

# **Sharing and Strengthening our Practice conference 2019**

## Outcomes report

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## 1 Introduction

*Territory Families acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the Traditional Owners of the lands and waters of this nation and pays respect to all Traditional Owners, and to Elders past and present.*

*We acknowledge the Larrakia people as the Traditional Owners of the land on which the conference was held and pay respect to their Elders and Aboriginal Elders of other communities who were present at the conference.*

*We thank the conference committee representatives, our event organisers, Agentur, and staff at the conference venue, DoubleTree by Hilton Esplanade Darwin, who assisted in the planning and organisation of the event.*

*We also extend a special acknowledgement to our Masters of Ceremonies, all of our keynote speakers, presenters and chairs who invaluable shared and imparted their time and wisdom at the conference.*

On 9 and 10 May 2019, over 170 people from over 40 government and non-government organisations, who work in and with the domestic, family and sexual violence (DFSV) sector across the Northern Territory came together for the inaugural biennial Sharing and Strengthening Our Practice Conference (the conference) in Darwin.

The two day conference, through presentations, panel discussions and workshops, provided a space for frontline workers and practitioners to share and reflect on practice learnings and innovative approaches. The focus was on how frontline workers, service deliverers and policy makers can support a responsive and high quality service system to reduce the impacts and incidences of DFSV.

This report captures the ideas, discussions and feedback received from delegates and speakers. Suggestions included implications and considerations for broader policy and practice in responding to DFSV.



*The Hon Dale Wakefield MLA, Minister for Territory Families delivering the opening address at the conference on 9 May 2019*

## 2 Background

### 2.1 Context

A key initiative arising from [Action Plan 1: Changing Attitudes, Intervening Earlier and Responding Better \(2018-2021\)](#), the conference was the first in what will be a series of biennial conferences aimed at investing in and building the capacity and responsiveness of the DFSV service system and workforce across the Northern Territory.

The objectives of the conference were to:

- foster a collaborative environment to facilitate discussion and strengthen connections between workers in the sector, and between the sector and government;
- provide a forum to celebrate, reflect and share information, ideas and concerns; and
- build workforce capacity and resilience through learning from experienced sector representatives including keynote speakers and presenters from across the country.

The conference series will be a component of a broader DFSV workforce and sector development strategy currently being developed by Territory Families in conjunction with sector representatives. The workforce and sector development strategy is a key priority of the [Northern Territory's Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Reduction Framework](#), which aims to build the capability and improve the responsiveness of the DFSV system and workforce to ensure:

- workers have the skills and support they need to be effective and safe in the workplace
- organisations have the structures and resources they need to support their workers to do their jobs; and
- networks have the capacity and support to build a community of practice, enable collaboration and promote advocacy across the service system.

### 2.2 Themes and topics presented at the conference

The conference committee, made up of representatives from government and non-government organisations with expertise in DFSV, established the following themes for the conference:

- assessing risk;
- listening to victim survivors;
- trauma-based and strengths-based practice;
- prevention and early intervention;
- sexual violence;
- safe and together - working with all family members; and
- building a supported, resourced and informed workforce.

Building on those themes, a wide range of topics relating to DFSV practice and approaches were presented and reflected upon, including:

- building the capacity of the workforce and community of practice including supports, recruitment, retention, and support for workers affected by DFSV;
- preventing, reducing, and responding to DFSV through community-led solutions, with a particular focus on Aboriginal services and Aboriginal communities;

- exploring the intersections and interactions of DFSV with other service systems including the legal and justice system and child protection;
- prevention and early intervention approaches and responses to DFSV in vulnerable groups including migrant and refugee communities and Elders;
- the importance of including men in the conversations, and in the development of policies and community-led solutions, and empowering men to take a leading role in action against DFSV;
- sexual violence, including barriers to disclosure and how to overcome them;
- workshops on trauma-informed approaches, including identifying and managing vicarious trauma, understanding trauma and complex trauma; and
- recognising colonisation as a key factor in understanding violence occurring within Aboriginal families and communities.

### 2.3 Support for sector attendance

To promote equitable participation, reduce barriers and ensure a diverse and inclusive conference delegation, Territory Families provided travel and accommodation subsidies for over 30 frontline workers in non-government organisations from remote and regional locations in the Northern Territory to attend and participate in the conference.

Registration fees were discounted for non-government organisations at \$150 per person for the two day event, compared to \$250 per person for government organisations.



