

# Domestic and Family Violence and Acquired Brain Injury PROJECT REPORT LAUNCH

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July

Doors Open 10:10am, Event Time: 10:30am – 12pm

Venue: PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC)

Level 15 | One International Towers | Watermans Quay  
Barangaroo, Sydney NSW 2000



You are invited to the launch of a Domestic and Family Violence and Acquired Brain Injury Project Report.

This project has been initiated and led by Sightlines the Professional Services division of Domestic Violence Service Management (DVSM), and explored through a 'practice up' approach. The Project Report is designed to be informing, practical and lend to local adaptations.

Whilst the project has been undertaken in Western Sydney, the learning and resources developed have potential relevance and usefulness across districts, states and territories.

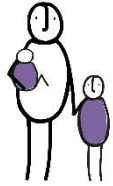
Attendees at the launch will:

- ✓ receive a print copy of the Project Report
- ✓ hear from seven organisations about their focus and plans to improve awareness and responses
- ✓ have the opportunity to connect with others across disciplines and contexts, sharing ideas for further progress.

DVSM would like to thank all the individuals and organisations who generously contributed their time, experience and ideas to create this shared resource for the benefit and progress of many.



**People facing the intersection of  
Domestic and Family Violence & Acquired Brain Injury  
need the network of response systems to align cohesively.**



**In an effort to make progress toward greater alignment;**

- **A large number of individuals contributed to the content and ideas in this project report**
- **A small group of organisations have worked together to support the project launch, to share their progress and commitments and to be contactable.**

What have these organisations been working on and what work relating to this intersection have they planned over the next 12-18 months?

Women's Domestic Violence Court  
Advocacy Service (WDVCAS)

Women's Health NSW (WHNSW)

Brain Injury Australia (Peak)

No to Violence (NTV) (Peak)

NSW Health - Education Centre  
Against Violence (ECAV)

Domestic Violence NSW (Peak)

Domestic Violence Service  
Management (DVSM) Sightlines

What has your organisation been working on and what work relating to this intersection are you seeking to achieve in next 12-18 months?

Other Organisations

**Women's  
Domestic  
Violence Court  
Advocacy  
Service NSW  
(WDVCAS)  
(Peak)**

**Renata Field**  
Director



**Women's Domestic Violence**  
Court Advocacy Service NSW Inc

WDVCAS NSW Inc is the peak, state-wide body representing the 29 Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Services (WDVCAS) services across New South Wales, who support women and their children who are experiencing domestic and family violence.

Our vision is for a just community, where women and children live a life free from violence. We support better outcomes for women and children by identifying and advocating on domestic and family violence issues within social, political and legal contexts.

Our activities include advocacy, support for our members, policy development, lobbying, representation at government forums, information dissemination and media consultation. We operate from a human rights and feminist perspective to support better outcomes for women and children experiencing domestic and family violence.

[www.wdvcasnsw.org.au](http://www.wdvcasnsw.org.au)

WDVCAS services support more than 43,000 women per year and have numerous clients daily across NSW who are affected.

We actively distribute research and training resources amongst our 200 members on strangulation and ABI to ensure that women who have experienced DFV at risk of ABI are offered high quality support and referral.

### **DFV/ABI Project Report Launch**

WDVCAS services can provide tangible support for clients impacted by DFV across NSW. Following a police incident, WDVCAS services contact all women who are victims of DFV to offer follow up advice, information and referral. This can be a key moment to identify risk of ABI and offer appropriate referrals.

WDVCAS NSW are actively lobbying the NSW Attorney General and Justice Department for changes to the strangulation legislation in NSW to offer more women legislative protection.

We will distribute the DFV/ABI report to all of our members and to all 400 attendees of our 2018 Conference on August 2nd 2018.

**Women's  
Domestic  
Violence Court  
Advocacy  
Service  
(WDVCAS)  
(Peak)**



**Women's Domestic Violence**  
Court Advocacy Service NSW Inc

**Women's  
Health NSW  
(WHNSW)**



Women's Health NSW is the peak body for and with the 20 non-government community based Women's Health Centres in New South Wales.

