



Domestic Violence
Prevention Centre

*working to bring about lasting solutions to the harm caused
by domestic and family violence*



The System still matters

ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

Dedicated to Kelly Wilkinson and
Lourdi Ramadan who continue to
ask all of us the best questions,
and who remind us how important
this work is.

We see you.

We hear you.

We remember you.

Always.



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About DVPC

Our vision

EVERYONE IS SAFE TO LIVE WITH JUSTICE,
FREEDOM AND HOPE IN THEIR
FAMILY, COMMUNITY AND COUNTRY.

Our mission

ADVOCATE RELENTLESSLY TO ACHIEVE CHANGE.

COLLABORATE TO IMPROVE SAFETY AND TO BUILD AND
SHARE KNOWLEDGE.

INNOVATE BY LISTENING TO THOSE MOST IMPACTED BY
DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE AND FINDING THE
SOLUTIONS THAT CREATE A RADICAL AND POSITIVE
CHANGE IN THEIR LIVES.

Our strategic priorities

A POSITIVE CULTURE & SKILLED, SUSTAINABLE
WORKFORCE

SERVICE DELIVERY THAT IS INFORMED AND GUIDED BY
OUR CLIENT'S EXPECTATIONS, WANTS AND NEEDS

A SUSTAINABLE & SCALABLE ORGANISATION BASED ON
SOUND GOVERNANCE & DECISION MAKING

STRONG PARTNERSHIPS

DVPC Board 2021-22

Chairperson - Ms Melissa Donnelly



Melissa is Chief of Staff at global tech company, FIN-PAY, and also spearheads the business' communications and brand strategy. Prior to joining FIN-PAY in 2021, Melissa owned and operated Affinity Communications for more than 10 years serving small and mid-market companies and not-for-profits. Her role was to support those organisations navigate significant changes in their industries and markets, both in Australia and internationally. Melissa has delivered strategic communications and brand outcomes for more than 30 years to multi-national brands, government bodies, financial services and tech companies, as well as not-for-profit organisations.

She is widely acknowledged as a leading strategist and innovator in building highly valuable brands and high performing, engaged teams. Melissa's focus is on spearheading transformations in the approach to, and implementation of, communications, brand and marketing in dynamic, rapidly changing environments.

She joined the DVPC Board in November 2018 and has held the roles of Treasurer in 2020 and deputy Chair in 2021.

Vice Chair - Ms Marie Cone



Marie Cone is a Project Director for Halcyon (creators and managers of over 50's lifestyle communities) where she has been responsible for overseeing the delivery of projects in the Gold Coast and Brisbane. In this role, Marie has played a lead role in the delivery of sales, construction, community management and budgets of circa 100 million.

Marie has also held roles as Group Sales Manager and Resales Manager. Marie was also the lead in creating Bellas Sanctuary - purpose-built transitional accommodation for Domestic Violence victims and their children. This project was a joint venture between Halcyon /Mirvac and DV connect.

Marie has been recognised for her contributions in leadership and communities via the following awards:

2017: Runner up in Qld & Frasers Property, Women in leadership award for excellence

2019: Gold Coast business Women's Award: Category creating change (for Bellas Sanctuary)

2020: Top 100 Women in business and construction: Award for community excellence and contribution

2020: QLD Domestic and Family Violence honour role

Marie has been a member of the Qld State Government's Corporate Round table since 2020.

Secretary - Mr John Gorman



John is the co-founder of Door 3 Consulting, a Gold Coast-based business improvement consultancy that applies a holistic, systems-based approach to solving complex business problems.

John has over 35 years' experience across the domains of information systems, management, strategic planning, business analysis and business systems improvement. He has worked for a range of State and local government organisations and in the private sector.

John holds a Master of Management degree (Leadership) and a Bachelor of Business degree (Commercial Computing). John is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (MAICD), and he has been a member of the DVPC Board since 2013.

Treasurer - Dr Robyn Cameron



Dr Robyn Cameron is an Academic in the Department of Accounting, Finance and Economics (AFE) at Griffith University. Robyn's academic qualifications include a Bachelor of Business with First Class Honours and a PhD in Accounting from Griffith University,.

Her research interests span Financial Accounting, Financial Planning and Accounting Education and has supervised 2 PhD completions. She has published in various national and international journals including Australian Accounting Review, Accounting Education, Journal of Business Ethics Education, Journal of Accounting & Organizational Change, Jassa the Finsia Journal of Applied Finance and Journal of Sport Management.

Robyn has taught in both undergraduate and postgraduate courses and has a number of years' experience in teaching and leadership roles, including five years as the Program Director of the Bachelor of Commerce program. Her current leadership roles include AFE Director of Engagement and the Accounting Discipline Advisor. Prior to joining Academia Robyn held accounting positions in the Finance Industry for eighteen years.

Robyn has been widely recognised for her demonstrated community leadership with the following awards:

-NBCF Community Ambassador

-NBCF Patron's Award

-2020 Community Award presented by Ms Angie Bell MP - Federal Member for Moncrieff

-2019 SBAA International Women's Day Awards Winner-Leadership in the Community Service Sector

-2018 Commonwealth Games Queen's Baton Bearer

-2018 CPA Australia QLD President's Award for Community Contribution

-2016 Gold Coast Women in Business Award Winner 2016-Community Dedication

-2014 CPA Australia QLD President's Award for Excellence in Academia

Non -Executive Member - Ms Tanya Atwell



Tanya is the Director of the Bond University Faculty of Law GDLP Program which is an approved professional legal training (PLT) program required for law graduates who wish to qualify for admission as practising lawyers in Australia.

She holds a current practising certificate and has been a Solicitor for over thirty years practising predominantly in the areas of commercial litigation and wills and estate practice.

Tanya has worked with many not-for-profit organisations in the past as both a Solicitor and also as a volunteer committee member. She is an accredited Mental Health First Aider and is also an accredited mediator (NMAS). Tanya joined the DVPC Board in 2021.



Retiring Board Members

Ms Jan Hardwick



Appointed Chair 2019. Appointed Vice Chair 2018. Appointed Director 2015.

Jan Hardwick has worked in leadership positions over the past 25 years for various private and not-for-profit organisations and brought to the Board her extensive skills and capabilities across human resources, work health and safety, and injury and wellbeing management.

Jan provided a steady hand and guided the organisation through many challenges with aplomb, wisdom and grace. Her positivity, humour and passion will be missed.

Ms Rowena Backler



Rowena is a proud Minyumgbal descendant on her mothers side and Ngiyampaa descendant on her father side. Rowena has worked on the Gold Coast for over 10 years in the family support/child protection sector.