### 3 Organisations represented at the conference

Territory Families would like to recognise and thank all conference delegates and speakers from the organisations listed below, from across the Territory and country, who shared their time, learnings and expertise over the two days of the conference.

- Aboriginal Medical Service Alliance Northern Territory
- Anglicare NT
- Department of Attorney-General and Justice
- Barkly Region Alcohol and Drug Abuse Advisory Group (BRADAAG)
- Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit Aboriginal Corporation
- CatholicCare NT
- Central Australian Women's Legal Service Inc.
- Charles Darwin University
- Darwin Aboriginal Islander Women shelter
- Darwin Indigenous Men's Service Inc.
- Dawn House Inc.
- Department of Education
- Department of Attorney-General and Justice
- DESI Consulting
- Djirra
- Domestic Violence Legal Service
- Galiwinku Women's Space
- Ironbark Aboriginal Corporation
- Jackie Burke Psychology & Consulting
- Katherine West Health Board
- Katherine Women's Crisis Centre
- Katherine Women's Information and Legal Service
- McMillan Consulting Group
- Melaleuca Refugee Centre
- Menzies School of Health Research
- Multicultural Centre for Women's Health
- North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency
- National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect
- NO MORE Campaign
- No to Violence
- Northern Territory AIDS & Hepatitis Council
- Northern Territory Legal Aid Commission
- Northern Territory Working Women's Centre
- NPY Women's Council
- NT Courts
- NT Working Women's Centre
- Northern Territory Council of Social Service
- NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services
- Ombudsman's Office/Deputy Information Commissioner
- One Tree Community Services
- Ruby Gaea Darwin Centre Against Sexual Violence Inc.
- Sexual Assault Referral Centre Top End Health Services
- Sexual Assault Referral Centre Alice Springs
- Sex Worker Outreach Project NT
- Save the Children Australia
- Tangentyere Council
- Tennant Creek Women's Refuge
- Territory Families
- The Salvation Army (Catherine Booth House Women's Refuge)
- Top End Women's Legal Service Inc.
- University of South Australia
- We Al-li Trust
- Womens Safety Services of Central Australia
- World Vision Australia
- Wurli Wurlinjang Health Service
- YWCA Domestic Family Violence Centre



## 4 Feedback from conference delegates

### 4.1 General feedback

Approximately 40% of conference delegates provided formal and informal feedback about the conference in person, through emails and anonymously through paper and online evaluation forms. Overall, the conference was described as a positive and valuable experience for participants and speakers. Participants felt safe, supported and strengthened to openly share their ideas and stories, and to discuss and challenge DFSV practice issues at the conference.

The majority of respondents rated the conference as excellent or good (96% of respondents), and very relevant or relevant to their work (100%) and very useful or useful to their work (96%). Respondents who answered the question regarding their interest in attending future conferences indicated that they were very interested or interested (98%).

Approximately 75% of respondents worked in a non-government organisation based in the Northern Territory, followed by the Northern Territory Government (20%).

Respondents indicated that registration fees were affordable (75%) and respondents who received subsidies stated that they were overall very satisfied with the travel and accommodation subsidies (70%).

Community members who access services represented by non-government conference delegates include:

- people experiencing domestic and family violence;
- people who have experienced sexual violence;
- perpetrators of domestic and family violence;
- perpetrators of sexual violence;
- families and family support;
- children, youth and young people, including those that are homeless or at risk of homelessness;
- child protection clients;
- people experiencing homelessness;
- broader community, in which DFSV is often experienced by clients;
- refugees and migrants; and
- people experiencing trauma, alcohol or other drugs and/or mental health issues.

### 4.2 Relevance and usefulness of the conference

Elements of the conference that respondents expressed they found most relevant and/or useful were as follows:

- the opportunity to network and connect with workers and service providers from within the same region and different regions, and across the sector;

- the keynote speakers and presenters, including the diversity of speakers and topics presented. Delegates commented on speakers' outstanding presentations and the passion they brought with them to the conference;
- opportunities to learn and share:
  - diverse and innovative models, approaches, resources and programs in place in other agencies, communities and states;
  - useful tools and strategies to use in DFSV practice including working with people who are experiencing trauma and incorporating cultural safety into practice;
  - DFSV practice in the NT context including what is being done and what best practice looks like in the NT;
  - education in the DFSV area;
  - how to work with DFSV victims and diverse approaches to addressing DFV and sexual violence with an Aboriginal cultural focus; and
  - how Aboriginal practitioners and services want non-Aboriginal practitioners and services to work with them;
- the strong Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander presence, representation and leadership at the conference. This was demonstrated through:
  - the Aboriginal people, communities and organisations who attended and participated at the conference, including those who presented and shared their stories and ideas;
  - learning from Aboriginal speakers/people running Aboriginal-led organisations; and
  - Aboriginal women's group leading the movement to include men in the conversation of DFSV;
- breakout and workshop sessions that provided a valuable opportunity for discussion in smaller groups and useful activities and tools for practice; and
- a safe space for reflecting on DFSV practice, including through exploring and reflecting on the deeper context of Aboriginal responses and sharing practice stories.

