



Annual Report 2022-2023

Growing our work with men



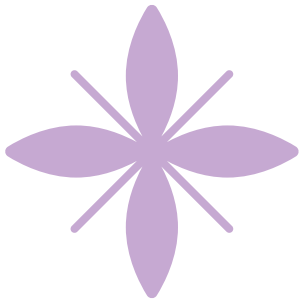
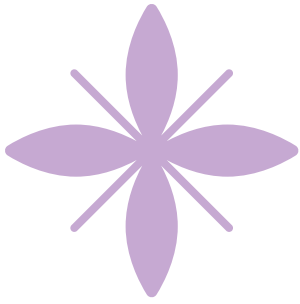


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Domestic Violence Prevention Centre

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 our specialist experience and knowledge.

INNOVATE by listening to those most impacted by domestic and family violence, and by working with them to explore the options to create radical and positive changes.

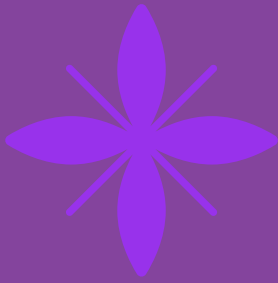
Our Strategic Focus

PEOPLE: A culture that enables and supports a skilled and sustainable workforce that is resourced, informed and adaptable.

SERVICE DELIVERY: Our service actively engages with clients and stakeholders and is informed by, and learns from, the experiences, expectations, wants and needs of our clients. In our delivery, we prioritise the safety and wellbeing of women and children.

ORGANISATION: We operate a sustainable and scalable service founded on sound governance and decision-making practices that enable us to manage and grow our resources so we can deliver quality services to clients both now and in the future.

ADVOCACY: we build strong partnerships and influence decision-makers to contribute to positive change that will end the impact of domestic and family violence. We actively contribute to, and participate in, activities that increase awareness and understanding of domestic and family violence.



DVPC Board

Chair - Melissa Donnelly



Melissa is the founder and CEO of Affinity Communications, which has served small and mid-market companies and not-for-profit organisations for the past 13 years. As a strategic brand builder and communicator, Melissa has supported clients to navigate significant changes in their industries and markets, both in Australia and internationally.

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

Melissa joined the DVPC Board in November 2018 and has held the roles of Treasurer (2020), deputy Chair (2021) and Chair (2022 and 2023).

Vice Chair - 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 on the Gold Coast and in 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 to 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 Bella's Sanctuary).

2020: Top 100 Women in business and construction: Award for community excellence and contribution and QLD Domestic and Family Violence honour roll.

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

Secretary - Peter Smales



Peter was born and raised in Southport and spent most of his working life on the Gold Coast. He spent almost 40 years working within the Federal Government and Queensland Government. Most of this was in Senior Executive positions including Corrective Services, Child Protection, Youth Justice, Housing and Homelessness and Disability Services.

Peter is pleased to be able to give back to the community in which he resides by being a Board Member of the Domestic Violence Prevention Centre. He also holds another Board position in an organisation supporting older Australians and Veterans to receive much needed care in their homes

Treasurer - Mike Gilbert



An experienced hands on executive, Mike is a strategic business developer who, after commencing in public practice, transitioned to the corporate sector over 20 years ago. Mike assists organisations on the path to stable and rapid growth, while also bringing a heightened level of governance and organisational structure. Mike has held leadership roles within multiple industries and listed organisations across both Australia and Europe, and more recently held Chief Executive positions in the property and retail sectors.

A Gold Coast native, Mike holds a Bachelor of Business from QUT and has been a member of Chartered Accountants Australia & New Zealand for over 25 years. Mike joined the Board in June 2022 in a non-executive capacity, with a desire to bring perspective gained from working across five continents.

Catherine Hand



Catherine Hand has 22 years of senior management experience in government and non-government sectors. She has made significant contribution to the criminal justice sector serving on multiple boards and committees including Domestic Violence Integrated Response, Queensland Parole Board, Drug Court Reference Group and Serious Offenders Committee. She has had oversight of the development of management practices that respond practically and therapeutically to the effect of violence.

Catherine has an incisive understanding of the intergenerational effect of domestic and family violence has on women and children. Through the DVPC Board she is committed to supporting DVPC in its mission to position women and children at the very centre of this complex issue and amplify their voices and lived experiences.