Our strategic priority is to be proactive on priority issues relevant to women's health through:

Advocating for improved health and wellbeing outcomes for women; Networking and research; Reorientation of the health system;

Increasing the capacity of the women's health sector to respond to women's health and wellbeing promoting:

Good Governance; Training and development; Women's health priority issues.

The work of the NGO women's health centres in violence prevention and service provision are an essential part of the NSW primary integrated health care system.

From advocacy for improved policy and practice to safety planning, medical services, specialist trauma counselling and therapeutic resilience work, legal and financial information, court support, grief and loss counselling, parenting skills and case management to name a few current services.

The Women's Health Centres are a vital partner to enhance health, safety and well-being outcomes for women who have experienced violence.

[www.whnsw.asn.au](http://www.whnsw.asn.au)

**Denele Crozier**  
Chief Executive Officer



Think tank with eight NGO Women's Health Centres NSW (rural and city) regarding publication content with particular focus on learning tools.

### **DFV/ABI Project Report Launch**

Briefing the Women's Health State-wide Network of 26 professionals (NSW Government LHD and NGO Health Peaks).

Circulate publications to the Australian Women's Health Network of 66 professionals/107 members (all States and Territories).

Circulate publications to Women's Health State-wide Network NSW of 290 professionals/20 member organisations.

Circulate publications and organise briefing and discussion with the community NGO Women's Health Centres NSW August 2018 Forum of 20 delegates.

**Brain Injury  
Australia  
(Peak)**

**Nick Rushworth**  
Executive Officer



Brain Injury Australia (BIA) is the central clearinghouse of information and gateway to nationwide referral for optimising the social and economic participation of the over 700,000 Australians living with an acquired [brain injury](#) (ABI) – any damage to the brain that occurs after birth. BIA was formed at the first national community-based conference on ABI in 1986.

**Brain Injury Australia**

- advocates for government program allocations and policies that reflect the needs and priorities of all people with an ABI, regardless of age or external cause;
- drives multi-year public awareness campaigns devoted to: family violence and traumatic brain injury; the leading cause of death and disability in children who have been abused - inflicted traumatic brain injury (sometimes called “shaken baby syndrome”); people with a brain injury in the criminal justice system (as many as 80 per cent of Australia's adult prisoners report brain injury), concussion in sport and the leading cause of head injury, falls - due to ageing populations;
- facilitates a national “community of practice” in brain injury for the National Disability Insurance Agency - regular meetings of Local Area Coordinators and Agency planners with senior Agency staff, a Clinical Lead and allied health representation; and
- delivers learning and development events and activities, including an annual conference and national Brain Injury Awareness Week.

[www.braininjuryaustralia.org.au](http://www.braininjuryaustralia.org.au)





Brain Injury Awareness Week 2015 – family violence and brain injury

Completed Australia's first research into family violence and brain injury, for the Victorian Government

**DFV/ABI Project Report Launch**

Brain Injury Awareness Week 2018 – inflicted brain injury in children

Family violence and brain injury research project, with the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Service and Forensic Medical Unit of Westmead Hospital, to commence 2019



**No to Violence  
(NTV)  
(Peak)**

**Lizette Twisleton**  
NSW Sector Development  
Coordinator  
No to Violence / Men's  
Referral Service

No to Violence is the largest peak body in Australia representing organisations and individuals working with men to end family violence. We also provide telephone counselling, information and referrals for men in Victoria, New South Wales and Tasmania. As we've supported callers for over 25 years, we're qualified to work with men who use family violence.

We provide resources and opportunities for service providers to enhance their capacity to successfully engage with men who use violence and to work with men to prevent further violence. We offer training and professional development for the men's family violence workforce, Graduate Certificate in Client Assessment and Case Management (Male Family Violence). We also deliver training and professional development to a range of stakeholders within the integrated family violence service system and primary prevention networks across Australia.