### 4.3 Presentations and breakout sessions

A copy of the program has been attached for reference at [Attachment A](#).

Popular and highly rated presentations and workshops at the conference were those that provided:

- concrete DFSV skills development;
- practical tips for workforce support and development; and
- DFSV practice examples and/or case studies, including those from the NT context and across different sectors.

All presentations were predominantly rated as either 'excellent' or 'good' by respondents (i.e., for each presentation, there were at least 62% of respondents who gave ratings of either 'excellent' or 'good').

Presentations that had a broad focus or that were more theoretical or academic in nature were rated less favourably and seen as less enjoyable, relevant and useful to the day to day needs of the majority of conference attendees.



## 4.4 Enjoyable aspects of the conference

Comments from respondents revealed that in addition to relevant and/or useful elements of the conference to their work, they also enjoyed:

- the positive ‘vibe’/atmosphere at the conference, which was described as inspiring, empowering, challenging, nurturing and healing. Respondents also felt the atmosphere was one of safety (emotional, cultural and spiritual), energy, hope, connection, good will, humility, challenge, and openness to share and learn;
- the conference providing a platform to lead, challenge, question and shift ideas of best practice and approaches to DFSV;
- the inspiration, courage, resilience, wisdom, honesty and different perspectives that keynote speakers and presenters brought with them through their presentations;
- the new ideas, knowledge and learnings gained;
- the opportunities to interact with others and share stories, ideas, and information about practice;
- the celebration and recognition of strengths;
- the importance of decolonising practice and inclusion of men in the conversation as a significant part of responding to and reducing the impacts of DFSV;
- the organisation/structure of sessions and panel discussions and the inclusion of workshops; and
- the venue of the conference (which was described as ‘excellent’ and ‘beautiful’), food and simplicity of the merchandise provided.



A word cloud of the feedback delegates provided about how they felt at the conference and about the conference

## 4.5 Feedback from presenters

Over 50 representatives from across both government and non-government organisations presented at the conference over the two days. A section for presenters was provided in the evaluation form for their feedback. Approximately 75% of presenters provided feedback.

Respondents expressed support for the planning and organisation of their panel and/or presentation which was mostly rated as excellent or good. They found the following factors useful in helping them prepare for their presentation(s):

- communication and regular emails from the department and event organisers; and between panel presenters;
- introductions to panel facilitators/chairs and speakers;
- knowing beforehand the scheduling and duration of presentations;
- flexibility offered including accommodating times to suit speaker needs; and
- having the program outline and themes of the conference beforehand.

Presenters and chairs expressed that the following actions could have been done better to help them prepare for their presentation(s):

- the provision of :
  - clearer instructions on the structure of presentations and briefing notes;
  - expectations required from presenters and chairs;
  - a clearer purpose outlined; and
  - biographies and abstracts of presenters in advance of the conference;
- designing presentations for more time, space and interaction with the audience; and
- immediate technological support before and during presentations.

## 4.6 Areas for improvement and suggestions for future conferences

Conference delegates were asked their opinion on what could be done better; what topics that were not covered at the conference that should have been; and suggestions for future conferences. Feedback included in this section also reflects the discussions put forward during the plenary session at the conference. As similar ideas arose across the three questions, responses and suggestions have been categorised into the following themes:

- [Conference objectives and structure](#)
- [Presentation topics and themes](#)
- [Speakers and representatives](#)
- [Venue](#)
- [Accessibility and supports](#)

#### 4.6.1 Conference objectives and structure

Ideas for consideration relating to the structure of the conference and its sessions include:

- more opportunities for sharing and reflection through more panel discussions, questions and discussion times, group activities, interactions, and participation;
- more time for keynote addresses, presentations and panel discussions;
- less theory and more in-depth and greater focus on practice (including case studies, responses and solutions), skills development and consolidation and more workshops;
- panel sessions to involve more discussions rather than presentations;
- keynote presentations to include a greater focus on the context of DFSV in the NT; and
- consideration of balancing the amount and length of workshops and presentations.