Michelle Teis



Michelle is the Managing Partner of GWI, a National management consulting firm specialising in Information and Data, ICT Advisory and Strategy and Public Policy. In this role Michelle is responsible for the development of a team of up to 50 consultants solving complex problems for clients across Australia.

With a wealth of experience spanning over three decades, she has successfully orchestrated high-impact enterprise-level initiatives for clients aiming to harness the power of information and data. Her extensive professional journey is underscored by a proven history of enhancing

business results. Michelle's achievements include the strategic preparation of organisations for a digitally empowered future driven by data, all while prioritising security and data protection. In 2021, Michelle was awarded by Women in Digital as the National Data Leader of the Year.

Michelle is a member of the Australia Institute of Company Directors (MAICD) and joined the DVPC Board in January 2023 as a Non-Executive Director.

Clare Eves

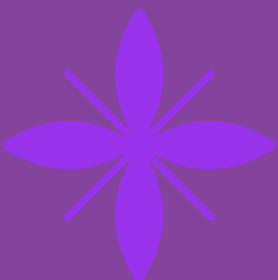


Clare Eves is a Senior Leader at an ASX Listed Law Firm and is responsible for leading and growing the firm's National Medical Law Practice. Clare has over 20 years' experience in civil litigation, specialising in complex injury claims. Her experience in the legal industry has allowed her to become a specialised technical lawyer, businesswoman, leader, and advocate.

Clare is passionate about inclusivity, diversity and wellness in the legal profession and contributes to many legal organisations and working groups to support and encourage progression within the legal profession

itself. She is also a graduate of the Company Directors Course held by the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Clare Eves is resigning from the Board and we thank her for her tireless efforts and invaluable expertise.





Chair's Report

It's been a privilege to serve another year as Chair of the Domestic Violence Prevention Centre (Gold Coast), and humbling to work alongside my fellow Directors and DVPC's incredible team led by CEO, Lucy Gregory.

I present with pleasure the 2022-23 annual report to our members. The past financial year was truly of distinct halves. At the end of 2022 we farewelled long-serving CEO, Rosemary O'Malley, and welcomed in February 2023 incoming CEO, Lucy Gregory. We were also joined by several new Board members who have injected a great deal of energy and dynamism into our decision-making.

At the same time, the work of the organisation has continued unabated, and the incredible team has stood fast in the face of significant challenges which I will address in this report.

The focus of the 2022-23 Annual Report is on the work we do with men. DVPC has always believed that by working with men to address their choice to use violence, we will end violence against women and children.

The organisation has for 23 years operated a unique Domestic Violence Education and Intervention Program (MDVEIP) working with men who are mandatorily ordered to participate under the terms of their probation and parole.

In last year's Annual Report I advised that DVPC had secured an additional \$750,000 in funding for our MDVEIP and our Case Management Model for male respondents. This has enabled DVPC to expand our programmes to include:

- Three non-mandated MDVEIPs for men who self-refer and for referrals from the Magistrates Court and service providers. The success of this programme is evident in its considerable waiting list.
- Mens' workers at the Southport Magistrates Court who provide:
 - Information about Court processes and navigation of the Court system
 - Referrals to appropriate services
 - Information and referrals to our MDVEIP
 - Safety planning in response to further risk posed to others
 - Case management

We owe a debt to former CEO, Rosemary O'Malley, for her leadership of the organisation since her appointment in 2009 and particularly in relation to DVPC's unique approach to working with men. Her rich expertise and state-wide advocacy of the men's work has been instrumental in keeping women and children safe.

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In other highlights for the organisation, one of which we're particularly proud was the commemoration last November of 25 years' of the Gold Coast Domestic Violence Integrated Response (GCDVIR). This community-based multi-agency approach was established in 1996 to improve responses to domestic violence following high rates of DFV and domestic homicides in the region and continues to grow and improve every year.

