



Women Up North



# ANNUAL 20 REPORT 23





## JINGI WALA TO THE WOMEN UP NORTH 2023 ANNUAL REPORT BY MEG CROYDON – FIRST NATIONS BOARD MEMBER

### Acknowledgement of country

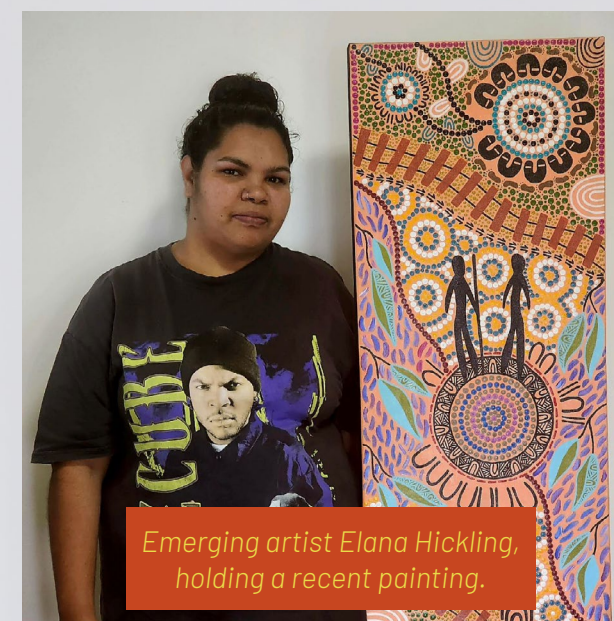
On behalf of all of us at Women Up North Bugalma Bihyn, I acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land and waters on which we live, work and play, the Widjabul people of the Bundjalung Nation. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and emerging, and extend our respects to those who we support in our community. Sovereignty was never ceded.

### Jingi Wala

The Widjabul people graciously allow Women Up North to live and work here in their country. In honour of the preservation of their culture and language I say Jingi Wala and welcome you to our 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Report on Widjabul land.

### Elana Hickling Widjabul artist

This year, we are excited and highly honoured to be able to introduce you to the works of Elana Hickling, a young emerging Widjabul artist. Her inspiring work is featured throughout this report. Thank you, Elana!



Emerging artist Elana Hickling,  
holding a recent painting.

### About Meg Croydon

My name is Meg and I am a proud Kuku Yalanji woman. I started at Women Up North on student placement in 2018. From there, I had the great experience of being a part of the team as both Case Manager and Intake and Assessment officer for Bugalma Bihyn. It's a privilege to utilise this experience to continue to contribute to the organisation in a meaningful way, on the Board at Women Up North Housing. I've always felt a great sense of community and belonging within this team full of women whose mission is to provide local and First Nations women the best chance at escaping violence and rebuilding their lives. What sets Women Up North apart in their mission is their commitment to working within a trauma-informed framework, their deep understanding of their community and their valuing of lived experience.

### Waymbul: Slowly Gently

I am preparing this report for you from the Kulin Nation in Melbourne, Victoria.

While working at Women Up North Housing, I began working with clay as a self-care method and to prevent burnout. I have practised and released ceramics under the name 'Waymbul', which means 'slowly gently' in Kuku Yalanji language. I chose the name as an intention, using language in the hopes to connect closer to my culture. I continued to practise and grow my art practice since leaving Women Up North Housing. I have had the pleasure to connect and collaborate with mob, family, communities and other First Nations contemporary artists. Last year was a big year for me as I immersed myself as a full-time artist. I was chosen as a finalist in the 2022 Indigenous Ceramic Award held by Shepparton Art Museum. I also worked on my first large-scale exhibition last year for Koskela, and put the intention to practice. This year I finished my Diploma of Fashion Design and am currently working on incorporating textiles into my art practice.



# A fresh start leaving violence behind...

## Vision

Women and children in the Northern Rivers thrive in safe homes and communities.

## Our Purpose

We work in and with our community to stop and reduce the impact of domestic and family violence through prevention, support, housing and advocacy. We believe in women and children, and work with them to create the life they hope for.

## Our Values



### RESPECT

We believe in the inherent worth of every person and actively show our respect by welcoming people where they are at, listening deeply, valuing their choices, and being inclusive and non-judgmental in everything we do.



### CARE AND COMPASSION

We care deeply for the people we work with, our colleagues and our community. We show this through the way we communicate, providing support and sharing with compassion.



### SOCIAL JUSTICE

We stand up for what is right and just. We believe fiercely in equity, and advocate to improve outcomes and a fairer share of access to resources for the people we work with, our community and our sector.



### DETERMINATION

We don't give up easily. We stay alongside people and our community in the interests of getting outcomes, change and development.



### COLLABORATION

We work well with others – we seek to have greater impact by working together.

## Who We Are

Women Up North is a Northern NSW service for women, children and young people who have experienced domestic, family or sexual violence. We are based in the Northern Rivers of NSW.

## Our Strategic Priorities

- » **Strategic Priority 1** Walking alongside First Nations communities to support women's and children's safety and wellbeing
- » **Strategic Priority 2** Securing the future of WUNH through a focus on sustainability
- » **Strategic Priority 3** Increasing access to safe, affordable housing for women and children in the Northern Rivers
- » **Strategic Priority 4** Supporting our community to eliminate violence against women and children

## How We Work

We work with a diverse group of women, children and young people in our communities, with culturally sensitive support delivered by Aboriginal staff for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

We partner with organisations, businesses and government to advocate for our clients in prevention, education and early intervention against domestic violence.

We develop housing support and positive life changes for women, children and young people at risk of experiencing domestic and family violence and homelessness.

## Our Strengths

We are client-centred and committed to evidence-based principles of person-centred clinical practice. We connect people, services and businesses to unite against domestic and family violence affecting women, children and young people.

We are a learning organisation, developing staff and client competencies, and educating our community.

# Chairperson's Report

On behalf of the Board, I wish to begin by acknowledging the people of the Bundjalung Nation, the traditional owners of the land on which we live and work.

We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future as they hold the memories, traditions, culture and hopes for Aboriginal Australia.

We will always remember that this land is, was and will always be Aboriginal land.

After the year which, for many, changed the world as we knew it, the global COVID-19 pandemic and, locally, due to the devastating Lismore floods, 2022-2023 was at last a year of consolidation.

With those events behind us, we refocused and redoubled our efforts, as the services provided by Women Up North continued to be in even greater demand.

We are again deeply grateful to the many organisations and individuals who continued to support WUN both in practical terms and through financial support.

Across Northern Rivers, the generosity, engagement and fundraising of numerous community partners, corporate donors and many individual donors enabled us to continue our important work.

Thank you especially to our Northern NSW Alliance partners, led by Momentum, for your ongoing support. The Board looks forward to continuing in this partnership in the coming years.

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## LOUISE LANCETT

*Chair of the Board,  
Women Up North*

Under the stewardship of our CEO, Jillian Knight-Smith, the WUN team has provided ongoing community outreach through our Women's Domestic Violence Programs at the same time as pursuing our strategic aims. As well as providing shelter and support services in our own Northern Rivers region, we are committed to playing our part in a state and national context.

While our priority is protecting and supporting women in our local area, through the services provided by our refuge, we also continue to work to raise national awareness of the critical issue of domestic and family violence experienced by women and their families in the Australian context.

During the year under review, our Board of six met six times, with meetings occurring in person and some members joining virtually, via Zoom.

Board Member Ella Noah Bancroft resigned from the Board due to family and work commitments. We thank Ella for her contribution to Women Up North over the years she was on the Board. Otherwise Board membership remains the same.

Thank you to Margaret Hughes, our extremely capable Treasurer, for continuing to manage our financial position.

Our warmest appreciation is also extended to Fiona Spencer who continues in two roles as secretary and our source of legal information.

We also express sincere thanks to Delilah Williams for the contribution of her considerable organisational skills, her consistency and dedication.



Meg Croydon, remains our Indigenous representative on the Board and, at the time of writing this report, we are hoping to soon welcome Kygim King as our second Indigenous Board Member as we pursue our aim to maintain a Board comprised of 50% First Nations representatives.

I am truly proud to say that Women Up North are recognised in our sector for excellence in service. It is a privilege to be the Chair of such a wonderful organisation.

Our WUN team comprises a talented, highly skilled and dedicated group of women where together our Board, CEO and staff, students and volunteers, share a common vision: to help our clients achieve a brighter future, free of family violence.