Rowena has been a long-time colleague of DVPC and advising and supporting better practice in networking with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children that have experienced domestic violence and ensuring that women get support to empower themselves and their families.

Rowena is one of the longest-serving Board members and commenced her tenure in 2012. Throughout her time on the Board she has been a source of optimism, cultural knowledge and common sense. We will miss her infectious laughter and big heartedness.



CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am delighted to welcome you all to our AGM and am pleased to introduce our annual report for 2020 - 2021. While the focus of an AGM is to celebrate successes over the last year, it is also important to acknowledge both our most pressing challenges and our top priorities moving forward.

During the course of the year, we moved to our new offices, finalised and implemented our 2021-2024 Strategic Plan, and we have completed the Financial Management Improvement Process (FMIP).


Our theme for this years' AGM is "The System Matters". It is a sad fact that victims of domestic and family violence still report that they feel unsafe and let down by a system that is supposed to protect them. Our policing and legal systems continue to struggle to cope with increasing domestic violence complaints, poor information sharing practices, and a backlog of family law matters. These factors remain among the biggest challenges for women seeking help and the biggest challenge for DVPC in providing safety and support to women and their children. In August 2020, DVPC was provided with much-needed funding to embed specialist workers inside police stations under a pilot program. The DVPC Court Advocacy Program (CAP) continues to provide invaluable support for women navigating the DFV Court System in Southport and Coolangatta Courts. Combined with our many other programs, I trust that this may support DVPC's vision that:

"Everyone is safe to live with justice, freedom, and hope in their family, community, and country".

On behalf of the Board, may I also express our gratitude and thanks to our members, partners, funding bodies, and individuals who have generously contributed to DVPC throughout this year, for without you, we would not be able to do this work. I also need to acknowledge the contribution of my fellow Board Directors who volunteer their time and energy to DVPC and welcome Tanya Atwill as our newest addition to the Board of Directors.

After almost six years of service on the Board including three as Board Chair, it is with a heavy heart that I will step down now. However, I am handing over to you Melissa Donnelly, who will do an excellent job carrying forward our plan for the future and supporting our CEO, Rosie O'Malley, and her amazing Team. I have loved my time on the Board and I am proud to have had the experience of working with an exceptional team of dedicated, brave, and relentless professionals, all of you who bring DVPC's vision, mission, and values to life in everything you do. You demonstrate what we say we will do. You work with our partners; evaluate our programs for continual improvement, and at all times you make decisions that center on the safety of women and their children. I thank you.

Yours sincerely


Jan Hardwick
BOARD CHAIRPERSON

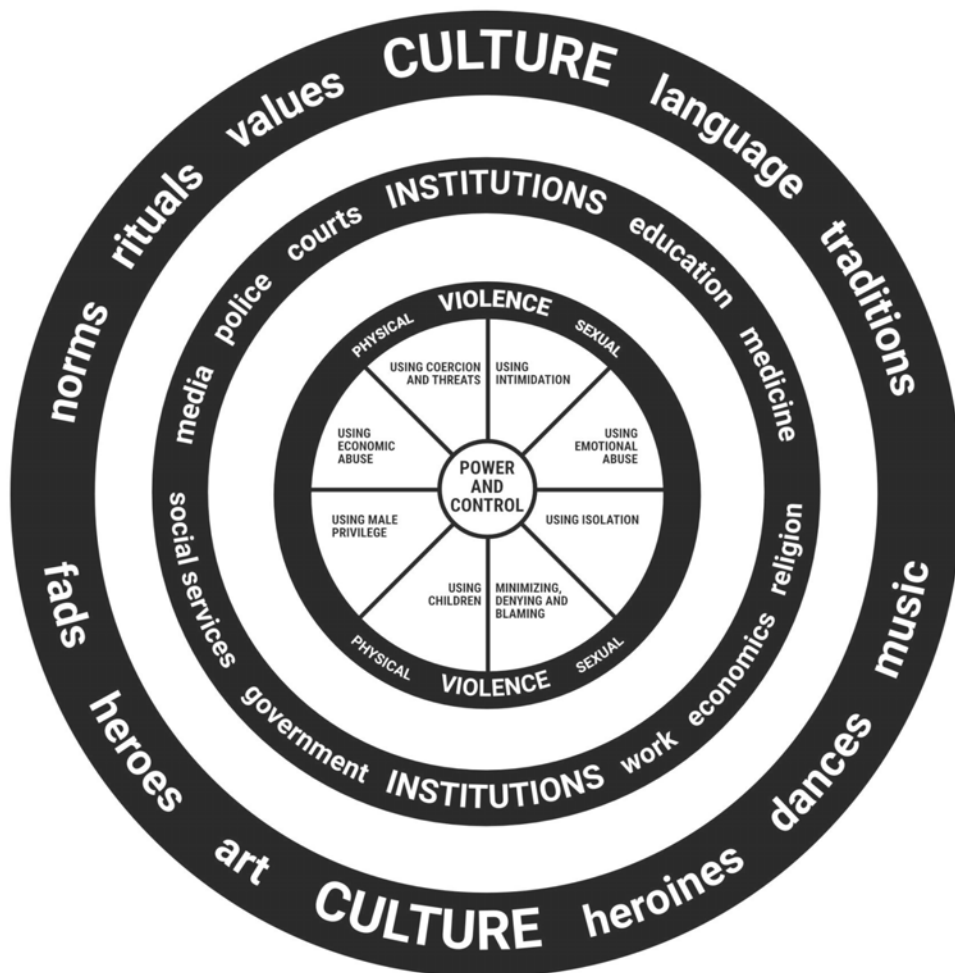
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION CENTRE - GOLD COAST

CEO REPORT

Hi Everyone, the theme for this year's DVPC AGM report is The System Matters. In relation to Domestic Violence, this idea was first identified in 2002 by Edward Gondolf in his book Batterer Intervention Systems. This book summarised his multisite evaluation of men's DV programs in the US. This evaluation concluded that 'The System Matters'.

He found these programs had better outcomes if there were clear referrals from the Court into programs, periodic Court reviews of the men attending the programs, case management by Community Corrections, and ongoing risk management. Gondolf concluded that "The success of men's programs appears to be related to the intervention system as a whole".