Other highlights of the past year included:

- **Additional funding:** a 30% uplift for increased service delivery in response to men using violence.
- **Two years' funding for expanded Southport and Coomera Police Station Colocation Pilot:** to allow for increased hours in police stations and opportunities to grow and develop the model of service delivery.
- **In Her Shoes:** Delivery of our unique In Her Shoes workshop at the Queensland Police Academy as part of the Domestic and Family Violence and Vulnerable Persons Unit Specialist Course Training. This was an important opportunity to make visible to police members the lived experiences of women and children experiencing or trying to leave domestic violence. DVPC has been contracted to provide this training for a further two years.
- **Fourth unqualified HSQF audit:** Securing our fourth successful audit reflects DVPC's commitment to sound governance and the integrity that informs and supports our service delivery.

Meanwhile, the work continues relentlessly in the face of sector-wide challenges, the most prominent of which are:

- **Demand pressures:** Due to significantly increased demand and limited skilled workforce availability, DVPC was forced to provide case management only to clients whose situations were assessed as Imminent or Very High Risk. Other High Risk and non-High Risk clients were provided with crisis and episodic support, rather than ongoing case management. Although DVPC was subsequently able to extend our case management model to more women assessed at high risk, our response is still limited. We are unable to meet further demand increases without additional funding and access to a larger skilled workforce pool. Additionally, as demand grows for men's programmes, DVPC has waitlists for the mandated and non-mandated MDVEIP, and is only able to case manage men for 4-6 weeks.
- **Lack of skilled workforce:** Access to a skilled workforce is a challenge across the State and throughout Australia. Increased funding to meet demand pressures has not increased availability, and DVPC is now in the labour-intensive process of training workers.
- **Homelessness and limited housing options:** Domestic violence remains Australia's leading cause of homelessness, with the housing crisis directly impacting the safety of women and children. They are either remaining in abusive/violent relationships, or are returning to these relationships when they realise they are unable to secure safe, stable accommodation.

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- **Reform environment:** The Queensland DFV sector is experiencing the most significant reforms of any period in history, largely arising from the government's commitment to implementing the recommendations of the Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce, and the Independent Commission of Inquiry into the Queensland Police Service. There is further DFV reform occurring at the Federal level, including the Family Court.

The pace and scale of consultations has generated high demand for subject matter expertise, which is in turn putting pressure on the resources of DVPC and other DFV specialist services. We're simply not resourced to respond. Without adequate resourcing, we are concerned the policy and legislation that is developed and implemented through the reforms could compromise the safety and wellbeing of women and children.

In closing, I pass on my heartfelt thanks to the Board, DVPC leadership team, staff and Lucy for the commitment they make to the organisation and the work. The respect and esteem in which DVPC is held is testament to the leadership of our CEOs past and present, and to the integrity and relentless hope that the entire team brings to their service of women and children experiencing domestic violence.

Melissa Donnelly
Chair





CEO's Report

As I reflect on the successes and challenges of 2023, I reflect on the year what was – whilst Queensland and the nation have experienced an increased focus on domestic violence reform and change, DVPC has had our own period of change. The past twelve months have been highlighted by huge change, growth and of learning for our organisation.

As I write this, there have been 55 women killed in Australia by a man in their final act of control and power. As I write this, five women have been killed in a ten-day period. By men. And so, the relevance of the work with men has never been more important.

The importance of the work with men, the importance of inviting men to rethink masculinity, to engage in a dialogue about their use of violence was understood by my sister and predecessor, Rosie O'Malley.

I want to thank Rosie for her lifelong contribution to ending violence against women and girls, which was evidenced in her work as CEO of DVPC, her fearless thoughtful advocacy, her critical thinking,

and her generosity in sharing her wisdom with all of us.

I write this report feeling somewhat of an imposter, as the successes of DVPC in the last year and decade are thanks to Rosie and the incredible team at DVPC. Rosie knew better than any of us the importance of work with men, that if we do not provide options and ways to make different choices, to choose not to use violence, to choose not to have power over, then we will never end the violence.

At DVPC we have always been clear that in order to increase the safety, wellbeing and agency of women and children, we cannot work in isolation from men. We do this work with men for the benefit of the women, children, and young people that we serve.

As we have developed and grown aspects of the Men's Domestic Violence Education and Intervention Program (MDVEIP), we have been purposeful in our response and case-management services that it must hold women and children central in our service delivery.

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I am proud of the services expansion that has facilitated DVPC being able to provide the MDVEIP to men who self-refer or are referred by agencies outside of Queensland Corrective Services. DVPC has been able to intervene and provide opportunities for engagement to men at court, provide referrals and case management services and to provide access to the MDVEIP.