# CEO's Report

## Acknowledgement

On behalf of Women Up North (WUN) I want to thank First Nations Board Representative Meg Croydon for her acknowledgement of Country, and echo her acknowledgement of land, elders, and people, this precious, living land and waters that has been nourished and fostered over many centuries by the people of Bundjalung Nation.

Thank you to the wonderful and talented Widjabul woman Elana Hickling who has generously agreed to be our feature artist for this year's report.



## Reconciliation Action Plan

I am proud to announce that this year we began working with Reconciliation Australia and CEO of Lanigiroba, Widjabul woman Paula Coghill, to commence our official RAP (Reconciliation Action Plan) journey. This Reconciliation Action Plan starts with reflect, a time for deep listening and remembering, for honouring and bringing in the stories and learning that have been gifted to us by the First Nations Elders, women, young people, children, families and kin.

I extend my thanks to every person who has been involved in this Reconciliation Action Plan and all of you who will help to guide us on our continuing journey in the future.

## The Board

Women Up North is truly fortunate as to have a committed and capable Board.

On behalf of Women Up North membership, I want to say thank you to our Chair Louise, our First Nations representative Meg, our Treasurer Marg, our Secretary Fiona, our Board member Delilah Williams and our retiring First Nations member Ella Bancroft - for their work on this report and throughout the year.

## The Team

I am immensely proud to be a member of the Women Up North Team, an extraordinary dedicated, innovative and highly skilled team, committed to finding resources for women and families living with the short-term, long-term, and lifelong health impacts of domestic, family and sexual violence (DFSV), and the difficulties of a post - flood housing crisis.

**JILLIAN KNIGHT-SMITH**  
Chief Executive Officer,  
Women Up North

WUN distributed over \$215,000 in financial support to families through payment of rent, bonds and temporary housing, transport and vehicle expenses, personal essentials, health, education, and employment-related needs. We directly provided products and items such as food, back-to-school packs, essentials, and furniture.

## Domestic Family and Sexual Violence (DFSV)

Sadly, domestic abuse and sexual violence in Australia is increasing at a rate of 13%, with 2000 more cases over the last 3 years (ABS 29/01/2021). Sexual violence shows the greatest increase.

Research shows that First Nations women are 32 times more likely to be hospitalised and 11 times more likely to die from assault than non-First Nations women in Australia.

1 in 2 women living in Australia experience sexual harassment and 1 in 4 women experience domestic violence; 71% of DFSV victims were under 19 at the time the first incident occurred and 86% of these identified as female. People with a disability are 3 times more likely to experience DFSV and, like the elderly, have the added risk of abuse by carers.

We at WUN will continue to lobby for further reform in Australian domestic violence laws, and a continued deepening of measures to protect those at risk. We are pleased to announce that Women Up North and our partner Lismore Family Support Network received a new grant for workforce training in Northern NSW to support this community in its responses to sexual violence.

We commend our local, state, and federal government and sector DFSV advocates for the supportive measures already in place and note the work of individuals, not-for-profit advocates and public service teams that have instigated plans and laws to respond to DFSV. Special thanks to the team at DVNSW, Homelessness NSW, Janelle Saffin, Rose Jackson, Kevin Hogan and the Lismore and Kyogle councils for their support in our endeavours.

I would like to acknowledge each community member, young person, woman and child to whom our work is dedicated. It is a great honour to be part of the response for the brave women and their families dealing with the experience of

DFSV.

Women Up North is a collective of people committed to removing the barriers created by Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence. We are united in our belief that change can happen, and we are committed to be part of the motivation for this change. Many of our workers, volunteers and supporters have lived experience of the journey of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence.

2022 -23 has been a time of slow recovery for our community as we struggle with a housing crisis, economic challenges impacting our lives and building industry, and the devastating impact of the flood disaster in our region. Sadly, this has meant an increase in Domestic Family and Sexual Violence in our region and the undermining of women's and families' abilities and confidence to safely return and engage with the community.

Each individual has a different experience with trauma and the stages of recovery, and this is where you all come in. None of us can end violence alone. With our partner providers and the assistance of community and government, we are able to support the diverse experiences of people on their journey to recovery and healing.

Please join us at WUN in acknowledging the generosity and hard work of the staff of organisations we have partnered with to deliver services to community, and the benefactors, donors, corporate sponsors and community advocates that helped make it happen.

**32x** First Nations women are 32 times more likely to be hospitalised

**11x** First Nations women are 11 times more likely to die from assault

1 in 2 women living in Australia experience sexual harassment



1 in 4 women experience domestic violence



**71%** of DFSV victims were under 19 at the time

# NSW DFSV Statistics

- » It is estimated that each year in NSW, an average of more than **39,000** people aged 15 experience a physical assault from an intimate partner or family member. This is equivalent to **605.4** cases per **100,000** population.
- » In NSW, approximately **60%** of victims of physical DFV reported the most recent incident to police. Furthermore, the proportion of victims reporting physical DFV to police has not changed significantly over time.

## Intimate Partner Violence

- » In NSW, there are approximately **2,500** reports of domestic violence to the police every month but this likely represents only **40%** of actual incidents due to underreporting (NCOSS 2020).
- » According to a 2022 report by The National Homicide Monitoring Program, in 2019–20, there were **45** intimate partner homicides; **36** of these were female victims (**80%**). This averages to approximately one woman being killed by an intimate partner every 10 days (Plan 4 Women's Safety 2022).
- » In 2018, intimate partner violence contributed to **1.4%** of the total burden of disease and injury among Australian women (AIHW 2023).
- » Australian women are **nearly three times** more likely than men to experience violence from an intimate partner (ABS 2017).

## General Violence

- » **1 in 3** Australian women (**30.5%**) has experienced physical violence since the age of 15 (ABS 2017).
- » **1 in 5** Australian women (**18.4%**) has experienced sexual violence since the age of 15 (ABS 2017).

- » **1 in 3** Australian women (**34.2%**) has experienced physical and/or sexual violence perpetrated by a man since the age of 15 (ABS 2017).
- » Almost **one in 10** women (**9.4%**) have experienced violence by a stranger since the age of 15 (ABS 2017).

## Young Women

- » Young women (18–24 years) experience significantly higher rates of physical and sexual violence than women in older age groups (ABS 2017).
- » Prevalence of sexual violence against women was highest for women in the 18–24 year age group (5.9%), with prevalence decreasing as age increased (AIHW 2023).

## Disability

- » Women with disability are more likely to experience violence (ABS 2018).
- » Women with disability report higher rates of past sexual violence and intimate partner violence than their male counterparts (AIHW 2022).
- » **1 in 4 (25% or 748,000)** women with disability have experienced sexual violence after the age of 15, compared with **15% (or 978,000)** without disability (AIHW 2022).
- » **2 in 5 (40% or 1.2 million)** women with disability have experienced physical violence after the age of 15, compared with **26% (or 1.7 million)** without disability (AIHW 2022).

## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

- » **1 in 5** Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women aged 15 and over have experienced physical violence in a 12-month period (ABS 2016).
- » **Over one-third** of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women who have experienced physical violence in the year preceding 2014–15 identified an intimate partner as the perpetrator of their most recent experience of physical violence (ABS 2016).
- » In 2016–17, Indigenous females aged 15 and over were **34 times** as likely to be hospitalised for family violence as non-Indigenous females (AIHW 2019).
- » Spouses or domestic partner were most commonly reported as the perpetrators for hospitalisations for assault injuries of Indigenous females aged 15 and over (**62%, or 1,600 cases**) (AIHW 2019).

## LGBTQIA+

Although there are many similarities to experiences of domestic and family violence amongst heterosexual and cisgendered people, there are also important differences for LGBTQIA+ people; LGBTQIA+ people experience higher rates of discrimination, there are fewer specialised services to attend for support, and “outing” or threatening to “out” someone because of their gender or sexuality is a form of abuse which is common.

- » One study has found that lesbian, bisexual and heteroflexible women are at least **twice as likely** as heterosexual, cisgender women to experience physical violence by a partner (AIHW 2019).

## Culturally and Linguistically Diverse

- » There is a lack of comprehensive, population-wide data on prevalence and impacts of violence against women from migrant and refugee backgrounds. Specific studies suggest high prevalence rates and specific issues of complexity, such as partners using a woman's temporary migrant status as a means of violence (AIHW 2018).
- » It appears there were at least 387 women on temporary visas experiencing violence and accessing support services in Australia (National Advocacy Group on Women on Temporary Visas Experiencing Violence 2018).