#### 4.6.2 Presentation topics and themes

Conference delegates have expressed that they would like a greater focus on preventing and reducing the impacts of DFSV, and DFSV practice with or relating to:

- men (including working with men, having a men's group/session, men's services, Aboriginal men's services);
- perpetrator interventions and men's behaviour change programs (including support for perpetrators, men's use of violence and opportunities for men's engagement in change);
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, especially in crisis and recovery service sessions;
- people who identify as LGBTIQ+;
- people with disabilities;
- people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds;
- people from migrant and refugee backgrounds (including issues relating to DFSV and visas);
- children, youth and young people including:
  - sessions for young people;
  - perspectives from young people;
  - DFSV in adolescent relationships;
  - child sexual abuse and neglect (including in the NT context); and
  - education and school responses to children experiencing and/or exhibiting behaviours indicative of trauma from DFSV;
- trauma informed approach (including deconstructing and critiquing it, and identifying and managing vicarious trauma);
- people and/or workers with lived experience of DFSV including:
  - challenges and issues, especially in the context of regional areas;
  - peer to peer engagement/support/stories;
  - a survivors' panel; and
  - discussions on navigating the system as a victim and then as a survivor;
- culturally safe and appropriate interventions and solutions that fit with the client's culture and community environment (including differences between cultural awareness and cross cultural skills);

- expanding on the topic of sexual violence (including what is in place for sexual violence victims in relation to the perpetrator);
- approaches to prevention, primary prevention and early intervention (including how to do it, where it has worked, the evidence, and national and international views);
- further exploration of the types and definitions of violence (including a greater focus on emotional abuse, and foundational knowledge);
- community-led ideas and responses;
- systems, models and frameworks including those relating to:
  - DFSV services/shelters/safe places;
  - models of information sharing and the importance of interagency work, including the Family Safety Framework;
  - national and local NT frameworks;
  - challenges to the current system, including discussion on what is not working and how it can be improved; and
  - discussion on how to become a part of change in the broader sense (e.g., contributing to pressure on governments etc.);
- workforce support, practice, training and development, including:
  - principles for good practice;
  - appropriate support for remote area workers (especially those who have no support from a team, live in community and experience challenging/traumatising events);
  - practical sessions on improving workforce capacity;
  - clinical supervision;
  - building organisational and service capacity; and
  - non-DFSV specialist workers and their roles in responding to DFSV (including police, teachers and healthcare workers);
- non-Aboriginal perspective of someone living/working in NT and NT communities;
- broader social, cultural, demographic and medical factors that impact and intersect with DFSV (including acquired brain injury, and other disabilities resulting from injuries, FASD and how to work with this in relation to family violence);
- deconstruct the notion that DFSV is caused solely by gender inequality (especially together with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women as they may bring a different perspective);
- further discussions on colonisation and decolonising practice in DFSV;
- more good news stories from regional and remote communities; and
- integrated remote approach.

### 4.6.3 Speakers and representatives

Suggestions relating to speakers and conference representatives made by delegates:

- more specific messages conveyed (rather than rehashing statistics/concepts that workers are likely already aware of), including the clear aims and purpose of the conference;
- ensuring and supporting speakers to deliver their presentations in an inclusive, and culturally and spiritually safe and appropriate way;

- specific sessions for speakers with lived experience and/or expertise, for example, Michael Flood, Rosie Batty, senior women from NPYWC, Linda Coates and Allan Wade from Canada, Nadyezda Pozzana, Miriam Rose, Ungunnerr Baumann. Comments also indicated that they wanted to hear more from 2019 presenters Ludo McFerran and Charles Darwin University;
- greater representation, participation and presentation at the conference from:
  - Aboriginal speakers, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men as keynote speakers, and how to better advocate for and support Aboriginal leaders;
  - men and male speakers, including discussions on how they are leading the way to reduce instances and impacts of DFSV;
  - women and men who are not in the specialist workforce (including those in the universal workforce, and clients and service users);
  - people who identify as LGBTIQ+;
  - people with disabilities;
  - people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds;
  - people from migrant and refugee backgrounds, including issues relating to DFSV and visas; and
  - advocates, representatives and speakers from the non-government sector; and
- working with speakers to ensure the pace and structure of presentations are agreed beforehand.