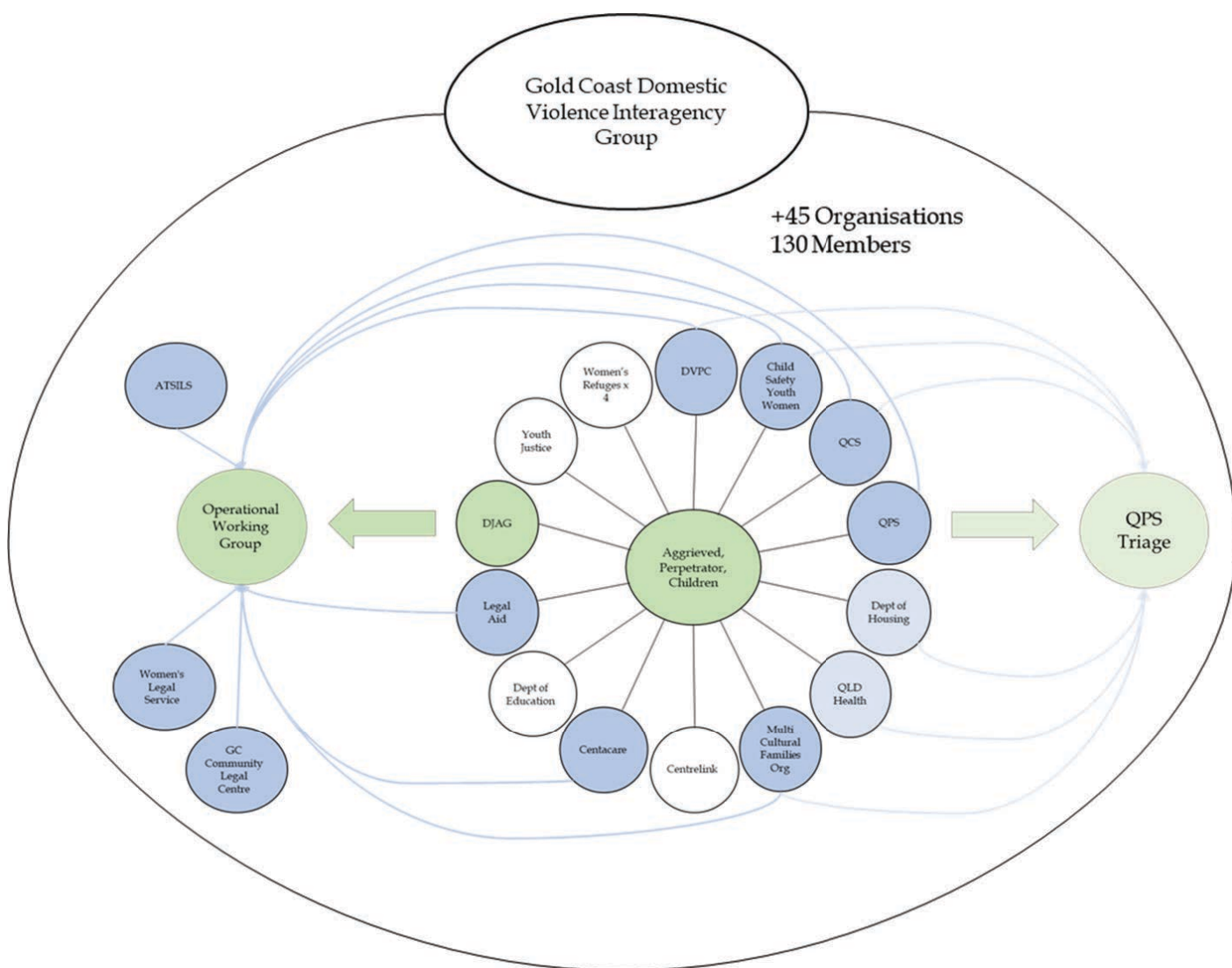
Throughout this year, we have been talking about the importance of this Culture Wheel devised by the Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs in Duluth, Minnesota.



What this captures is that we can do the best work possible with the men participating in DV programs, or do our best work possible responding to DV as individual agencies, but if this work is not supported in the broader Service System, or by society or culture at large, we are very unlikely to make any significant progress.

In 1996 we started thinking about the Intervention System when the Domestic Violence Integrated Response or the DVIR as it is commonly known, began as a project with a meeting at the Gold Coast City Council of 45 colleagues from stakeholder organisations. In 1997 the DVIR was rolled out as a permanent program, which means that 2022 is the 25th anniversary of the DVIR operating on the Gold Coast.

The current Intervention System on Gold Coast looks like this:



Fourteen organisations meet monthly as the DVIR and discuss issues at a strategic level and respond collectively on a daily and weekly basis to high-risk cases. Some of these 14 organisations also meet weekly at the police-led Triage meetings, and some also crossover to the fortnightly Operational Working Group meetings at the Southport Specialist Court.

Additionally, 45 organisations (130 individual members) make up the DV Interagency Group which meets monthly for capacity building and professional development.

In this work, we are reminded every day of the impact that DV has on individuals, families and communities. The volume and complexity of DV are demonstrated in data across government and non-government organisations, in academic research, and sadly in media reports of DV related murders.

In 2009, building on his original position of the system matters, Edward Gondolf came to Brisbane for a conference entitled 'The System Still Matters', and in 2021 it is clear The System matters more than ever.

Recently, in preparing for writing this report, we asked the DVIR members a number of questions and here is what they told us:

Why does the system matter and to whom does it matter?

"It matters to the whole community, men, women, and children.

"It matters to the people we work with."

"It matters to us doing the work... Solving problems in collaboration...Not doing it alone, and because our organisations sit within the broader system."

"It matters because the whole is greater than the sum of its parts."

"Because we can share wisdom, knowledge and skills."

"Because it assists in identifying gaps across government and non-government organisations."

Why does the DVIR matter to you?

"Because it gives hope, a vehicle to change things."

"Gives me access to critical friends and knowledgeable others."

"Because we are partners in learning and responding."

"Because it is a positive influence in system refinement and responses."

"Important to have this support external to my department; the specialist knowledge isn't available within my organisation."

"Because it's a diverse space."

"Because we tell clients to have hope in the system, to believe in the system because WE'RE part of the system."

““Because you don’t have to be experts in everything, you can’t be everything to everyone, but at the DVIR you have the specialist working together, AOD, Housing, Mental Health, DV.”

“Opportunity to influence the system more than just bureaucratically.”

What specifically does the DVIR contribute to your agencies work with individual clients?

“Access to professional learning that is accessible to build the capability of staff to support individual needs”

“It provides a structure to our responses.”

“Gives us something in the toolbox that can be helpful.”

“Helps to think of different ways of doing this work.”

What do you believe is unique about the DVIR on the Gold Coast?

“Strategic work with members who are still working face-to-face (or close to those who are working face-to-face), and are at the coalface supporting clients.”

“The Growth Mindset, we are all on the trajectory of learning together.”