## Pregnancy

- » Women who experience partner violence during pregnancy are 3 times as likely to experience depression (Brown et al. 2015).
- » Pregnant women assaulted by a partner are more likely to experience injury to their trunk than other women (Brown et al. 2015).
- » Violence during pregnancy can have health consequences for babies (Brown et al. 2015).
- » Women who experienced domestic violence during pregnancy were more likely to suffer depression, and other physical and psychological health problems, compared with women who did not experience violence (AIHW 2019).

## Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research

- » There were **33,410** incidents of domestic violence-related assault offences in NSW from January 2022 to December 2022 (BOCSAR 2023).
- » There were **7,764** incidents of sexual assault in NSW from January 2022 to December 2022 (BOCSAR 2023).



# Women Domestic Violence Programs Reports

## Bugalma Bihyn Women's and Childrens' Refuge

Rebecca Lehner (Manager for Bugalma Bihyn)

I acknowledge the Widjabul people's enduring connection to the Bundjalung nation and their ongoing sovereignty as First Nations people. I pay my respects to all First Nations Elders past, present, and emerging. I recognise the essential role that First Nations women play in ensuring the safety, wellbeing, and care of their children and kin, and acknowledge the leadership, guidance, wisdom, and intergenerational strength of all First Nations matriarchs as that which strengthens First Nations families and communities.

Bugalma Bihyn First Nations Women's and Childrens' Refuge has provided a safe haven for numerous First Nations women and their children who have been escaping violence over the last year. As the only First Nations-specific women's and childrens' refuge in the area, Bugalma Bihyn is an essential service that delivers trauma-informed support that is culturally safe and inclusive. The disproportionate rates of domestic and family violence experienced by First Nations women and children is a national crisis. Recent data has shown that First Nations women are 3 times more likely to experience sexual violence, 32 times more likely to be hospitalised from family violence, and 11 times more likely to die from a violent assault than non-First Nations women. Family violence is a significant factor in the rising incarceration rates of First Nations women, and the leading cause of the removal of First Nations children from their homes. It is

essential that First Nations women and children accessing support at Bugalma Bihyn are offered holistic case management that considers this data and minimises further impacts of violence. This often requires a multi-agency response, and Bugalma Bihyn staff value the relationships they have built with allies committed to reducing the impacts of violence on First Nations women and children.

Planning is still underway for a rebuild at the refuge and we are looking forward to offering a custom-designed, culturally safe and accessible facility in the near future. This has been a long-term initiative aimed at providing First Nations women and children escaping violence a safe, secure, comfortable, culturally responsive place in which they can heal. Bugalma Bihyn is committed to providing best-practice domestic and family violence support for First Nations women by First Nations women, and I am pleased to welcome Kamilaroi woman Mandy Eller to the team. As a Wiradjuri woman, I am aware of the mistrust First Nations women may have of mainstream support services due to structural violence, and the barrier this can create when accessing support. As a First Nations-specific domestic and family violence refuge, we understand and respect the needs and autonomy of First Nations women and children reaching out for support, lessening the barriers experienced by those who are often the most vulnerable.



## Women's Domestic Violence Support and Case Management/Outreach

Women Up North has consistently provided strengths-based, person-centred and trauma-informed support services and case management to a diverse range of clients in regional NSW. Many of our clients experience added social and economic barriers, because they are women and because they identify as First Nations, young mums, LGBTQIA+, women with a multicultural background and/or having mixed or different abilities.

We provide a range of personal and practical support services to women, young people and their children in Lismore, Nimbin, Casino, Ballina, Kyogle, Tweed and surrounds. We are a WDO (Work and Development Order) provider and can assist with the management of NSW fines. We provide and/or source financial supports and victim - support funding. We also provide advocacy and referral with government services and benefits; we are committed to mothers and children, and ensure they have access to advocacy in relation to child protection and legal matters. We advocate for women and families to access and maintain private, community and social housing.

It is an honour to walk alongside women and young people, resourcing them to achieve their goals and build safety and wellbeing for themselves and their children.

I am also very proud to be working with great teams and a service that is committed to excellence, continually improving its practice and embedding culturally safe, respectful, trauma-informed service delivery in all aspects and tiers of the organisation's services.

BY AMARA BARTLETT



## Transitional Housing

WUN has been supporting women and their children with specialist Domestic Family and Sexual Violence (DFS) supports services in transitional housing since 1987. We are a registered housing provider and work alongside other Social and Community Housing providers such as Momentum to source transitional housing. Over the last 2 years we have supported families in 22 transitional properties. Placement in transitional housing is a fantastic opportunity for our clients as it enables women/families to live safely, free of violence for 3 to 12 months in a supported rental environment with rent calculated at no more than 25% of a tenants income.

Transitional housing also addresses the impact of our regional rental - and flood - related housing crisis and assists families to commence dealing with debilitating financial challenges that are often part of DFSV.

Supported transitional housing results in a myriad of positive outcomes. Whilst in transitional housing, women and their families receive support that matches current and future needs. Some clients have never had the opportunity to manage their own home, and in these instances, we can provide information and support on how to manage and maintain a successful tenancy. Transitional housing is an important part of supporting women and families as it provides the opportunity to have a positive rental reference and access private rentals or long-term social and community housing.

BY AMARA BARTLETT





## Brokerage Report 2022/23

As the cost of living skyrockets and private rentals are increasing in costs, it is getting harder and harder to stay financially afloat, especially after experiencing domestic violence.

WUN spent 35% of the total brokerage allowance on starting or maintaining tenancies after domestic violence; 52% of that was for First Nations women and children. WUN is extremely proud to be able to support women to start again free from violence.

16% of WUN brokerage was spent on housing-related debts. This includes rental debt from when a partner leaves the property, and the sole occupant is left with the rent. We have used this brokerage as an immediate payment to be able to sustain the tenancy while the client can seek other alternative assistance such as Start Safely subsidies as provided by DCJ Housing.

Another 15% of the brokerage over 2022-2023 was used for temporary accommodation in motels after DFSV has occurred. We appreciate our relationships with the motel managers within Lismore and their support for our clients escaping DFSV.

Without the generous donations from community members and the hard-working fundraising team we have behind WUN, we would not be able to assist the women and children that we do. I believe the assistance WUN provides to the most vulnerable within our community is a great asset to Lismore and surrounding communities.

**BY BROOKE COTTEN**

## ASU News

We WON! 10 days, paid DV leave! The team at WUN has been behind the scenes working with the ASU on the 10 days, paid DV leave campaign for some time now. It was a great pleasure to see it come into law when the government passed this legislation for all workers across Australia as of February 2023.

**BY BROOKE COTTEN**

## Coles Alstonville

2022 saw the 7<sup>th</sup> year of WUN partnering with Coles in Alstonville to provide Christmas presents for our clients and their children.

Without the hard work of the staff of Coles and the generosity of the Community in Alstonville, Christmas would look a little bleaker. Their beautiful donations have made it a little easier for our clients at the busiest part of the year.

WUN looks forward to another successful Christmas appeal in collaboration with Coles Alstonville. We appreciate our partnership especially at this time of year.

**BY BROOKE COTTEN**



Artwork by Elana Hickling

## Safer Homes

Women Up North supports our clients to engage with and access the private rental market through our Safer Homes project. Women Up North funds this program by donations and small grants. Through this program, we aim to enhance engagement with real estate agencies so that women and families who have experienced domestic violence, can get 'a foot in the door' in the private rental market and start rebuilding their lives. These collaborations focus on building relationships and trust within the local real estate industry, thereby enhancing the applicant's capacity to access the private market through this rapport. The program allows property managers to have assurance that working with WUN (Women Up North) will be more likely to lead to positive tenancy experiences for all involved.

The Safer Homes program also provides help and resources for property managers in understanding and responding to domestic and family violence, and the opportunity for them and their landlords to be part of a community response to domestic and family violence with mitigated risk.

## Workshop in Plain English: Improving Communications With CALD Community.

Women Up North is proud to have been the auspice for this Northern Rivers Multicultural Forum series of workshops, designed to assist the community sector with:

- » learning more about who and where our CALD community members are
- » review of cultural awareness and sensitivity
- » simple spoken English tips for improving communications with CALD clients
- » simple written English tips for producing written English products aimed at the CALD community.

This project was funded by Multicultural NSW and delivered by Kristie Trudgett of TAFE NSW in partnership with the Northern NSW Local Health District, the Northern Rivers Multicultural Forum and Women Up North.