#### 4.6.4 Venue

Considerations suggested in relation to the venue include:

- acoustics during the breakout sessions could be improved (i.e., difficult to hear and sounds from other rooms coming through);
- providing support and/or activities for people who travelled away from their homelands for the conference; and
- consideration of other venues in the NT (e.g., Central Australia) to ensure inclusivity of the sector across the NT.

#### 4.6.5 Accessibility and supports

Respondents expressed a number of ways accessibility and supports can be improved:

- more support and accessibility for speakers who speak English as an Additional Language;
- provision of men's spaces and women's spaces;
- support for registration fees e.g., students' rates;
- consideration of recording presentations from specialist practitioners and key note addresses;
- social event to be held at the conference venue or close by;
- improved promotion and marketing of the conference as some delegates were not aware of the conference and only found out through a third party, and registration requirements such as workshops needing to be booked; and
- provision of an online forum/application/platform for sharing resources and case studies etc.

## 5 Policy and program ideas and comments

Feedback from conference delegates also included ideas and comments on policy, practice and programs:

- DFSV education and awareness sessions to school students especially those in middle school;
- involving the education sector in DFSV practice (e.g., to support children who may have DFSV experiences at home or observing behaviours children may be exhibiting at school as a result of DFSV, and to build trust with children so they can tell us what is going wrong at home and/or with their community);
- building the depth of skills and capacity of the workforce or having a trauma-specific workforce that can work with children who have experienced DFSV and who are likely to go through the system;
- continuing to work with Aboriginal women to build their capacity and resilience;
- improved protection of and support for children at risk of or experiencing DFSV by the government;
- DFSV conferences for Aboriginal workers and youth;
- consider statements made by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander delegates, and participants at the *Emerging Justice Issues and Responses* session at the conference in policy and practice;
- perpetrator interventions and men's behaviour change program to focus on keeping women/partners and children safe; and
- more support for perpetrators, reducing men's use of violence and opportunities for men's engagement in change (including developing appropriate responses to anger that are alternatives to violence).



Keynote presentation from Bettina Danganbarr, 9 May 2019



## 6 Statements presented at the conference

At the conference, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander delegates and participants at the *Domestic and Family Violence - Emerging Justice Issues and Responses* session presented statements relating to best practice working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and recommendations for legal and justice practice respectively.

### 6.1 Statement from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander delegates

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander delegates and representatives from government and non-government organisations came together to produce a powerful statement to other conference delegates on what it means to work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

#### **Sharing and Strengthening with us, for us.**

We, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants of the first 'Sharing and Strengthening our Practice 2019 Conference' would like to make a statement. This statement is on behalf of all the participants as leaders, experts, workers, community members, mothers, fathers, sisters and brothers.

We have come from across the Northern Territory and Australia. We come from different countries, different mob, different cultures but with a same focus. A focus on making our families, our communities safer for our women and children and strengthening our family structures.

We want everyone to stop. Listen. Trust. Act.

Stop doing for us without us.

Listen to us. Practice deep listening. Listen with your heart.

We are the experts. We have the knowledge and lived experiences. Trust us to try new ways of doing things, our way. We will all learn together. Act with us not for us.

Understand healing and work with us to provide the space for it to happen. We can and will develop a practice to heal intergenerational trauma.

We have our own cultural family structures built on thousands of years of equality, respect and love. Learn from this and work with us to build programs and services to support it. We want our women and men to work together. This is how our families and communities operate.

Don't guide us. We will guide you. If we are not at the table with you, stop. Provide us with a genuine safe place to be involved then we can move forward.

Incorporate and practice cultural safety in our workplaces and communities.

Remember we are more than statistics. We are people. People that have heartache for our families and communities each time we hear these statistics.

This is our statement as participants of this conference. As leaders, experts, workers, community members, mothers, fathers, sisters and brothers. We've shared this with you. Now strengthen your practices with this knowledge.

*Statement from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander delegates at the Sharing and Strengthening our Practice conference, Darwin, 2019*

## 6.2 Statement from participants at the *Domestic and Family Violence - Emerging Justice Issues and Responses* session

The following recommendations were presented for policy and practice discussion and consideration.

1. Top level training for all police, judges, magistrates and lawyers for identification of the primary aggressor by first responders. This issue stems from the fact that victims tend to be misidentified as the primary aggressor due to injuries victims may inflict on perpetrators while defending themselves; and
2. Sexual Assault Guidelines for NT Police, including on how to appropriately interview survivors of sexual assault, without re-traumatising or exacerbating trauma for the person.