“No finger-pointing”

“Everyone holds each other up in good times and in bad”

“The safety of this group of people”

“The commitment to excellence”

“It’s organic; absence of prescriptive allows for better outcomes.”

“Our DVIR is uniquely supportive and on a trajectory of growth.”

“Creeping excellence and moving upward and to the right.”

It is heartening to see the word ‘hope’ used within the feedback from DVIR members as this aligns beautifully with what women have told us about how they experience engaging with DVPC - that we “show up with hope”. This feedback from women is why our DVPC Vision includes this word - “Our Vision is that everyone is safe live with justice, freedom, and hope in their family, community, and country”.

More than working with individual women, children, young people, and men, those doing this work collectively every day on the Gold Coast need to sustain this sense of hope. Hope in the whole being greater than the sum of its parts, and hope that because we are all part of the broader service system that we can be a vehicle of change, and we can shore each other up to keep offering hope to the people we all serve.

Evidence of hope has been visible in many parts of the work DVPC has undertaken the past 12 months, including:

- Developing a new comprehensive resource for young people experiencing DV
- Providing specific Professional Development to School Guidance Counsellors who are often the first to see the impact of DV on children and young people
- Trialling an online version of our 27-week Men's DV Program, with the hope this will offer flexibility for men who have difficulty attending or sustaining participation in face-to-face programs, and also offer alternatives for men in rural and remote areas
- Additional Men's DV Programs delivered at Beaudesert and Beenleigh
- Co-locating in two police stations and offering a direct and immediate response to women when they attend to report DV
- Delivering In Her Shoes workshops to those who make policy and decisions and who can influence change
- Creating the opportunity for our advocates and facilitators to participate in 1/2 day multiple workshops with our mentors from Duluth in Minnesota to continue growing their understanding of The Work and developing their practice skills around critical dialogue.

At an organisational level:

- We moved into our extraordinary new building after 15 years in the previous one. This office is a dignifying space for women, children, and young people to come into and a humanising space for our amazing advocates, coordinators, and support staff to work in.
- We received our third unqualified Human Services Quality Framework Audit.
- In May, we launched our new Strategic Plan (2021-2024), which integrates our Vision, Values, and Mission into our current operations and holds us accountable for developing these further.

The Irish Poet Padraig O'Tuama reminds us that we can all discover some kind of hope "the hope of protest, the hope of truth-telling, the hope of generosity, the hope of gesture".

I hope that on behalf of the women, children and young people we serve, that this year we have protested and advocated for you, that we have told the truth of your experience with and for you, that we have been generous with our attention, time and the resources we have; and through all of our gestures that we have continued to "show up with hope" for you.

Thank you to all of our passionate, compassionate, wise, and tired Advocates who show up every day and give more than can be reasonably be expected. Thank you to our dedicated, skilled, courageous and innovative Coordinators who have kept pulling many, many rabbits out of the metaphorical hat this year.

Thank you to all of our partners and dear colleagues from the DVIR, DVIG, and beyond who are standing right beside us on the hardest and scariest days (and on the best ones).

Thank you to the DVPC Board of Directors. They volunteer so much of their personal time to ensure we remain a sustainable and well-governed organisation and do so with a generosity of spirit and sense of humour. I would particularly like to mention Rowena Backler and Jan Hardwick, who are stepping down this year after nine and six years (respectively) of dedicated service. Rowie served for many years as our Treasurer, and Jan has been our most recent Chair. Your insights, critical thinking, knowledge of the Not-For-Profit sector, Human Resources, and important Cultural lens (Rowie) will be greatly missed, and we appreciate you both beyond all words and measure.

Yours in solidarity (and hope)

Rosie

Rosemary O'Malley
CEO



Service Snapshot



3001 phone enquiries were received
32 % increase from the previous year

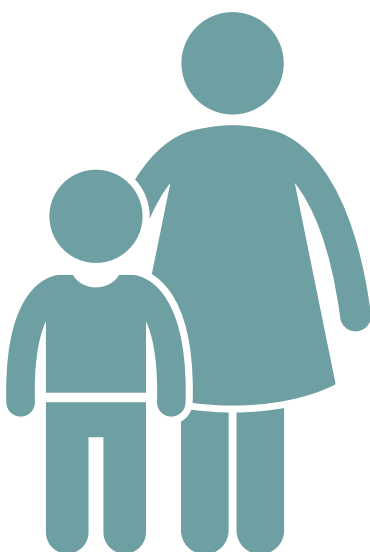
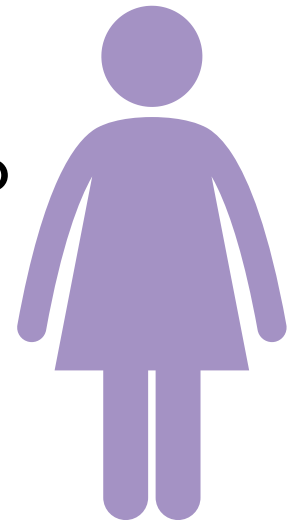
1502 callers were enquiring for themselves

1499 calls were about another person

668 stakeholders contacted the service

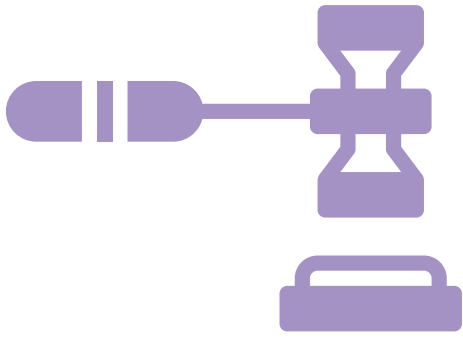
18394 hours of support delivered to women

