

[View this email in your browser](#)



# No to Violence

Leading the change to end male family violence in Australia



## November Members' Newsletter

November 2024

Dear valued NTV member,

We had a terrific Annual General Meeting last month. A number of members took time out of their busy schedules to attend both in person and online, and I was grateful to join our NTV Chair Tim Lo Surdo and Director Luis Menezes to speak at the event.

All of us acknowledged the work of frontline practitioners and organisations working with men to end their use of family violence. Our members and the work you do are at the core of everything we do at NTV.



Tim tabled our 2024 Annual Report and Financial Report, both of which illustrate the wonderful work the team here at NTV have done across the twelve months helping thousands of men to make better choices and stop using family violence while also continuing to support you, our members in your essential, life-saving work through our advocacy and policy agenda, sector and workforce development, and training initiatives.

He also joined me to thank our amazing Board and funders, without whom we would not be able to do our work.

work governing our organisation with skill and great diligence.

We also formally elected four new Directors who have joined the Board since the last AGM: Susan Clifford, Natasha Foster, Kristin Haynes and Joshua Smith.

To all of those committed and highly skilled individuals I also say thank you.

All in all, it was a great evening. Most importantly, an acknowledgment of the amazing work you and the rest of our members do every day to stop men using family violence around Australia.

Thank you for all that you do.

Phillip



### **Webinar reminder: A Multidimensional Approach to Responding to Family Violence**

Spots are filling fast for this webinar NTV is hosting next week in partnership with our valued

Family Life have been delivering Men's Behaviour Change Programs (MBCPs) since 1986 and are currently one of the largest service providers of interventions for men using family violence in the country.

In this free webinar Family Life CEO Allison Wainwright and Executive Manager Clinical Practice & Quality Tony Johannsen will grapple with the challenge of placing women and children at the centre of male family violence interventions, whilst simultaneously acknowledging that trauma capable, person centred practice is the most effective way forward for working with men who have used family violence.

### **A Multidimensional Approach to Responding to Family Violence**

DATE: Tuesday 12 November 2024

TIME: 10.30am - 12pm (AEDT)

WHERE: Online (Teams webinar)

Register and find out more [here](#).

### **Victorian budget submission**

NTV consulted with our Victorian members to understand what they are experiencing on the ground in delivering critical services for men using family violence and what they would like to see in the upcoming Victorian budget.

Our members outlined a clear roadmap for a stronger and more responsive family violence service system in Victoria. They told us that to continuously improve and innovate to stop men using domestic and family violence and help keep women, children and communities safe they need government support.

Last week, NTV has taken the calls from our Victorian members to the Government via our Victorian Budget submission, which has 5 key priority areas identified by our members:

1. 81% urgently need more resourcing to ensure existing interventions operate at best-practice standards. Critically, we need identified funding for family safety contact work

2. More than two-thirds of service providers need sustainable, long-term funding to retain skilled staff and keep key learnings in house.

interventions for people using family violence. They say more options are crucial for responding to demand.

4. More than half of service providers surveyed want contractual obligations to shift from measuring outputs to outcomes so that we measure and understand what works best to change behaviour and facilitate accountability.

5. More than half of members surveyed called for investment in improved information sharing, particularly within The Orange Door network and Central Information Point, so that communities are safer.

Without reform these existing issues will become further entrenched.

In the current system, opportunities to engage people using family violence at key assessment and referral points are lost and services are forced to turn away people using family violence seeking support to change their behaviour. This means victim-survivors are at risk.

We urge the Victorian Government to develop a state-based strategy to coordinate responses to people using violence and join up the dots between disconnected systems.

Read our submission [here](#).

### **Engaging with the NSW Strategy for People Using Violence**

NTV's Policy and Research Officer Olsen Clark will be presenting at two conferences in November on advocacy and campaigning and how they link with engaging with the forthcoming NSW Strategy for People Using Violence:

- Hunter Men's Network Projects Annual Forum. Date: 26 November 2024. Time: 9:30 AM – 4:30 PM. Location: Murrook, Port Stephens. Read more [here](#).
- Central Coast Domestic Violence Committee Conference. Date: 29 November 2024. Time: 8 AM – 5PM. Location: University of Newcastle, Ourimbah Campus. Read more [here](#).