## 7 Recommendations

In summary, recommendations outlined by conference delegates are:

- greater focus and discussion on DFSV practice, practical tools and approaches (especially early intervention, prevention, primary prevention, and trauma-informed approaches), skills building, and workforce support;
- more opportunities for DFSV practice sharing and reflection;
- greater focus on sexual violence, emotional abuse and other forms of violence;
- greater representation of delegates and speakers from people with lived experience and expertise, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people who identify as LGBTIQ+, young people, people with disabilities, men, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and people from migrant and refugee backgrounds;
- more DFSV best practice examples and approaches to working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people who identify as LGBTIQ+, young people, people with disabilities, men, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and people from migrant and refugee backgrounds;
- further exploration of social, cultural, demographic, medical factors and issues intersecting, impacting on or impacted by DFSV (e.g., gender inequality, colonisation, decolonisation of practice, and injuries sustained by DFSV) and how to reduce and/or respond to these impacts;
- greater emphasis on grass-roots, community-led ideas, responses and solutions;
- cultural appropriateness, awareness and safety as an important element in DFSV practice; and
- further exploration of systems, frameworks and models in DFSV.

Ideas, comments and feedback regarding areas and suggestions for improvement will be considered by Territory Families for future conferences, workforce development and training sessions, and future policy and program development.

Statements made by participants at the *Domestic and Family Violence - Emerging Justice Issues and Responses* session and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander delegates at the conference will also be considered in the context of practice, and program and policy decision-making.

## 8 Where to from here?

Some respondents voiced concerns about 'who will take the feedback forward?' and specific calls to action of the ideas, approaches and feedback received from conference delegates.

The feedback and the statements provided by conference delegates will be considered for future conferences, workforce development and training sessions, and future policy and program development.

### 8.1 Sharing and Strengthening our Practice Conference 2021

The conference series is biennial, with the next conference anticipated to occur in 2021. Planning for the 2021 conference will be informed by the feedback that has been received as well as any additional ideas or input received in the intervening period.

### 8.2 Future workforce development opportunities

The DFSV workforce and sector development strategy currently under development will include an audit of DFSV training and support needs for workers in specialist and universal services. The outcome of the audit will inform future training, networking and development opportunities for workers and the sector, and will assist in the development of a strategy to sustainably address workforce development needs.

Suggestions have been made to provide development opportunities between conferences in the form of DFSV workshops, masterclasses, and forums on identified topics. This would continue to build a community of practice commenced at the conference and would maintain the momentum between conferences. These suggestions will be considered in the context of the workforce and sector development strategy.

### 8.3 Conference website

Territory Families is developing a webpage on the Territory Families website to host details of the conference including:

- the conference program;
- speaker abstracts and biographies;
- the two statements from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander delegates and delegates from the *Domestic and Family Violence – Emerging Justice Issues and Responses* session.
- presentations (from presenters who have given permission to upload);
- photographs; and
- information on future conferences as details become available.

### 8.4 Contact details

If you have any comments, feedback and suggestions for future conferences and/or future workforce development and training opportunities, please feel free to contact us at:

Email: [dfv@nt.gov.au](mailto:dfv@nt.gov.au)

Phone: (08) 8935 7803



*Presentation from Michael Torres, Darwin Indigenous Men's Service Inc., 10 May 2019*



*Panel discussion on the topic of "Sexual violence – barriers to disclosure and how to overcome them", 10 May 2019*



# Sharing and Strengthening Our Practice Conference

9th – 10th May 2019

Doubletree By Hilton Esplanade Darwin

## Program at a Glance



The Sharing and Strengthening Our Practice conference in Darwin is the inaugural biennial conference for domestic, family and sexual violence frontline workers and practitioners to share learnings and network with other workers from across the Northern Territory.

The conference is designed around the following themes of:

- Assessing Risk
- Listening to Victim Survivors
- Trauma-Based and Strengths-Based Practice
- Prevention and Early Intervention
- Sexual Violence
- Safe and Together - Working with all Family Members
- Building a Supported, Resourced and Informed Workforce