5608 women supported



2699 hours of support delivered to children and their mothers

422 children and young people supported



1128 women supported at Court

6650 hours of support provided

Client Expenditure

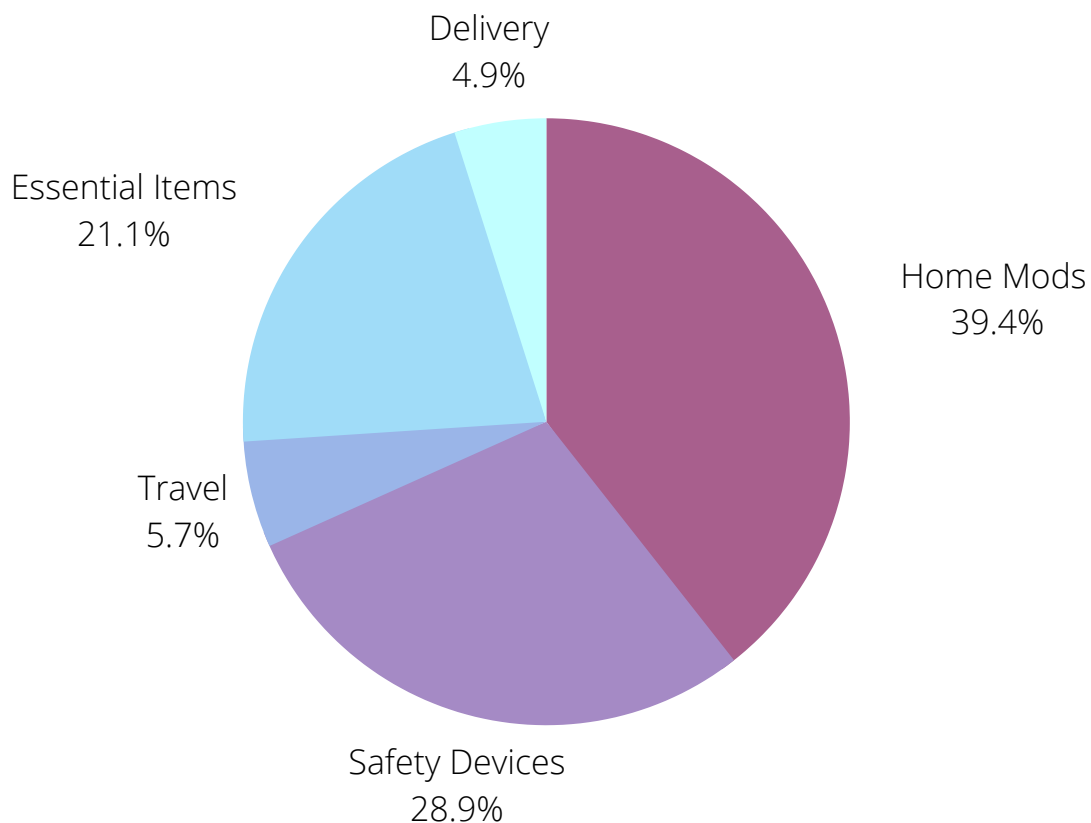
\$10,747 Home Modifications

\$1,547 Travel

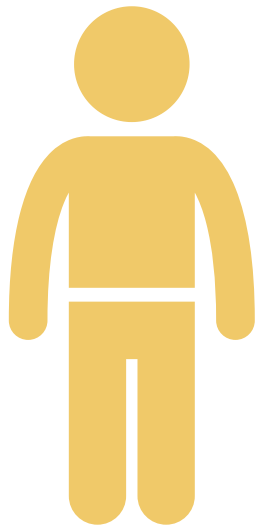
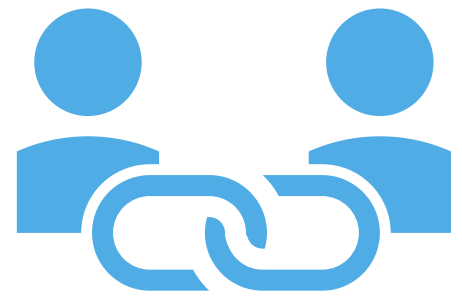
\$7,885 Safety Devices

\$5,770 Essential Food & Clothing

\$1366 - Postage and Delivery of Items to women



3358 Police Assisted Referrals (PARS) received
11.18 % of total PARS in QLD

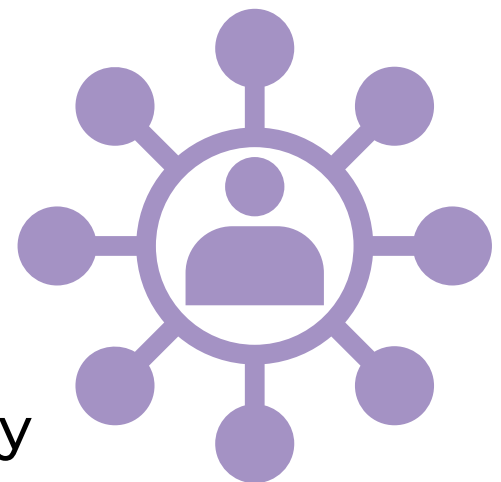


12 Programs were delivered
186 men inducted into the Program
159 women* contacted and offered support by the Women's Advocate

*data only available for period 1/10/20 to 30/6/21 due to data collection changes

11 Gold Coast Domestic Violence Integrated Response (GCDVIR) meetings were held
21 members representing **18** different organisations

3 Domestic Violence Interagency Group (DVIG) meetings were held
136 'members' (on the mailing list) representing **42** different organisations



Case studies

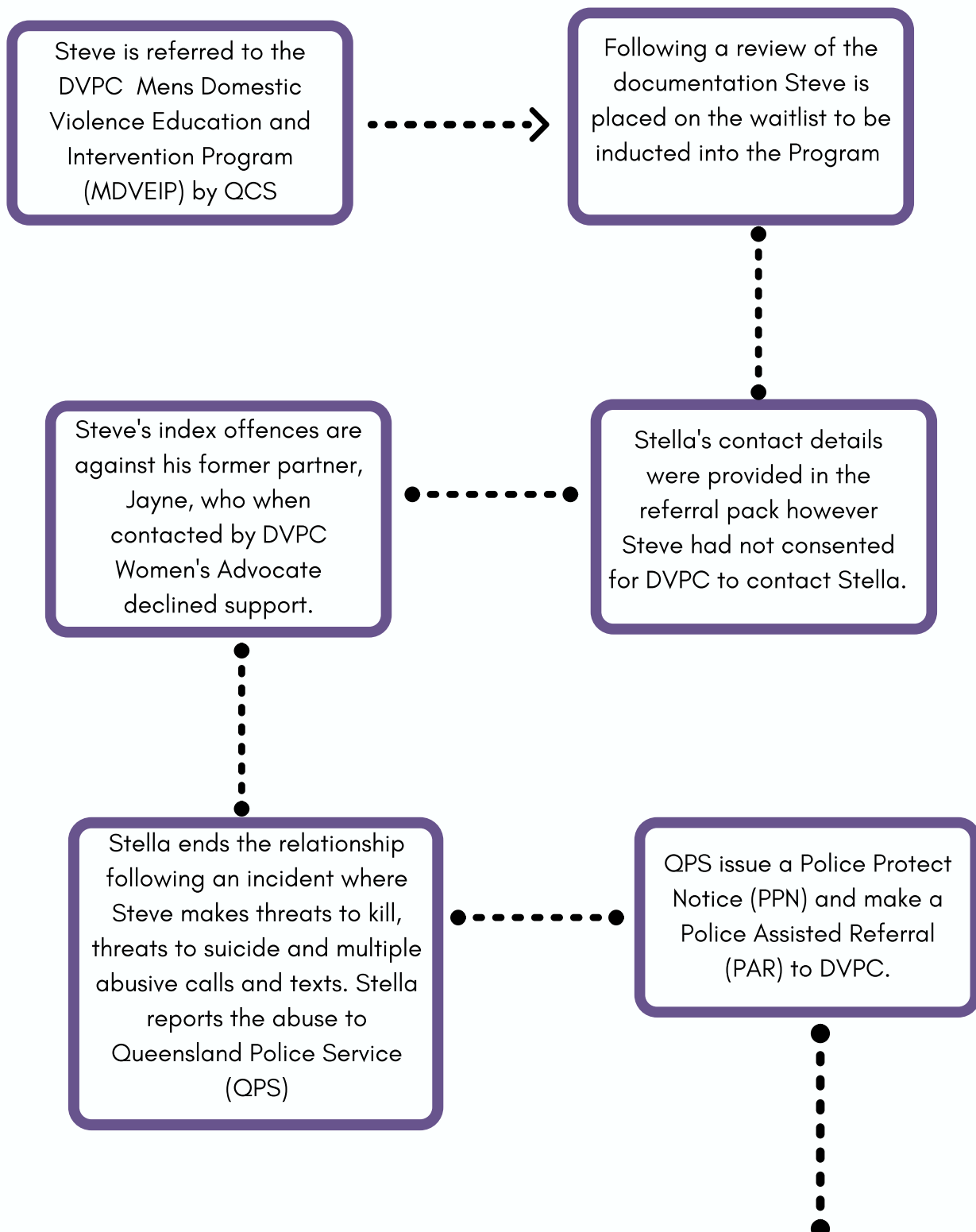
In May DVPC launched its strategic plan to guide us to 2024. The foundation for the delivery of the plan is our purpose and mission which is to Advocate, Collaborate and Innovate.