## Rent It Keep It

Our Rent It Keep It program provides legal and tenancy-related information, living skills, and/or support to women and families who, due to domestic and family violence and socio-economic disadvantage, have been unable to gather the proof, resources, information, and/or skills to maintain a tenancy. The program provides the participants with a certificate at the completion of the course that advises potential landlords that the certificate holder will be a 'good tenant' and understands their rights and responsibilities in accordance with an NSW tenancy agreement.

**BY BROOKE COTTEN**



## Love Bites

### KEANI BRYANT – RICHMOND LOVE BITES COMMITTEE COORDINATOR

Love Bites is a Respectful Relationships Education Program delivered to secondary school students across the Northern Rivers. Our team, in collaboration with other local support services, has delivered Love Bites to over 150 students in 2023.

Love Bites employs a primary prevention approach to relationship and sexual violence. The program aims to create a culture of consent within individual schools and society more broadly. A key focus is supporting young people to identify and safely respond to relationship red flags.

We have Jamali Bartlett on board to assist with program facilitation, social media management, and music production. This has included creation of a SoundCloud archive that showcases hip-hop songs written and performed by Love Bites participants.

#### LOVE BITES STUDENT QUOTES

“Watch for the signs, don’t let it be the norm, some relationships need to reform.” – *Kyogle High School*

“Silence inside of violence, silence can lead to sirens.” – *Nimbin Central School*

“Keep looking for the people around you, the people who see you, love you and ground you.” – *Woodenbong Central School*

“Choice is a right; silence is a choice. Show me safety and care, trust and love, can we leave it there?” – *Casino High School*



## Student Program

### KEANI BRYANT – FIELD EDUCATOR

Women Up North is a proud Learning Organisation where students are provided with a supportive environment for robust professional development. We work in partnership with the University Centre for Rural Health to host both undergraduate and postgraduate Social Work students.

Students are valued members of our team who, and offer fresh perspectives and innovative ideas. At Women Up North, students are exposed to the complex challenges of women experiencing DFSV and homelessness in regional areas. Students gain diverse case management skills with a focus on trauma-informed, client-centred, and evidence-based service provision.

## Find Love Bites on



# Domestic Violence Response Enhancement

Our Women Up North (WUN) Domestic Violence Response Enhancement (DVRE) program is funded by a regional subcontract with NSW Specialist Homelessness Services and charitable donations.

The WUN DVRE team consists of 4 specialist case workers who ensure a 24/7 response to women and children requesting support due to domestic and family violence and refuge emergencies. DVRE receives calls from current clients, the community, our regional DV and homelessness service partners, government and after-hours hotlines such as 1800-RESPECT and Link2home

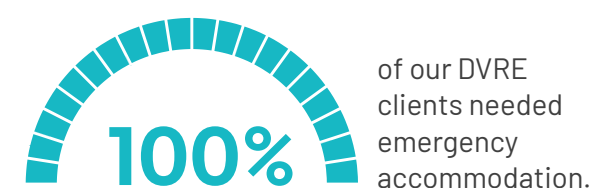
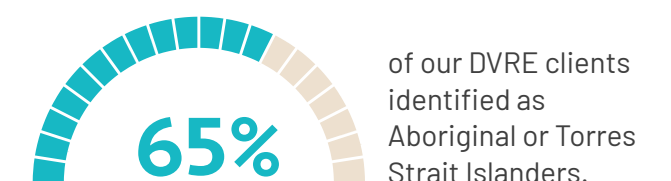
1800 152 152. The support includes emergency accommodation, transport, and other immediate needs such as food and personal care products.

Women, young people and children supported through the DVRE hotline are referred into our day programs for ongoing Domestic, Family Sexual Violence support, case management and/ or supported case coordination and referrals for legal and health matters.

### JENNY WARRINGTON

*Specialist Homelessness Service Domestic Violence Case Worker*

**In 2023, Women Up North supported 81 women and 45 children via DVRE**





## Sexual Violence Education Project Supporting the Northern NSW Workforce

Sadly, sexual violence is a growing issue in our community, with the most vulnerable group being young women. Women Up North, and our sector colleagues anecdotally report that clients often do not identify or report a sexual violence experience.

Due to this lack of understanding and disclosure of sexual violence, Women Up North and our partner, Lismore Family Support Network, applied for NSW Government funds to train our Northern NSW workforce. The project commenced in 2023 and will complete in 2025.

The project will fill knowledge gaps and foster a comprehensive understanding of the knowledge and competencies essential for practitioners and organisations to effectively deliver services aimed at preventing and responding to sexual violence against women and young people. By leveraging insights gained from various stakeholders, the project will develop a culturally safe training program that is firmly grounded in evidence and experience.

This project will complement our Love Bites and Emotional Self Defence Projects that support young people and community members.

## Empowering Self Defence (ESD)

Women Up North is preparing to host a trauma-informed violence-prevention program known as Empowering Self Defence (ESD). ESD complements one of our current programs, Love Bites, and will be delivered as a one-off session in 1 full day or 4 x 2-hour sessions.

- » ESD uses an embodied learning approach to teach a combination of emotional, mental, and physical skills for personal safety and wellbeing.
- » It is designed to help participants feel safer and more confident in navigating challenging situations anywhere along the violence and stress spectrums. For example, feeling empowered to say no to a friend asking a favour, or dealing with inappropriate behaviour in the workplace, right through to keeping yourself safe in a verbal or physical altercation.
- » ESD covers a range of topics and principles including consent, boundary setting, assertiveness, intuition, situational awareness, communication, de-escalation, risk assessment, safety planning, healthy relationships, self care, and stress management.

BY CRYSTAL WHITNEY

## Sexual Assault Statistics (Australian Bureau of Statistics 2023)

### MOST SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS

79% were female



68% were aged under 18 at the date of assault



83% knew the offender



### FOR SEXUAL ASSAULTS

61% occurred at a residential location



38% were DFSV related



# Tech Abuse is on the Rise

Technology-facilitated abuse in domestic violence is on the rise around the world, as increased reliance on digital devices and online platforms provides perpetrators with more opportunities to exploit technology to control and harm their victims.

Tech abuse is an extension of coercion and harassment, and has serious potential consequences for victims of domestic and family violence who need to be safe from their perpetrators.



## Messaging and Social Media

Perpetrators may use digital communication tools, such as text messages, emails, or social media, to send threatening or harassing messages. They might use these platforms to humiliate, degrade, or shame their victims publicly.

They may create fake social media profiles to impersonate the victim or spread false information.

## Mobile phones and GPS Tracking

Perpetrators may demand the PIN codes for mobile phones to scrutinise messages and email, and to enable GPS location-tracking features.

They may install spyware or other apps on the victim's phone or laptop to monitor and track the victim's online activities, location, and communications.

Tiny GPS tracking devices intended to attach to a keychain have been repurposed to track a victim's every move.

These devices are the size of a coin and can be easily hidden in a vehicle or a pram, a child's toy, or a handbag. Victims must be aware and vigilant of this danger.



## Online and Identity Fraud

Perpetrators may demand to be given access to online bank accounts in order to control the victim's finances or commit identity fraud.

They may use the victim's online shopping accounts for financial advantage or take out loans in the victim's name.

## Home Networks and IOT Devices

Home networks provide unique opportunities for perpetrators to gain or retain access to home devices like security cameras, baby monitors, and other, "Internet of Things (IOT)" devices that are in or outside the home.

Perpetrators may be able to control these devices remotely.

This could include popular home voice assistant devices: a perpetrator with the know-how can "drop-in", on these devices remotely and listen to the conversation in the room.

## Isolation and Gaslighting

Perpetrators may attempt to isolate their victims from friends and family by controlling their access to communication tools.

They might restrict or monitor their internet and phone usage, preventing them from seeking help or support.

Perpetrators may use technology to distort reality and manipulate their victim's perception of events.

They may edit or fabricate digital evidence, making the victim doubt their own memory and sanity.

## An Insidious Threat to Victims

Tech abuse enables perpetrators to exert control and intimidation in ways that are often difficult to detect, prove or stop.

Combating this threat requires awareness, education, legal measures and support systems to protect and empower victims.

## Resources

The eSafety Commissioner (eSafety) is an independent statutory office supported by the Australian Communications and Media Authority.