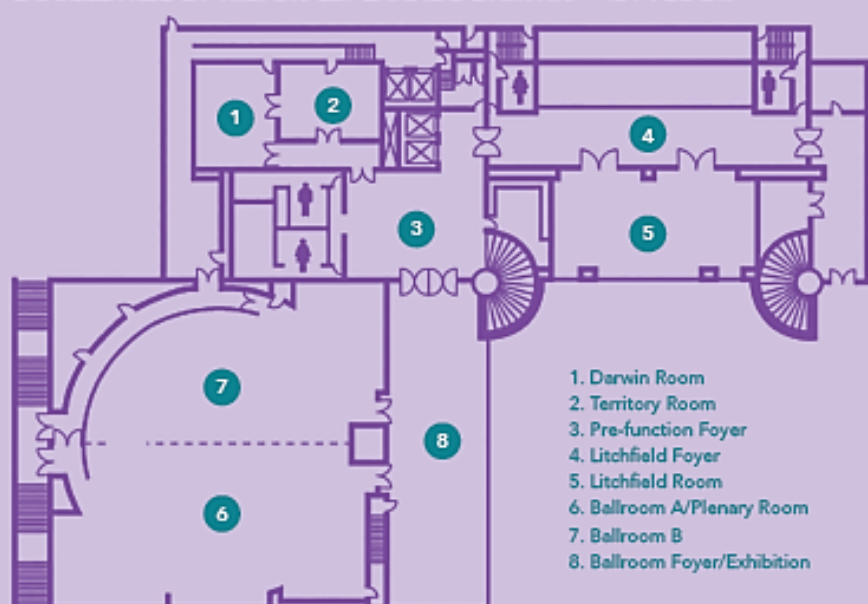
Our exciting line-up of keynote speakers includes:

- Bettina Danganbarr, Aboriginal Community Police Officer, NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services
- Antoinette Braybook, CEO, Djirra
- Josephine Lee, Manager, Trauma Informed Practices, NT Department of Education
- Dr Christina Fejo-King, Director, Reform Management Office, Territory Families
- Emeritus Professor Judy Atkinson, Patron of the We Al-i Trust
- Dr Dina McMillan, Commissioner, Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation

Our social event will be held at the Darwin Ski Club - 20 Conacher St, Fannie Bay - on Thursday, 9th May, from 6.30pm and includes fingerfood and non-alcoholic refreshments. Tickets are free but you will need to register – please see the registration table for more information.

We hope you can join us for the social event.

## DOUBLETREE BY HILTON ESPLANADE DARWIN – 1ST FLOOR



## RESOURCES

**1800RESPECT**  
1800 737 732  
1800respect.org.au  
24 hour national sexual assault, family and domestic violence counselling line.

**Aboriginal Family Violence Hotline**  
1800 019 123

**Mensline Australia**  
1300 78 9978  
mensline.org.au

**Lifeline**  
13 11 14

**Kids Helpline**  
1800 55 1800  
kidshelpline.com.au

**QLife**  
1800 184 527

**Sexual Assault Referral Centres**  
24/7 help for recent sexual assaults

- Darwin (08) 8922 6472
- Alice Springs (08) 8955 4500 (business hours) or 0401 114 181 (after hours)
- Katherine (08) 8973 8524
- Tennant Creek (08) 8962 4361

**NT Services**  
ntoass.org.au/directory  
nt.gov.au/law/crime/domestic-and-family-violence/womens-remote-community-safe-houses

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## DAY 1 – THURSDAY 9 MAY 2019

7:30-8:25	Registration		Ballroom Foyer
8:30-8:45	Welcome to Country	Bilawara Lee	
8:45-9:15	Opening address	The Hon Dale Wakefield MLA, Minister for Territory Families	
9:15-9:30	Welcome and introductions	MCs: Josephine Lee and Desmond Campbell	Ballroom
9:30-10:00	Keynote presentation: Incorporating our Yolngu Kinship System	Bettina Danganbarr, NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services	
10:00-10:20	Morning tea		Ballroom Foyer
10:25-11:25	Panel discussion Celebrating our Community of Practice and Supporting Our Workers: Perspectives from Across the Country	Jacqui Watt, No to Violence Jackie Burke, Jackie Burke Psychology & Consulting	Ballroom
11:25-11:55	Keynote presentation: Meaningful Change: An Aboriginal Humanist and Agent of Change Perspective	Josephine Lee, Trauma Informed Practice, NT Department of Education	
11:55-12:55	Lunch		Ballroom Foyer
13:00-13:30	Keynote presentation Sharing Stories, Finding Solutions: Family Violence Against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women	Antoinette Braybook, Chief Executive Officer, Djirra	
13:30-14:30	Panel Discussion: Men at the Table	Dr Jonathon Louth, University of South Australia Charlie King, NO MORE Campaign Desmond Campbell, NT Department of the Attorney-General and Justice	Ballroom
14:30-15:00	Presentation: Applying a feminist and intersectional framework to prevention and early intervention in migrant and refugee communities	Dr Adele Murdolo, Executive Director, Multicultural Centre for Women's Health	
15:00-15:20	Afternoon tea		Ballroom Foyer
<b>Afternoon breakout sessions</b>			
15:25-16:25	Session one	Panel discussion: Domestic and Family Violence - Emerging Justice Issues and Responses	Litchfield Room
	Session two	Panel discussion: Innovative Domestic and Family Violence Projects in the NT	Ballroom A
	Session three	Presentation: Valuing Change: Developing a Monitoring and Evaluation Plan for the NT Government's DFSV Reduction Framework	Ballroom B
	Session four	Workshop: Identifying and Managing Vicarious Trauma (NOTE: This workshop requires pre-booking)	Territory Room
16:25	Conference Day 1 close		
18:30 Start	Conference social event – Darwin Ski Club, 20 Conacher St, Fannie Bay – finger food & non-alcoholic refreshments		