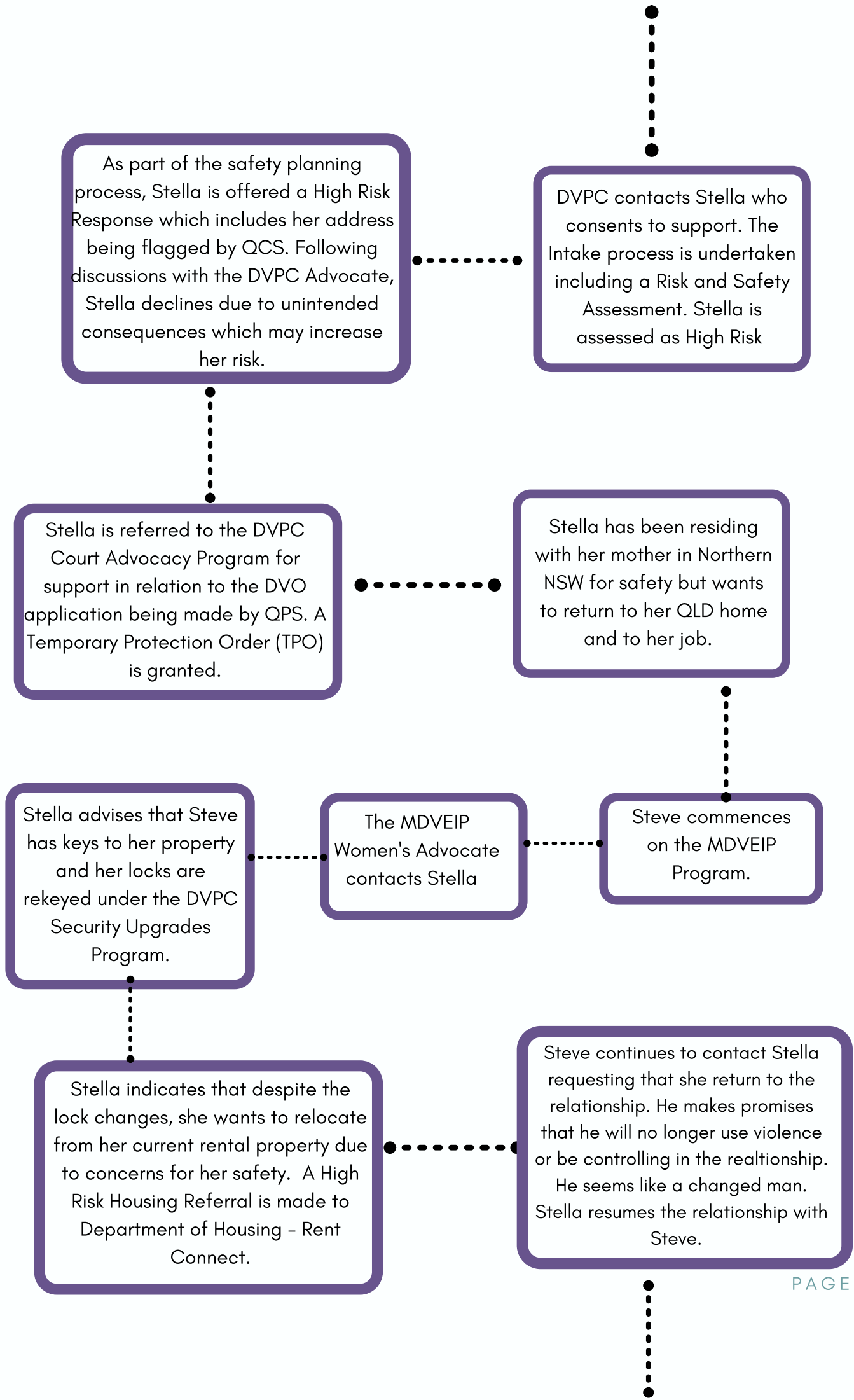
We action all three every day in the work that we do with and for the women and children. We seek to build strong partnerships based on trust and respect that lead to accountability and integrity in the collective work.

These case studies illustrate how the system does matter and the benefits and outcomes that are achieved for women and their children when agencies work collaboratively, in partnership.

Case study 1

Stella and Steve have been in a relationship for 2 years. They are both in their early 20's. Steve has access to weapons and has a strong affiliation with an Outlaw Motor Cycle Gang (OMCG). Steve has been incarcerated previously for a range of offences including sexual assault while armed against his previous partner. Steve is supervised by Queensland Corrective Services.





Steve leaves but returns to the house, where he destroys many of Stella's possessions, self-harms and threatens suicide. QPS is called by a neighbour. Steve threatens Stella and tells her to tell the Police that nothing happened.