Over 25 years we've provided assistance, information, counselling, and referrals to additional services, helping over 150,000 men get the support they need and improving outcomes for families.

As the peak body for working with men in Victoria and New South Wales, we'll continue to provide the necessary assistance and advocacy to put an end to family violence across Australia for good.

[www.ntv.org.au](http://www.ntv.org.au)

Victorian Royal Commission into family violence hands down recommendation (171) for the Victorian government to fund research into the prevalence of acquired brain injury among family violence victims and perpetrators.

Brain Injury Australia lead the prevalence research and partner with No to Violence, Domestic Violence Victoria, and the Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare. The research is completed in five months and the report is launched in Melbourne on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

### DFV/ABI Project Report Launch

Promote DFV/ABI Project Report to our 150 professional member organisations and throughout our networks via our member portal, e-news, and social media platforms.

Write a position statement on the intersection of DFV and ABI with special consideration paid to perpetrators of DFV.

Incorporate our learning from the BIA prevalence research and the DFV and ABI research to run a practice forum to support our members who work with perpetrators of DFV.

Partner with other services (e.g. health, justice, disability) in order to conceptualise alternative referral pathways and service models to those currently available.

No to Violence  
(NTV)  
(Peak)



**NSW Health -  
Education  
Centre Against  
Violence  
(ECAV)**

**Jo Campbell**  
Director, ECAV

The NSW Health - Education Centre Against Violence (ECAV) is based in the grounds of Cumberland Hospital in North Parramatta. The Centre is a state-wide unit responsible for workforce development and training programs in the specialised areas of adult and child sexual assault, domestic and Aboriginal family violence and physical and emotional abuse and neglect of children.

ECAV provides the mandated training for NSW Health senior health clinicians, specialist child protection, sexual assault and Aboriginal family health workers, as well as targeted training to mental health and drug and alcohol workers. Courses are provided in metropolitan, rural and remote areas across the state. ECAV provides face to face and online training, learning and resource development services, clinical and policy consultation, mentoring and supervision, and community development programs.

ECAV is also highly regarded for the provision of these services to other government agencies and non-government organisations (NGOs). The Centre is in demand for training in the complex areas of Aboriginal cultural competency, children under ten with problematic sexualised or sexually harmful behaviours, sibling sexual abuse, same sex domestic violence, abuse of older people, Aboriginal family violence and domestic violence routine screening.

ECAV are committed to a diverse and inclusive workforce that is safe and comfortable for all people including the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer & intersex (LGBTQI) community.

[www.ecav.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.ecav.health.nsw.gov.au)

## DFV/ABI Project Report Launch

Integrate DFV/ABI project resources into ECAV's NSW Health Specialist Violence, Abuse and Neglect Workforce Development Strategy  
(Workforce size: 250)

Integrate DFV/ABI project resources into ECAV's NSW Health Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Workforce Development Strategy  
(Workforce size: 150)

Integrate DFV/ABI project resources into ECAV's NSW Health Aboriginal Family Wellbeing and Violence Prevention Network Workforce Development Strategy  
(Workforce size: 30)

Profile DFV/ABI project resources into ECAV's Qualifications, Professional Development Forums, Courses and Online Resources  
(Supporting 300 Professionals per year)

NSW Health -  
Education  
Centre Against  
Violence  
(ECAV)



**Domestic  
Violence NSW  
(Peak)**

**Moo Baulch**  
Chief Executive Officer

**D O M E S T I C  
V I O L E N C E  
N S W**

Domestic Violence NSW is the peak, statewide representative body for a diverse range of specialist domestic and family violence services in New South Wales. Operating from a feminist, social justice perspective we work to improve the spectrum of policy, legislative and program responses to domestic and family violence (DFV) and to eliminate DFV through leadership in advocacy, partnerships and the promotion of good practice.