DAY 2 – FRIDAY 10 MAY 2019			
07:30-08:15	Registration		Ballroom Foyer
08:30-08:45	Welcome, Recap of Day One		MCs: Josephine Lee & Desmond Campbell
08:45-09:45	Panel discussion: Staff Recruitment, Retention and Supports		Susan Crane, Dawn House Inc Anna Yffer, Women's Safety Services of Central Australia Jo Gamble, Katherine Women's Crisis Centre
09:45-10:15	Keynote presentation: When women show the way - domestic family and sexual violence - pathways to change		Emeritus Professor Judy Atkinson, Patron of the We Al-li Trust
10:20-10:45	Morning tea		Ballroom Foyer
Morning breakout sessions			
10:50-11:50	Session one	Panel Discussion: Managing Workers Affected by Family Violence and Sexual Violence - Good Practice in the NT	Ludo McFerran, University of Sydney Business School Rachael Uebergang, NT Working Women's Centre Leanne Melling, Sex Worker Outreach Project NT
	Session two	1. Presentation: Darwin Indigenous Family Violence Prevention and Healing Program (30 mins) 2. Presentation: Supported, Resourced and Informed Workers (30 mins)	Michael Torres, Darwin Indigenous Men's Service Inc. Jacqui Watt, No to Violence
	Session three	Panel Discussion: Sexual Violence - Barriers to Disclosure and How to Overcome Them	Christa Bartjen-Westermann, Sexual Assault Referral Centre Alice Springs Genevieve Dally, Sexual Assault Referral Centre Darwin Samantha Chung, Ruby Gaea Darwin Centre Against Sexual Violence Leni Shilton & Aileen Brady, NPY Women's Council Vanessa Lethlean, Top End Women's Legal Service
	Session four	Workshop: Trauma-informed approaches (NOTE: This workshop requires pre-booking)	Danielle Dyal, Aboriginal Medical Service Alliance Northern Territory
11:50-12:50	Lunch		Ballroom Foyer
12:55-13:25	Keynote presentation: Unmasking the Abuser		Dr Dina McMillan, McMillan Consulting Group
13:25-13:55	Keynote presentation: Taking off that cruddy old coat!		Dr Christine Fejo-King, Director, Reform Management Office, Territory Families
13:55-14:00	MC intro to workshops/breakout sessions after afternoon tea		
14:00-14:20	Afternoon tea		Ballroom Foyer
Afternoon breakout sessions			
14:25-15:25	Session one	Presentation: Intersection between child protection and domestic violence	Hayley Tuttle, Territory Families Joy Simpson, Territory Families Jo Gamble, Katherine Women's Crisis Centre
	Session two	Panel: Community education about domestic, family and sexual violence	Tully McIntyre, Women's Safety Services of Central Australia John Jablonka, Northern Territory Legal Aid Commission Shirleen Campbell, Tangentyere Women's Safety Group Daniel Alderman, Northern Territory AIDS & Hepatitis Council
	Session three	Presentation: Healing From Within - An Anangu Approach to Ending Violence **Women only session**	Leni Shilton, Domestic and Family Violence Service, NPY Women's Council Aileen Brady, NPY Women's Council
	Session four	Presentation: Differences Between Trauma and Complex Trauma (NOTE: This workshop requires pre-booking)	Jackie Burke, Jackie Burke Psychology & Consulting
15:30-16:15	Shaping the Future Together: Have Your Say – conference wrap up and plenary		
16:15	Conference close		