Steve moves back in with Stella and the violence escalates. Steve admits that he had his OMCG associates watching Stella when they were separated. Stella asks Steve to leave.

QPS attend the incident and separate Steve and Stella. QPS advise Stella that the TPO has not been served and that as she was not physically assaulted there were limits to what they could do. Steve is taken back to the Police Station by QPS, held for 4 hours and then released.

Stella speaks to the MDVEIP Advocate about the incident. DVPC contacts QCS to advise that an incident has occurred.

QPS contact Stella and provide an update.

MDVEIP WA contacts the DFV Vulnerable Persons Unit and provides Stella's details. Her address is flagged.

Stella also advises the MDVEIP Advocate that she has not heard from QPS following the incident and was unsure of what was happening. She consents to have her address flagged with QPS to reduce the delays in Police response times.

Steve is located by QPS during a raid and is charged for the offenses relating to the incident at Stella's home and is refused bail.

Steve appears in Court and is remanded in custody. When the matter is heard, he is convicted and returned to jail.

Stella registers with the QCS Victims Register so she can access information related to Steve's release.

Despite Steve being in jail, Stella remains concerned about her safety due to his admission about her being monitored by his affiliates. Stella remains connected with DVPC. Safety planning for both the present and for when he is released is ongoing.

Case study 2

Sally is a 31-year-old woman whose partner Richard is 33. They moved from Melbourne in 2019 and have no family who lives locally and have a limited support network on the Gold Coast. Sally is 4 months pregnant with their first child.

QPS attend an incident at Sally's and Richards home. They were alerted by a neighbour who had heard shouting and glass breaking. After speaking to Sally they decide to issue a Police Protection Notice (PPN). Richard is named as the Respondent and Sally the Aggrieved. Richard is advised he needs to attend Court in relation to this matter.

Richard and Sally both attend the Southport DFV Specialist Court. Richard has told Sally that she is not permitted speak to anyone at the Court .

The Court Network direct Sally to the DV Registry to check in. Richard objects and states that won't be happening. He places his arm tightly around Sally . The Court Network volunteer advises that this is the Court process and Richard reluctantly concedes.

Richard and Sally are greeted by the Court Network who checks Richard in. He is offered a duty lawyer and accepts.

Sally speaks to the Registry staff while Richard remains in corridor outside pacing. The Registry staff refer her to the DVPC Court Advocacy program (CAP).

CAP Team member meets with Sally and obtains her consent for service. The CAP Advocate notices bruising on Sally's arm and asks Sally about it. Sally becomes distressed and admits it was done by Richard and that he is often physically violent. She states that he will be very angry that she is in here as he has told her she was to tell everyone that she did not want the protection order and that everything is fine. She also states that she is fearful that Richard would blame her if a Protection Order was granted.

CAP with Sally's consent speak to the Duty Lawyer about her situation using the details she has provided. Sally is called into the CAP support room to meet with the Duty Lawyer. Richard is not permitted to accompany her. He protests angrily and the Court Security Personnel attend. Richard returns to his seat quietly.

Sally decided it would be best for her to sit with Richard outside the CAP Support Room while waiting for the duty lawyer. She would be explain to him that it was beneficial to both parties for her to speak to a Duty Lawyer. Richard accepted this.

CAP talks to Sally and she agreed to be linked with a Duty Lawyer.

The CAP team undertake a risk assessment with Sally and identify high risk indicators including pregnancy. Sally advises that there had been an incident the night before which involved strangulation. Richard has been making threats to kill her or her unborn child. Sally indicates that she wants to leave the relationship.

With consent the CAP Team make a referral to DV Connect for safe accommodation and assist her to leave the Court house unseen by Richard. .

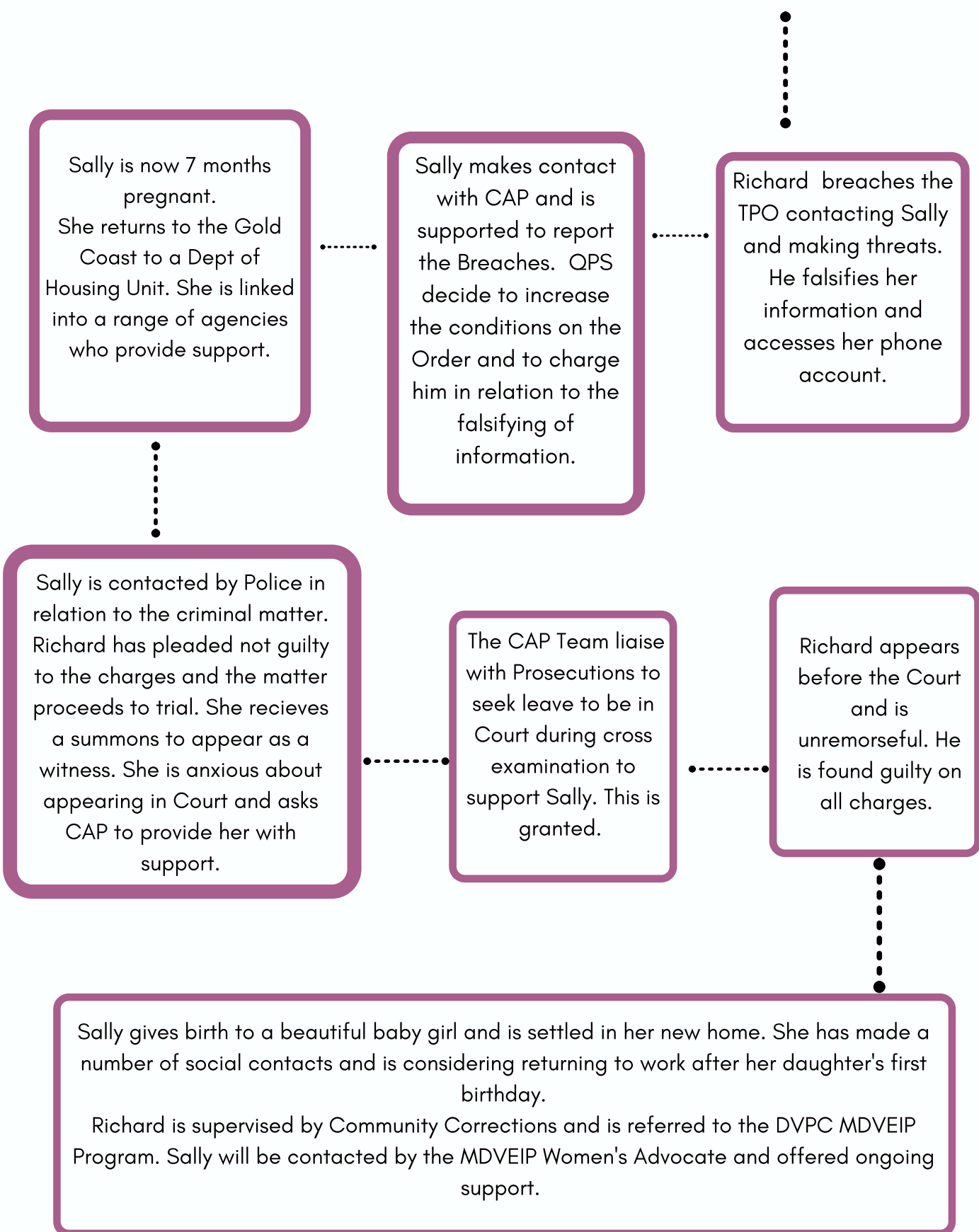
The CAP Team provide Sally with a Wesnet phone phone, donated toiletries and vouchers for necessities as Richard controls the bank accounts.