Our work includes:

- Research, policy development, advice to government and services and practitioners
- Support for the development and implementation of primary prevention and early intervention work and integrated responses that prioritise safety and wellbeing and hold perpetrators to account
- Advocacy and representation
- Training and education
- Support for the development of good practice
- Information dissemination to our members
- Awareness raising in communities.

Sector capacity building, consultation and coordination to support better service delivery and well-functioning community organisations.

DVNSW works in partnership with government and non-government organisations. We sit on a number of state and federal government advisory groups to provide advice on policy and legislation. We also co-convene the [NSW Women's Alliance](#) with Rape and Domestic Violence Services Australia.

[www.dvnsw.org.au](http://www.dvnsw.org.au)

Work with project partners to create connections and awareness of the issues relating to DFV and ABI in our health and medical college networks.



D O M E S T I C  
V I O L E N C E  
N S W

Distribute DFV/ABI report and resources to DVNSW members electronically and through our website post launch (250+)

## DFV/ABI Project Report Launch

Send hard copies of the report to all DVNSW member organisations with our annual report (70+)

Work with DVSM to deliver a presentation to the SHS DFV community of practice.

Commit to include issues relating to DFV and ABI in national and NSW media.

Distribute findings and resources nationally through our networks.

**Domestic  
Violence  
Service  
Management  
(DVSM)**



DVSM delivers services to support people experiencing Domestic and Family Violence and/or homelessness in urban, suburban, and remote rural contexts.

*MOMO - Inner City Sydney, NSW*

MOMO provides mobile outreach support to women with or without children in the inner city of Sydney, who are escaping/experiencing DFV and/or homeless or at risk of homelessness.

*ROAR - Western Sydney – Hills and Blacktown*

ROAR provides crisis refuge accommodation for women with children escaping Domestic and Family Violence. The service also delivers mobile outreach support for people who are escaping/experiencing DFV, and/or homeless, or at risk of homelessness.

*DVAHS - Five Local Government Areas in Western Sydney*

Domestic Violence After Hours Service (DVAHS) provides an after hours response for women, and women with accompanying children in Western Sydney who are experiencing or escaping DFV.

*WILCANNIA SAFE HOUSE - Remote Rural NSW*

Wilcannia Safe House (WSH) provides crisis refuge accommodation for women with or without children who are escaping/experiencing DFV. The service also delivers mobile outreach support for people who are escaping/experiencing DFV, and/or homeless, or at risk of homelessness.

[www.dvnswsm.org.au](http://www.dvnswsm.org.au)

**Suzan Delavere**  
Service Manager

- Moving Out Moving On (MOMO)
- Refuge Outreach Action Response (ROAR)
- Domestic Violence After Hours Service (DVAHS)



[DFV/ABI Reflections Paper](#) – Exploring questions, reading and analysing, sharing reflections.

DFV/ABI Project – undertaken by Client Pathways Lead in Sightlines Professional Services. Focused in Western Sydney.

Bringing other organisations and peaks into the project report and report launch.

Domestic  
Violence  
Service  
Management  
(DVSM)



### **DFV/ABI Project Report Launch**

Host DFV/ABI Project Report and Resources online – free and accessible to all interested organisations.

Develop ‘fit for purpose’ resources for Specialist Homelessness Service Context and After Hours Response (share online as developed).

Develop practice across four service models and strengthen stakeholder relationships with local related services.