The eSafety website offers a wide range of information and support for women experiencing tech abuse that intersects with domestic violence:

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/key-issues/domestic-family-violence>

## Frontline Education

The need to stay informed and safe from tech abuse has never been more important; awareness, information and education are key.

eSafety delivers a free learning and development program to upskill frontline workers who support people experiencing technology-facilitated abuse.

The training aims to raise awareness about technology-facilitated abuse, build knowledge and skills to support clients experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, domestic and family violence, and to help service providers develop or improve their own online safety policy.

# Domestic Violence and the Law



Domestic and family violence (DFV) is a crime that takes many forms. DFV is defined in the Crimes (Domestic and Personal Violence) Act 2007. It is a crime that often goes unreported to police.

DFV involves an abuse of power, mainly perpetrated by men in an intimate partner relationship or after separating from the relationship. It extends beyond physical violence and may involve the exploitation of power imbalances and patterns of abuse.

Some examples of domestic and family violence crimes are:

- » Physical assault (punching, hitting, kicking, pushing, throwing things at a person)
- » Stalking
- » Unwanted sex or sexual acts
- » Breaking ADVOs (Apprehended Domestic Violence Orders, sometimes called AVOs or restraining orders)
- » Making some type of threat.

Police will respond to all reports of domestic and family violence. Officers are committed to using all lawful means to police this crime, including:

- » Removing offenders from the victim-survivor's location (victim-survivor safety is a priority)
- » Taking out an Apprehended Domestic Violence Order (ADVO) on behalf of the victim (with or without their consent) and any children living or spending time with the victim
- » Investigating breaches of ADVOs
- » Developing solutions to managing repeat offenders

Each fortnight, area commands and court advocacy services throughout NSW convene a meeting of key government and non-government organisational representatives to discuss serious and repeated domestic violence matters. These meetings are called Safety Action Meetings (SAMs). The SAMs build the capability of service providers and law enforcement to have a coordinated response to the safety needs of those at risk of domestic violence; Women Up North is one of the organisations that attends these meetings in the Richmond Area Command.

*(Source: Dept Communities and Justice NSW 2023)*

## Coercive Control in 2024

Coercive control is when someone uses abusive behaviours towards an intimate partner to coerce or control them. Economic abuse is a type of coercive control where someone may try to control or limit your access to money or your ability to make money, or builds up debts in your name. The abuser could be your partner, family member, carer or friend.

From July 2024, coercive control will be a criminal offence in NSW.

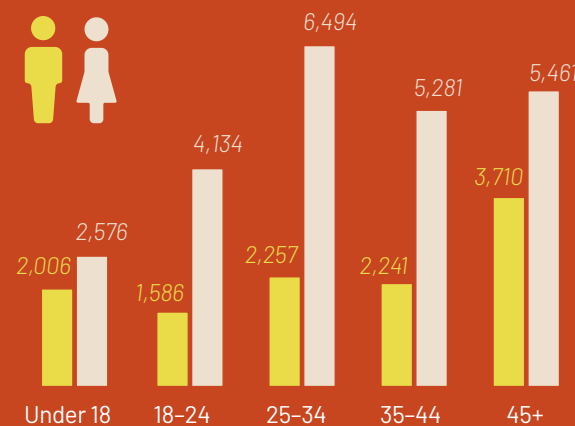


# DV in NSW 2022 Stats

## Victims of Domestic Violence Assault

In the 12 months to December 2022 there were **35,990** victims of DV assault recorded by police

- » **13%** were children/young people
- » **87%** were adults
- » **Persons 25-34 account for 28% of adult victims**
- » **56%** of child victims were female
- » **69%** of adult victims were female



\*Excludes 244 victims with missing age or gender

## Relationship between offender and victim of DV assault

Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) accounts for over half of DV assault victims at **55%**

Family violence accounts for over one third of DV assault victims at **35%**



**55%**

IPV

Current and ex-spouse/partner, current and ex-boy/girl friend



**35%**

FAMILY

Child, parent, sibling, other family member



**9%**

OTHER

Carer, housemate, persons in authority, other (e.g. ex-partner of partner)

## My Student Placement by Erica Susanna

My name is Erica. I am proud to say that I completed my Master's in Social Work during my placement at WUNH.

During my placement I learned about how the abuse of power can affect people who experience domestic or family violence. When a person is threatened in their environment or relationships, they will experience and engage in threat responses such as helplessness, compromise, fear, anxiety, and loss of personal power.

At WUNH, we work to return the power back to the person experiencing DFSV using a person-centred approach: we deeply listen, providing the space for the person to tell their story, share their aspirations, rebuild an independent life, regain their control and safety, and make their own decisions. We walk alongside each person, supporting them to claim their strengths and identify resources available to meet their needs and remove some of the barriers they are experiencing. It might be through family or emotional support, financial and housing advocacy, legal or counselling referrals, brokerage, or refuge. We collaborate to build a response that, step by step, supports women to regain control over their lives and values their unique journey to self-determination.

It has been an honour for me to work with the women and young people and children who have shared their stories with me, and to be part of a caring and effective team. Special thanks to my supervisor Keani Bryant for her support and leadership throughout my placement.

## Lola's Story - Donations Make a Difference

The women and children we support are impacted by domestic, family and sexual violence (DFSV), trauma and health challenges, as well as safety issues and financial barriers. Families are forced to couch surf due to the grave impact of homelessness, full refuges, and lack of temporary accommodation. Support to Women Up North does make a difference: see the good-news story below.

Lola (not her real name) has a family of 5. When we met Lola, she and her family were experiencing family violence. They were reliant on Lola's violent spouse for housing and income, and were living in fear. The family was also impacted by flooding. Women Up North was able to link Lola and her family with safe temporary accommodation, and support her in her search for housing and to engage with Legal Aid services, court support services, and adult, child and family health and education services. Lola found a rental and WUN supported her to secure it. The family now lives free of the risk of family violence, has an independent and secure income, and has applied for and received victim support services.

Moving and living in temporary accommodation is expensive. Refuges are shared living spaces in which all the families are impacted by trauma. Temporary accommodation such as motels have no cooking facilities, removalists fees can be unaffordable, and storage in our regions is very hard to find.

Lola worked hard to keep her family safe, but needed the resources that Women Up North was able to share and support to link her into. Lola and her family are now engaged in work and study and school. Financial support received by Women Up North from community donations was passed onto Lola and gave her and family the resources and tools they needed to be safe and thrive. Thank you.





# SHS 2022 Client Satisfaction Survey

Report for Women Up North Housing Inc

Prepared by Community Housing Industry Association NSW (CHIA NSW) JULY 2022

## Introduction

This report provides the findings of the independent client satisfaction survey for Women Up North Housing Inc. The survey was conducted by the Community Housing Industry Association NSW (CHIA NSW) on behalf of the Homelessness Industry Partnership, a partnership between Domestic Violence NSW, foundations and Homelessness NSW. The aims of this survey are to:

- » establish levels of wellbeing of service users and their experiences
- » benchmark the results for each service provider
- » inform future service delivery improvements.

In total, 36 services took part in the study. This headline report presents the results for Women Up North Housing Inc, including comparisons to the average result (benchmark) for participating services.

The questionnaire contained the following sections:

1. Service experience
2. Current situation
3. Impact of service
4. About you (user profile)



## Benchmarking

The table below compares the scores received for Women Up North Housing Inc to the client aggregated dataset for the key indicators.

	This Organisation	Benchmark	Difference
Connection with others improved	100%	55%	+45%
Connection with the community improved	91%	60%	+31%
Confidence in dealing with changes improved	100%	73%	+27%
Financial situation improved	82%	55%	+27%
Security of accommodation into the future	82%	62%	+20%
Staff explained how to make a complaint against this organisation	100%	81%	+19%
Emotional state improved	100%	81%	+19%
Privacy in my current accommodation	91%	74%	+17%
Cost of my current accommodation	91%	74%	+17%
Educational opportunities improved	55%	38%	+17%
Your employment opportunities improved	55%	41%	+14%
Staff referred me to other services to support my other needs	100%	87%	+13%
I have participated in setting my case plan goals	100%	89%	+11%
Staff told me about my accommodation options	100%	89%	+11%
Safety of my current accommodation	91%	80%	+11%
Staff sensitive to ethnic and cultural background	100%	90%	+10%
Overall satisfaction with services provided	100%	91%	+9%
Satisfaction with current accommodation	82%	74%	+8%
Staff understood my needs	100%	95%	+5%
Staff have made me feel accepted for who I am	100%	96%	+4%
Staff treated me with respect	100%	97%	+3%

## Top and Bottom Performing Areas

We have identified the top three scoring items for Women Up North Housing Inc, and alongside them the items with the lowest scores.