The presentations will share insights from No to Violence's collaborative advocacy approach to shape political and policy decision-making. They will explore how the forthcoming NSW strategy for people using violence sits within the broader domestic and family violence policy and political landscape in NSW and nationally, and how service providers can amplify their advocacy to influence the design and implementation of the strategy.

### **AIFS research into abuse or mistreatment of older LGBTQIA+ people**

The Australian Institute of Family studies is researching the abuse or mistreatment of older LGBTQIA+ people and seeking people to share their insights by taking a short survey. Your valuable input will help shape a better future for generations to come.

Read more [here](#).

### **Full Stop Conference**

Full Stop Australia is hosting a Conference on Tuesday, 5 November 2024, [What Will It Take? Putting a Full Stop to Sexual Violence](#). This conference marks Full Stop's 50th year of service.

[Tickets are on-sale now](#), including General Admission and Concession tickets that will allow you to join us in person, and Live Stream tickets that will enable you to join the conversation online.

There will be a full day of panels, presentations and discussions featuring Professor Kyllie Cripps, Tarang Chawla, Dr Tessa Boyd-Caine and more, as we talk about what it will take to end sexual violence. Stay up to date with program details on Full Stop's [conference website](#).

### **Free phones for DFV victim survivors**

For those impacted by domestic and family violence, the gift of a second 'safe' phone can be life saving.

DV Safe Phone is a Queensland-based, national charity that gives free mobile phones to victims of domestic and family violence.

Since it started three years ago, DV Safe Phone has received around 25,000 donated phones and provided over 10,000 free phones to domestic violence agencies across the country. DV Safe Phone test the phones, do any necessary repairs where possible before giving working phones to DFV victim-survivors.

They also buy brand new charger cables for every phone and provide SIM cards where required that have inbuilt credit in them.

DV Safe Phone are looking for domestic violence organisations nationally to reach out to with the phones they have had donated.

If you are an organisation that works with victim survivors of domestic and family violence and

# Policy and Research Updates

## Minimum Age of Criminal Responsibility Position

At our 2024 conference, No to Violence launched our [position statement](#) advocating to raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility to 16. Additionally, we joined the Change the Record Alliance to support their Raise the Age Campaign.

Advancing our position, we provided our [submission](#) to the recent Inquiry into Australia's Youth Justice and Incarceration System, highlighting the importance of centering the voices of marginalised communities. We remain committed to promoting trauma-informed, therapeutic responses that prioritise rehabilitation over incarceration for children and young people.

## SA Royal Commission

No to Violence is proud to be working with our domestic, family and sexual violence colleagues to inform South Australia's Royal Commission. We contributed our views on what needs to change to improve South Australia's approach to people using violence.

You can view our submission [here](#).

We want the focus on victim-survivors' behaviour shifted instead to people using violence. To do this, there needs to be much more work to address people using violence's behaviour and the root causes of it.

We know that there is no one type of person using violence and no one type of response that works to hold them accountable and change behaviour.

We urge the South Australian government to develop a strong, sustained and strategic focus on people using violence.

A dedicated strategy would join up disconnections between siloed systems and drive the development of a diverse range of responses to people using violence, moving away from

# Workforce Development

## **Engaging Dads Using Family Violence**

Looking for a transformative online training event that explores the impact on children witnessing/experiencing abuse and how to shift the focus of interventions to the father's responsibility for safe parenting?

Join us for our “Engaging Dads Using Family Violence” training which unpacks broader narratives that often attribute responsibility for the safety, security, and emotional wellbeing of children to the victim-survivor. It is underpinned by the current evidence base that has established an understanding of the gender drivers of men’s violence against women.

Dates of delivery:

10 and 11 December 2024, 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM AEST (2 x 3 hour sessions)

Location: Online

Cost: \$299 (including GST)

Don't miss this opportunity to deepen your understanding and make a positive impact.