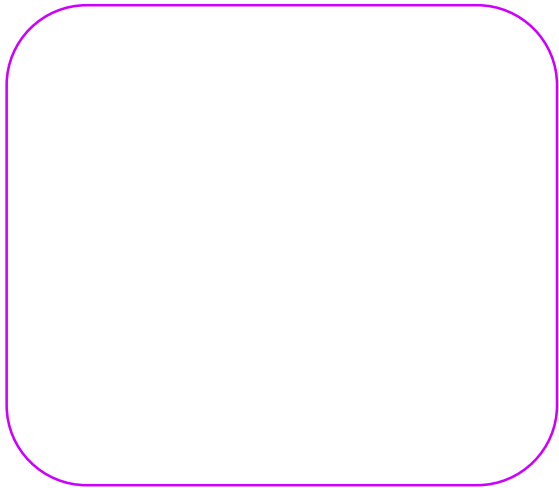
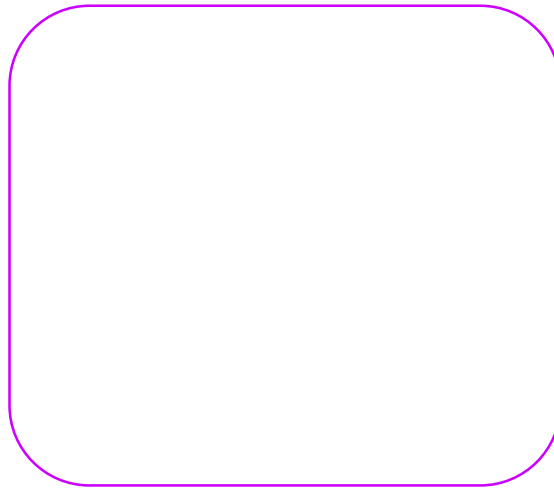
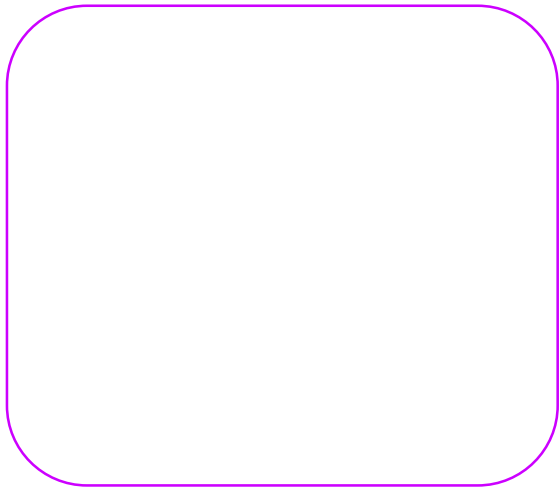
**What stood out for you today? Something new or something significant?**

**Who is alongside you that you didn't know about? Build some new contacts.**

**Moving ahead, what action can you take?**

**After today's launch, who else can engage into the work?**

**Participants at  
DFV/ABI  
Project  
Report Launch**



# Domestic and Family Violence and Acquired Brain Injury

To bring sustained focus to this intersection a small number of organisations have supported the release of the DFV/ABI Project Report to increase the likelihood of it being distributed and taken up more broadly across contexts, districts and states/territories.

## Organisations supporting the project launch and progress on the intersection include:

*Note: This group does not reflect every organisation who already does and can play an important role in driving change.*

ENGAGING IN THE PROJECT REPORT	
Download the project report Download the project resources/maps I want to make adapted maps	Self-Service – Live FREE copies of full project report and related resources
FURTHER DEVELOPMENT	
Training - Specific Specialist ECAV Training I want to engage in one of the opportunities I have a new opportunity I am initiating I want to undertake research I want to volunteer, sponsor or donate	Contact the most relevant organisation listed to pursue your questions or support

Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service (WDVCAS)

[www.wdvcasnsw.org.au](http://www.wdvcasnsw.org.au)

Women's Health NSW (WHNSW)

[www.whnsw.asn.au](http://www.whnsw.asn.au)

Brain Injury Australia (Peak)

[www.braininjuryaustralia.org.au](http://www.braininjuryaustralia.org.au)

No to Violence (NTV) (Peak)

[www.ntv.org.au](http://www.ntv.org.au)

Education Centre Against Violence (ECAV)

[www.ecav.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.ecav.health.nsw.gov.au)

Domestic Violence NSW (Peak)

[www.dvnsw.org.au](http://www.dvnsw.org.au)

Domestic Violence Service Management

[www.dvnsdsm.org.au](http://www.dvnsdsm.org.au)