- **Staff treated me with respect (100% Positive)**
- **Staff sensitive to ethnic and cultural background (100% Positive)**
- **Staff have made me feel accepted for who I am (100% Positive)**



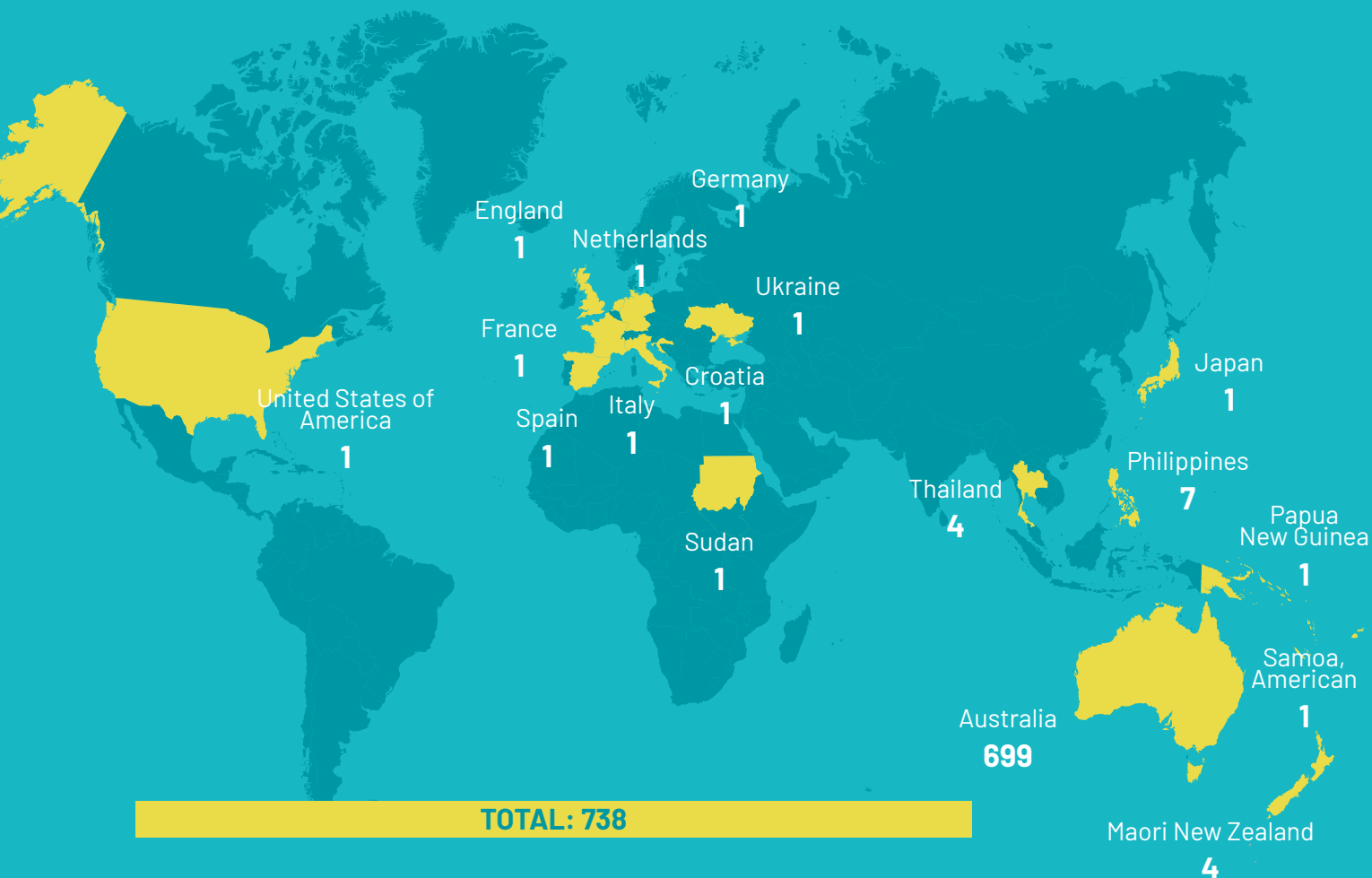
- **Educational opportunities improved (55% Positive)**
- **Your employment opportunities improved (55% Positive)**
- **Satisfaction with current accommodation (82% Positive)**



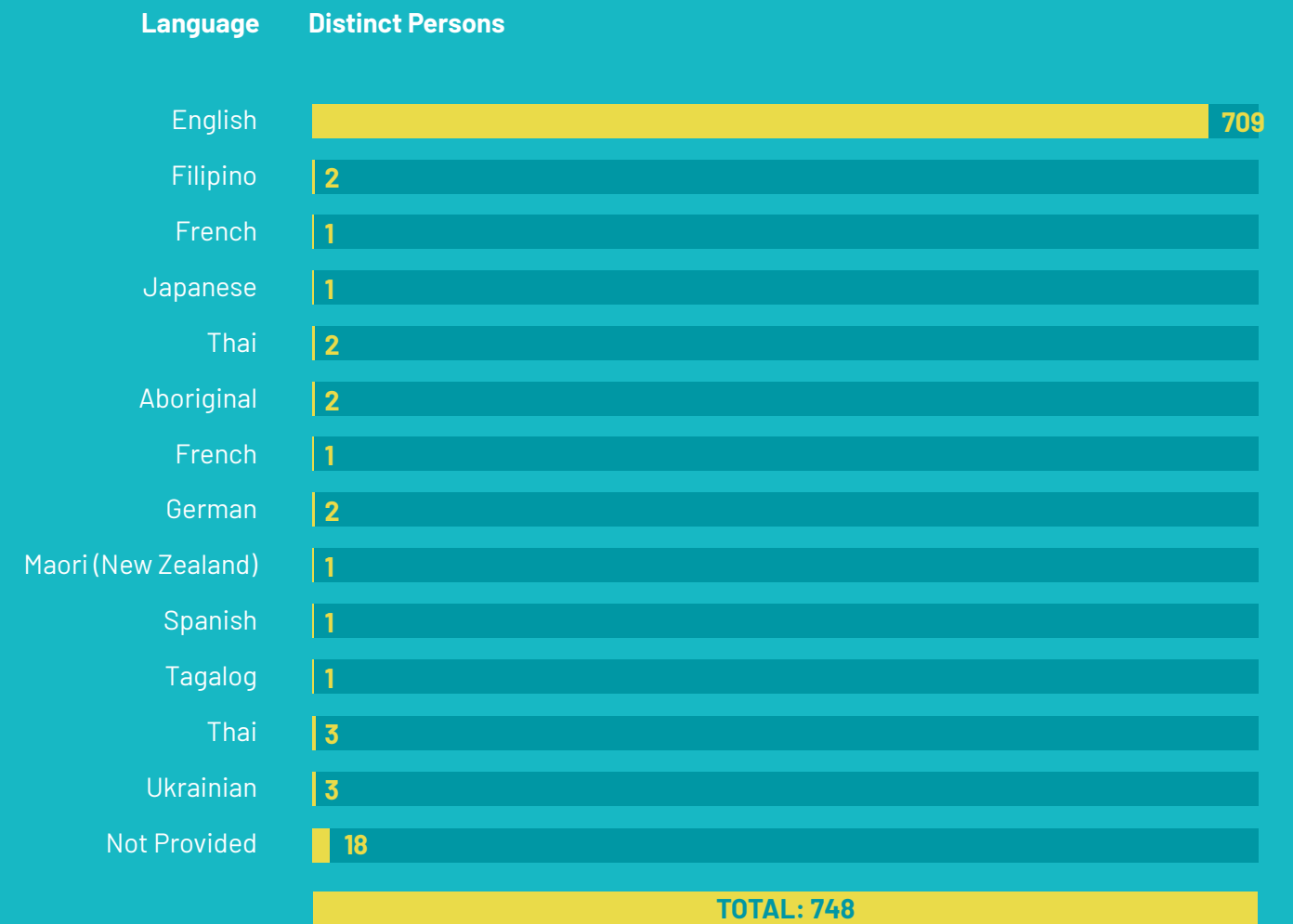
# Summary: Demographic Report for Women's Housing Scheme