A referral, with consent, is made to the Vulnerable Person Unit within QPS.

The Duty Lawyer is appointed to appear on Sally behalf, in her absence. A TPO is granted

Sally is taken to Gold Coast University Hospital for medical attention in relation to the assault. CAP Team liaise with the GCUH Social Workers re her arrival.

After a period of time. Sally contacts the CAP team and states that is safe in a refuge. She wants to make a criminal complaint about the assault however cannot attend the police station due to her accommodation and health issues. CAP Advocates with QPS for them to contact Sally to obtain a statement



Case study 3

Belinda is a 37-year-old woman who has been experiencing violence by her partner Greg. Greg is a frequent drug and experiences undiagnosed mental health issues. He is controlling and has been physically violent to Belinda and the children. They live in a rural area of the Gold Coast and have 4 small children under the age of 8.

DVPC receives a phone call from a stakeholder agency where Belinda has gone for Emergency Relief. In her discussions with the agency, she mentioned that she was experiencing abuse in her relationship. The agency contacted DVPC in the hope that we could speak to Belinda in relation to the DV.

DVPC Intake team spoke to Belinda about her situation however she needed to get home as Greg would be getting suspicious so could not complete the Intake Process.

DVPC made a referral to the vulnerable persons unit and the High Risk referral was accepted.

The following day a full intake was completed and Belinda was assessed as high risk. Belinda did not indicate her intention to leave the relationship at this time and wanted to stay in her home. However she consented to a High Risk Referral being made to QPS.

Not long afterwards there is an incident at the home. Sally calls QPS and the Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) who both attend.

When the services attend the QAS officers assess that Greg is demonstrating mental health concerns and suicidal ideation. They determine that it is necessary to take him to the mental health unit citing concerns for his safety and others.

QPS make a Police Assisted Referral (PAR) to DVPC

DVPC were able to confirm that Greg would be held in the Mental Health Unit for 14 days and began safety planning with Belinda around her leaving the home.

DVPC spoke to Belinda and she indicated that she was extremely frightened for her and her children's safety and wanted to leave.

DVPC was contacted by the DV Liaison Officer from QPS who indicated that QPS would be issuing a PPN on Greg. Belinda was provided with information about the DVPC CAP team.

DVPC made a HR Housing Referral which was accepted. DVPC advocated for Belinda to be prioritised given the Greg's unknown but pending release, the level of risk and the need to settle the children at a school.

DVPC provided support and advocacy for Belinda to access Centrelink benefits and to assist in the enrolment of the children in a local school and childcare. Brokerage was provided to assist in paying for new uniforms for the children.

DVPC made a referral to RizeUp who furnished the property as Belinda had reported that she would not be able to take any of the furnishings from the other house as they were part of the rental property.

A suitable property was located and offered to Belinda which she accepted.

Belinda has settled in her new home. Belinda and her children are receiving support from DVPC. Belinda is participating in a psychoeducational group and social groups operated by DVPC and other local community agencies.

Belinda and her children have made new friends and are looking positively towards the future.

Although Belinda has indicated that while she feels some guilt about leaving Greg, from working with DVPC, she has developed an awareness and understands now that his abusive behaviour was about more power and control, not about drug use or his undiagnosed mental illness.

Treasurers Report

It is with pleasure I present the financial results for the Domestic Violence Prevention Centre Gold Coast Incorporated (“the Organisation”) for the year ended 30 June 2021.

These financial statements were prepared in accordance with the ACNC Act 2012, and the Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations of the Australian Accounting Standards Board. They have been audited by Crowe Audit Australia to meet the mandatory requirements of Australian Auditing Standards.

The Organisation is pleased to report for the 2021 financial year a net current year surplus of \$320,556. Whilst this represents a net decrease of \$152,483 on the 2020 net surplus of \$473,039, the 2020 net surplus included a \$100,000 COVID-19 stimulus grant which did not recur in 2021. Together the combined grant revenue and other income were \$4,186,426 which is \$65,104 or 1.53% lower than 2020’s reported \$4,251,446 which again is largely attributable to the COVID-19 \$100,000 grant included in 2020.

For a detailed analysis of grant revenue and other income please refer to Note 2 of the Financial Statements.

Net expenses were \$3,865,788 compared to \$3,778,407 in 2020; an increase of \$87,381 or 2.3%. This slight increase in expenses reflects the continuation of the Financial Management Improvement Project.

This project commenced in the 2020 financial year and continued into 2021 to ensure the development of systems and practices that:

- 1.Support DVPC’s financial management and governance
- 2.Optimise accounting software; and
- 3.Automate manual practices where possible.

For a detailed analysis of expenses refer to the Statement of Profit and Loss Statement and Other Comprehensive Income and the accompanying notes.

Total comprehensive income for the year was \$358,056 and includes a gain on revaluation of land and buildings of \$37,500.

We present these financial statements to our members confident they represent more than just DVPC’s financial position and performance. They also tell an important story of an organisation that has taken significant and courageous action to improve its financial governance. This has been done with the single-minded purpose of ensuring DVPC can sustainably continue towards its vision to bring about lasting solutions that end the harm caused by domestic and family violence.



Dr Robyn Cameron
Treasurer

Thank You

DVPC would like to take the opportunity to say thank you to the following people and organisations for their support

Myer Foundation and the team at Myer Robina
RizeUp
Cinta Graves
Donna Justo and Mark Meisenhelter



We want to acknowledge and thank the women, young people and children that come to our service for support,

You teach us every day about how to do the work. We thank you for sharing your stories with us, for telling us your hopes and your fears and for trusting us enough to do so.

Our commitment to you is that we will always work hard to be worthy of that trust.