

~ Tracey Spicer, Author, journalist, and women’s rights advocate.



FULL STOP AMBASSADORS

Full Stop Foundation Ambassadors promote and support the Foundation’s work. They use their platforms to spread awareness of the importance of supporting those who experience sexual, family and domestic violence and the need for prevention programs to change our future.

We would like to thank our fantastic Ambassadors;

Tracey Spicer, Dixie Link Gordon, Adair Donaldson, Alan Tongue, Andrew Scipione, Drisana Levitzke-Gray, Mary Konstantopoulos, Michael Fuller APM, Nina Funnell, and Paul Kent.

OUR SUPPORTERS

Legal Researcher and Project Worker

Through the generous support of the Pinnacle Charitable Foundation and the Oranges and Sardines Foundation, we have employed a Legal Researcher and Project Worker. This vital role provides legal support to clients if they chose to access the often-daunting legal system. In addition, the position has significantly increased the organisation's capacity in legal advocacy, and to make policy recommendations and submissions to government. This work is engaging in the systemic changes needed to put a Full Stop to gendered violence and inequality.



Get Hairy February

Get Hairy February is an empowering campaign that challenges women across Australia and the world to stop removing their body hair. The money raised funds for services that support women affected by violence and programs designed to help eliminate gendered violence. Over the last two years Get Hairy February supporters have donated nearly \$60,000 to support Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia's counselling services and prevention programs.

Still Not Asking for It

Hunter & Fox tattoo parlor in Sydney joined the 'Still Not Asking For It' campaign and held a flash tattoo event in June 2018. This global campaign aims to increase awareness, prevention and recovery from sexual assault by creating a supportive and healing community. Hunter and Fox and their customers raised over \$11,000 to support the organisation's work. We think they are fantastic!



What Defines Us?

What Defines Us? is a short documentary that speaks to three women who have experienced sexual violence about how they cope with the stigma of their assault and explores their everyday lives and achievements. The incredible filmmaking team, led by director Hannah Maybury, raised \$3,250 for the Full Stop Foundation in the process of crowdfunding for the film. The film also won the Best Documentary – Wellness Award at the 2018 Melbourne Martini Film Awards, which celebrates the hard work and dedication of JMC students.

GOOD HOPE FOUNDATION OF TAIWAN GENDERED VIOLENCE CONFERENCE

ENGAGEMENT WITH COMMUNITY LEADERS

Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia has been privileged to welcome to our Centre many of our State and Federal Politicians. Our community leaders have been generous with their time and support. They expressed considerable concern for those who access our services and dismay at the high demand. Over and again expressions of support for the work of Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia has been offered. We thank them for their time and look forward to continuing to work with them to expand service capacity and to begin to reduce the high levels of gendered violence in our communities.



In May 2018 the Good Hope Foundation of Taiwan invited Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia to present at their International Conference on Gendered Violence. Conference delegates from across Asia were interested in Australia's legal response and how service system, including counselling, emergency accommodation and financial support, operated. They were also interested in Australia's analysis of the cause of gendered violence and the work being undertaken to prevent such violence. In return delegates were generous in their sharing of the incites and challenges they faced.



CIVIL SOCIETY

Civil society are the non-government organisations who ensure the interests of communities and families, as distinct from government and business, have equitable input in democratic processes. Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia holds that civil society is obliged to represent the voices of those made vulnerable by their circumstances in democracy. If those voices are not heard, then the voices of the powerful will dominate. This will lead to a considerable decline in democratic fairness and engagement.

To support non-government organisations in this critical work the Australian Services Union launched the Civil Society Campaign and the ACTU the Change the Rules Campaign. Both campaigns were fully supported by Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia as they seek to ensure fair standards and wages in our sector, proper and transparent funding, and safe and respectful work environments. These are the minimums from which a strong Civil Society can grow and through which we can all reinforce the democratic ideas of fairness, equality, participation, transparency and accountability.

Change
THE RULES

A CIVIL
SOCIETY

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance Sheet as at 30.06.2018

2017-18

2016-17

Assets

Current	990,257	1,666,492
Non Current	-	-
Total assets	990,257	1,666,492

Liabilities

Current liabilities	929,234	1,342,120
Non-current liabilities	11,558	91,541
Total liabilities	940,792	1,433,661

Net assets	49,465	232,831
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Income and Expenditure 2017/18

Income

Grants	4,610,696	10,363,095
Social Enterprise	591,669	262,108
Donations	299,005	318,315
Contracts	1,837,657	12,050
Interest	26,875	70,276
Membership	736	4,063
Other	1,790	28,096
Total Income	7,368,428	11,058,003

Expenses

Employee Expenses	6,758,837	9,854,532
Operating	308,974	397,749
Resources	69,087	95,758
Travel	78,319	97,187
IT	235,576	405,317
Equipment	2,809	2,508
Other	98,192	129,209
Total Expenditure	7,551,794	10,982,260

Balance	-183,366	75,743
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“End Rape On Campus”

GET HAIRY FEBRUARY: AUSTRALIAN WOMEN GROW
BODY HAIR FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPORT

Indus
forum

a Man charged with
after dating app da
edly chose to sexual
a woman

FIXEDIT:
HE WASN'T
CHARGED
BECAUSE OF A
DATE OR AN APP

NRL calls on ex-players and current
Jillaroos to drive Community programs

#MeToo:
How to
respond
to a
friend
sharing
their
story of

Screen Australia is developing a
code of conduct on sexual harassment

Police
powers
keeping

*Women in Film
Television lau
'Safer Workpl
Strategies' fo*

**Rape &
Domestic Violence
Services Australia**

Rape & Domestic Violence Services Australia
PO Box 555, Drummoyne NSW 2047
T 02 8585 0333 F 02 9555 5911

info@rape-dvservices.org.au
www.rape-dvservices.org.au
ABN 58 023 656 939

 @rape_dvservices

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women's
health
nsw 

lastic yes': NSW announces
review of sexual consent laws