Women Up North period 01/07/2022 to 30/06/2022

## Country of Birth by Distinct Persons and Contact Details



## Language spoken at home



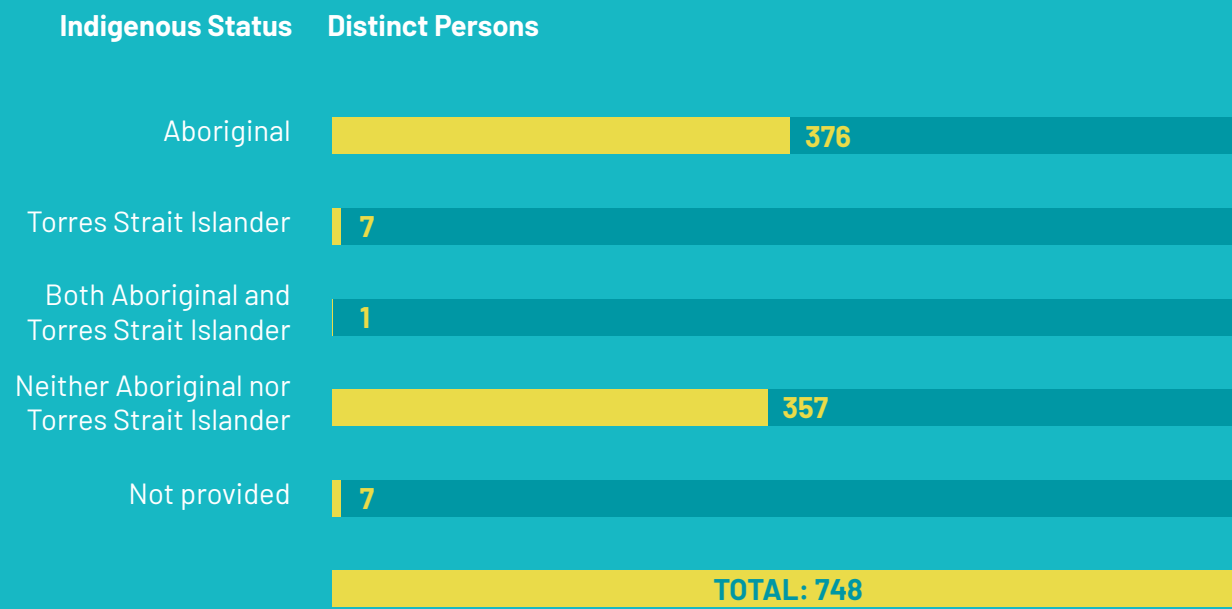
## Gender by Distinct Persons and Contact Details



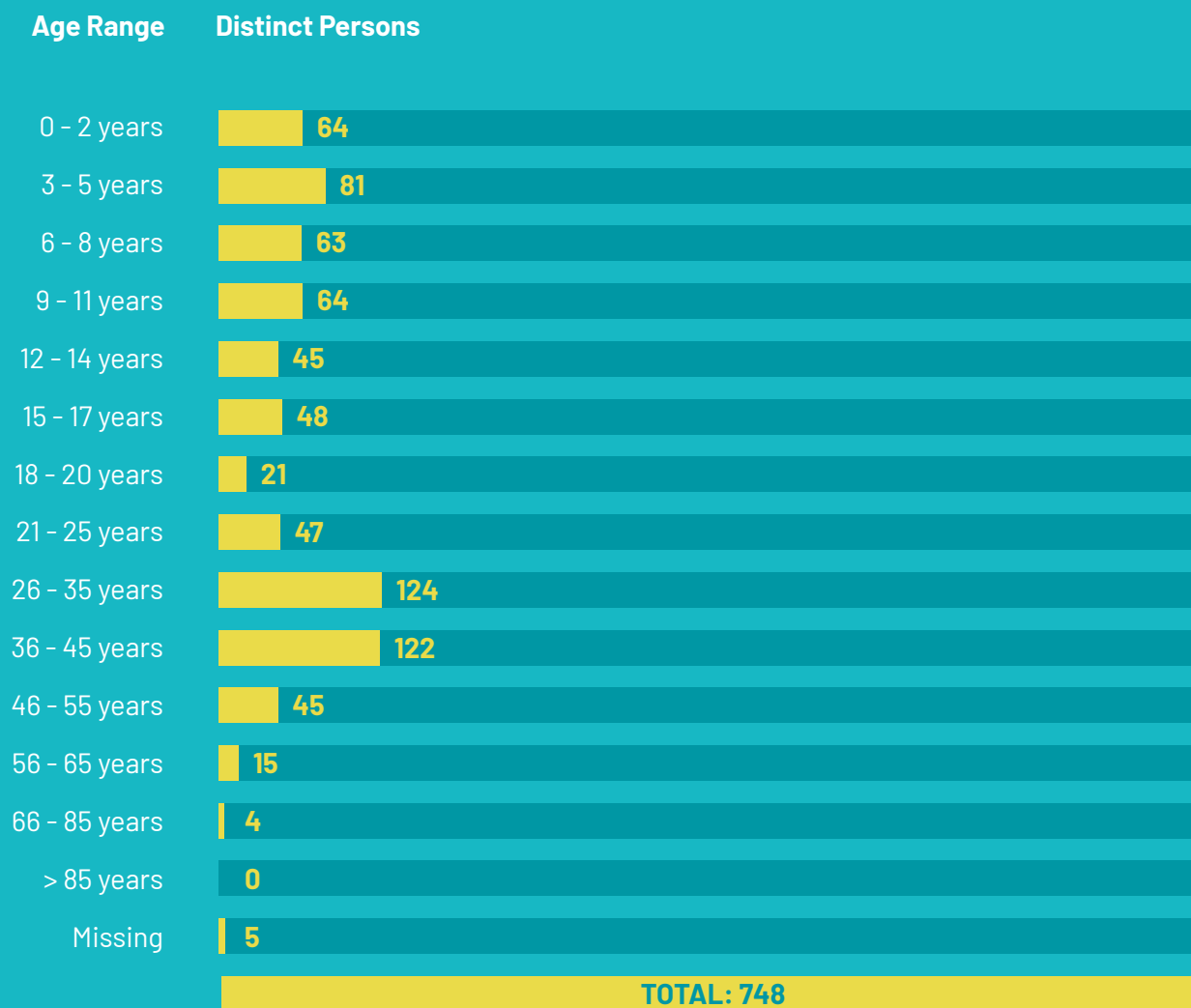
Total distinct persons having recorded contact with Women's Housing Scheme – Women Up North	748
Total recorded contacts made by Women's Housing Scheme – Women Up North	23,855
Total payments made by Women's Housing Scheme – Women Up North to these persons	\$215,355.47



## Indigenous Status by Distinct Persons and Contact Details



## Age Range by Distinct Persons and Contact Details



# Treasurer's Report



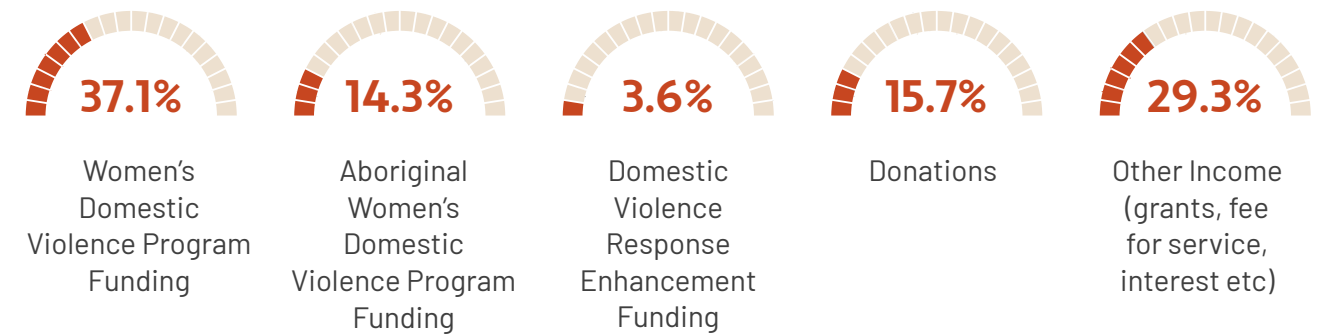
by Margaret Hughes

As evidenced by this year's financial statements, Women up North is in a stable and healthy financial position to continue offering vital support services to women, children and young people who have experienced domestic and family violence or abuse. Community demand for our services continues to outstrip government funding and we have worked hard to diversify