Register for your chosen session [here](#).

## **Introduction to working with Adolescents and Young Men Using Intimate Partner Violence**

No to Violence is joining [Youth Support and Advocacy Service](#) to deliver our much-anticipated new workshop Introduction to working with Adolescents and Young Men Using Intimate Partner Violence.

Previously only available on special request, this full day co-developed training is now available to the public!

The training will examine the dynamics and impacts of Adolescent and Youth Intimate Partner

sensitively with adolescents and young men using IPV, while considering developmentally appropriate approaches and opportunities for interventions and change.

The training is suitable for practitioners who, in the course of their work, come into contact with adolescents and young men using IPV (e.g., specialist family violence practitioners, youth workers, child protection workers, etc.) or students considering a career in working with adolescents and young people.

Join us for the public launch of this training on the 14th of November 2024.

Register or find out more [here](#).

## NTV Staff Profile

### Lizette's Legacy

After starting as a volunteer-run counselling and referral service based in suburban Melbourne in the eighties, NTV had grown significantly in Victoria and was just beginning to provide services and sector expertise in NSW by the time Lizette Twisleton first arrived in 2017.

Bringing 15 years' experience working in behaviour change program in NSW's Northern Rivers region, Lizette initially worked to lead practice support across NSW while increasing the profile of working with men who use domestic and family violence to the broader DFV sector. Two years later she moved to Victoria to manage NTV's Practice and Programs, overseeing NSW and Victorian sector work and NTV's Men's Referral Service.

Then when COVID hit in 2020, everything changed. The Victorian Government declared MRS as an essential service ensuring the counselling service kept running. In response to the pandemic NTV also expanded its service offerings to deliver a Commonwealth funded service nationally; The Brief Intervention Service was established to support wait lists as programs across the country struggled to engage with clients; and the Five Essential Discussion Tools (EDTs) were developed by NTV's workforce development team to support safe engagement with men using violence.

"There were a lot of things going on at the time as well as this sudden and rapid growth," says



of these 'pilots' have continued to support the sector post pandemic."

Last month Lizette departed NTV to take up a new opportunity to move back closer to her family and her community to manage a men's centre in the Northern Rivers. The organisation she leaves is poised to continue to provide leadership in the men's family violence space, both in how practice occurs and how we should be addressing men's use of family violence against women and children.

"I think NTV is in a good place to lead conversations, to really broaden the work, thinking about how we work, what are the range of interventions with men that can support them in learning how to take responsibility to end their use of violence. Huge thanks to our Members for bringing their expertise and experiences to the table, we learn so much by coming together and sharing our expertise. This helps NTV in our advocacy work on their behalf."

"It was a really difficult decision to leave NTV. I love the work; it has been a real privilege to be able to work with the sector and grow the community around the work. I'm leaving because it's time for me to be back closer to my family and my community. I'm keen to put into practice a lot of the things I have learned while being in this role, taking it to a regional service that was always doing innovative work."

Thank you, Lizette. You leave a wonderful legacy for all at NTV, and the sector more broadly, to build upon.

## Events



### **NSW Men's Behaviour Change in-person Network meeting**

On Thursday 12th December the final NSW Men's Behaviour Change Network meeting of 2024 will be held, with options to attend in person in Sydney and online.

Please contact the NSW Sector Development Team for further details at [nsw@ntv.org.au](mailto:nsw@ntv.org.au)

## Follow us on social media

We use our social media platforms to share information, provide expert commentary and prompt discussions around issues related to the family violence sector.

To be a part of the conversation, follow:



No to Violence acknowledges First Nations Peoples across these lands; the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters. We pay respect to all Elders, past, present and emerging.

We acknowledge a deep connection with country which has existed over 60,000 years.

We acknowledge that sovereignty was never ceded, and this was and always will be First Nation's land.

---

*Copyright © 2023*

You are receiving this email because you are a member of No to Violence.

**Our mailing address is:**

PO Box 277 Flinders Lane VIC 8009

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