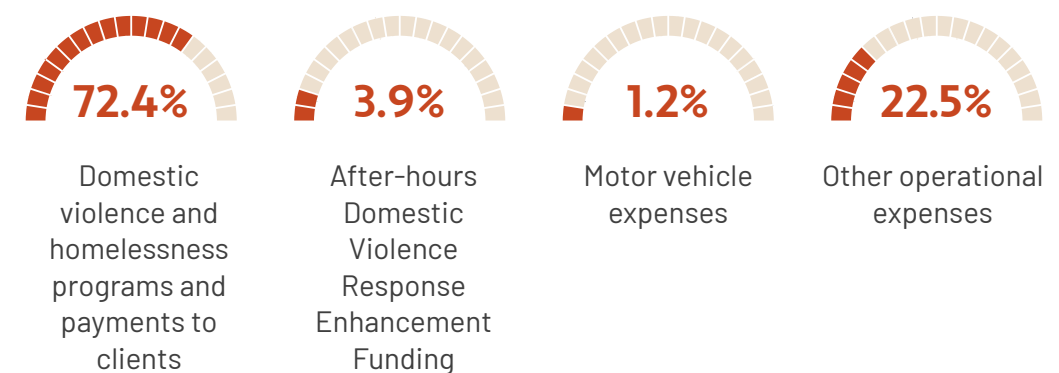
our income streams to ensure our ongoing financial viability and capacity to meet this increasing demand. We greatly appreciate the support of individual donors and philanthropic organisations who help to fund this important work. If you would like to learn more about Women Up North and make a contribution, please visit [www.wunh.org.au](http://www.wunh.org.au)

## Financials Infographics 2022-23

### INCOME



### EXPENSES



## Letter from Auditor



### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WOMEN UP NORTH HOUSING INC

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Women Up North Housing Incorporated (the Entity), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and managements' assertion statement.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Entity as at 30 June 2023, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009* (NSW) and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

#### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, which has been given to the directors of the Company, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Women Up North Housing Incorporated to meet the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009* (NSW) and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

#### REGISTERED COMPANY AUDITORS

GJ Smith  
BBus, LLB, CA, DipFP

SI Trustum  
BBus, CA, DipFP

TL Kirkland  
BBus, CA

#### SMSF AUDITORS

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SI Trustum  
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MJ Gahan  
BBus, CA, DipFP

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More than just Numbers



### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WOMEN UP NORTH HOUSING INC

#### Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009* (NSW) and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Entity's financial reporting process.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: <http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

WCA audit & assurance services pty ltd  
Authorised Audit Company

T. Kirkland

Tania L Kirkland  
Director

DATE: 22 August 2023

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#### REGISTERED COMPANY AUDITORS

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## Financial Statements

### Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Revenue	3	<b>1,326,600</b>	1,477,769
Employee expenses		<b>(639,804)</b>	(586,449)
Other expenses	4	<b>(582,482)</b>	(432,168)
<b>Profit before income tax</b>		<b>104,313</b>	459,154
Income tax expense		—	—
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>		<b>104,313</b>	459,154

### Statement of Changes in Equity

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

2023	Note	Retained Earnings \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2022		<b>961,955</b>	<b>961,955</b>
Profit for the year		<b>104,313</b>	<b>104,313</b>
Balance at 30 June 2023		<b>1,066,268</b>	<b>1,066,268</b>
2022	Note	Retained Earnings \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2021		502,801	502,801
Profit for the year		459,154	459,154
Balance at 30 June 2022		961,955	961,955

### Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	<b>3,222,594</b>	1,664,402
Trade and other receivables	6	—	21,592
Other assets	8	<b>4,126</b>	4,126
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>3,226,720</b>	1,690,120
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	7	—	4,894
Right-of-use assets	9	—	1,748
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		—	6,642
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>3,226,720</b>	1,696,762
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	10	<b>149,430</b>	19,952
Lease liability	9	—	1,961
Employee benefits	12	<b>88,369</b>	76,882
Contract liabilities	11	<b>1,908,054</b>	625,010
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>2,145,853</b>	723,805
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Employee benefits	12	<b>14,600</b>	11,003
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>14,599</b>	11,002
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>2,160,452</b>	734,807
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>1,066,268</b>	961,955
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained earnings		<b>1,066,268</b>	961,955
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>1,066,268</b>	961,955

# Donors and Partners

Your generous donation helps us provide many enriching, rewarding and supportive programs and groups to support women and their families.

## Major Donors

Challenger Ltd  
Wales Family Trust

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Elizabeth Mildwater	Kyogle Ladies Golfers	Richard King



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Haneke Manoharan  
Helen Bernays  
Irene Xiu  
Janice Garlick  
Jaquie and Neville Jones  
Jaye Huxley  
Jamie Villalon  
Jessica Kearney  
Jill Clarke  
Jo-anne Jorgensen  
Jamine Knight-Smith  
Julia Petricevic  
Julie McKenna  
J Nulty

Tom Loh  
Tanya Stone  
Thea Lang  
Zoe Swainston  
The Shine Family sisters  
The Walker Family  
Tracey Dankers  
Trenton Baillie  
Ulf Steinvorh  
William Benjamin

## Small Businesses and Corporate Donors

Anita O'Meara -Curves  
Jamison  
David Brown  
Mullumbinby Architect  
Banksia Boutique  
Elizabeth Stewart and the Paperwork Department  
Challenger Ltd  
Coles Alstonville  
Christmas campaign  
Coles Goonellabah  
CONVATEC  
Endemolshine Australia  
Goonellabah Family  
Chiropractic  
Lismore City Council  
Frigidair Lismore  
Feergus John Macbeth Manning (t/a Feergus Manning Projects )  
Fred Cole Specialty Pianos  
Simon Mumford and The Lismore App  
The Echo  
The Northern Rivers Times  
Paul Murphy Advice Plus  
SEQ Advice  
Wentworth Brown  
The Eleanor Group  
Alphinity  
Bilyana Cottage  
Lismore City News  
Balloon Aloft Byron Bay (Hot Air Balloon Rides & Experiences  
Beyond Byron E Bikes  
Jylie Jackson and Lightn Up Inc  
Songsberry  
Temple of the Sun

## Community Groups Foundations Charities and Trusts

My Cause  
Good2Give  
Alice Miyagawa  
ShrineRiver  
Soundscapes  
Allanah Madeline Foundation  
Australian Equity Trust  
Baptist charity shop  
Bluestocking  
BYRON TANGO fundraiser  
Pay Pal Giving Fund  
Catholic Education Office Lismore  
CWA  
Kyogle Lady Golfers  
NRCF  
Maggie Dent  
SAE college media and sound  
Paul Ramsay Foundation  
Australian Equity Trust  
All the artists and crew at the Women Like Us event  
Australian Community Foundation  
Dangerous Females  
Worn For Good  
The Food Pantry  
Wyrallah Rd  
Uniting Church  
Rize Up  
ZONTA

NSW Dept Community and Justice  
Northern NSW SHS Alliance  
Momentum  
NCOSS  
Everybody's Home  
Get Up  
NRCG  
Boolangle Land Council  
Lanigrobia Aboriginal Healing organisation  
Northenr NSW Health, Housing and Community Services  
Allied Health / Universtiy Centre  
Rural Health  
Rekindling the Spirit  
North Coast Area Health Services  
Langrobia  
Multicultural NSW  
Northern Rivers Community Housing Company  
Kyogle Council  
Lismore Council  
Multicultural NSW  
Department of Communities and Justice  
Resilience Northern NSW  
Health Northern NSW  
Gurehlgam Corp Ltd  
Northern NSW Domestic and Family Violence Forum  
Multultural Forum  
Northern NSW  
The Yeh Family Bequest  
The Paul Ramsay Foundation  
LGBTQI Forum  
Northern NSW  
ACON  
Resilience NSW  
Kyogle Council  
Lismore Council  
DV NSW, Homelessness NSW  
DV Collective  
1800 Respect  
Link2home  
Koori Mail  
NORWACS  
YWCA  
Heart 2 Heart meals

## Community Partners

WDVCAS  
Kyogle Family Support Services NSW  
Multicultural NSW  
Kyogle Family Support  
Lismore Family Support Network  
Services NSW  
Men and Family Centre  
DEWR  
DV NSW  
Homelessness NSW  
Susanne Lohmann  
Melbourne University  
Northern Rivers  
Secondary Schools  
TAFE Northern NSW  
Allied Health / Universtiy Centre  
Rural Health