We have been able to provide more responses to more men, have more conversations about accountability and engage more men in a critical dialogue about their choice to use violence.

But there is much more to do.

We have waitlists for men, we have many more men that do not receive case management support than do. This is our future challenge - to reach more men and be able to provide responses to more men. This will not be possible without considerable increased investment in our service, as well as investment in developing a workforce skilled and experienced in working with men who choose to commit acts of domestic violence. Until we have this, women, children, and young people will continue to need the support and services of our women's, children's and young people's teams who work tirelessly in the face of what (on some days) feels like a tidal wave of domestic violence.

And we cannot do this work alone.

I am quoting from a speech of my sister Rosie who said:

it takes
a whole village,
a whole city,
a whole state
and a whole country to respond to domestic violence.

And We are not alone.

We celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Gold Coast Domestic Violence Integrated Response (GCDVIR). The GCDVIR was formed in response to the deaths of women on the Gold Coast and, from its inception, has always been about the focus on men who use violence, and how we can respond as a whole system to hold them accountable, whilst elevating the voice, experience, safety, and agency of the victim survivor.

I want to thank our partners in the GCDVIR, who work alongside us every day to respond to those who use violence and those affected by domestic violence. We would not be effective in our practice if we did not have the strong partnerships with the GCDVIR to bring accountability to those men who choose to use violence in their relationships.

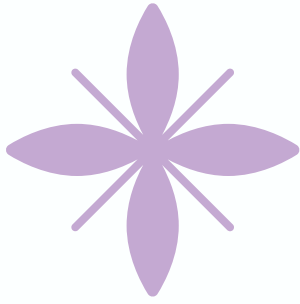
I want to thank the entire team at DVPC for their flexibility in this year of change - they continued each and every day to respond to women, children, young people, and men despite changes in practice and service delivery, the ongoing change that comes with whole of system reforms and a change of CEO.

I am grateful to the board for their ongoing support of DVPC and for sharing their time, their energy and wisdom and I personally want to thank them for their support in my early days and every other day in between.

And finally, thank you to the women, the children, the young people who allow us to work with them and have the honour of witnessing their journey filled with courage, hope and resilience.

It is for you that we do this work.

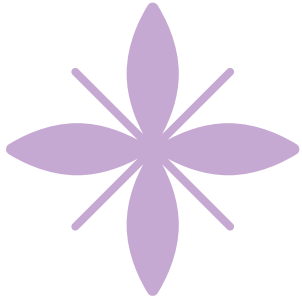
Lucy Gregory
Chief Executive Officer



Service Snapshot

Women's Services	
Women supported by DVPC	5,369
Women supported by the team at Court	2,229
Children and young people supported by DVPC	687
Women who attended DV Groups	17
New self referrals	880
New secondary consults	1,299
Police Assisted Referrals (PARs)	2,931

Integrated Service Systems	
DV Integrated Response (DVIR) member organisations	18
DV Interagency Group (DVIG) members	200
Training and information sessions provided	20
Networking meetings attended	35



The importance of working with men who use violence

At DVPC we work with women, children, and young people who are victim survivors of domestic violence, providing a safe person to talk to, to hear and understand them and to assist them to access supports and services to enhance their safety and wellbeing.

We know this work with victim survivors is vital – but we also know that without a change in the way these men behave and a change in the choices they make, domestic violence will be part of our community.

We have long recognised the need to work with men – to provide them with an opportunity to identify their abusive behaviours, to understand the choices they make to use violence and to provide them with an opportunity to make better choices.

If we are able to intervene with men who use violence and provide education and opportunities for change, we increase the safety of women and children, with the aim of assisting men to be better partners, better fathers, better co-parents, and better sons.

The Men's Domestic Violence Education and Intervention Program (MDVEIP) was developed under the Gold Coast Domestic Violence Integrated Response and was based on the Domestic Abuse Intervention Model developed by Ellen Pence and Michael Paymar in Duluth, Minnesota, USA.

Until 2022, the majority of the work of the MDVEIP was through the partnership with Queensland Corrective Services, which consisted of a Mandated Men's Group for men who could be ordered to attend the group as part of their probation or parole order.

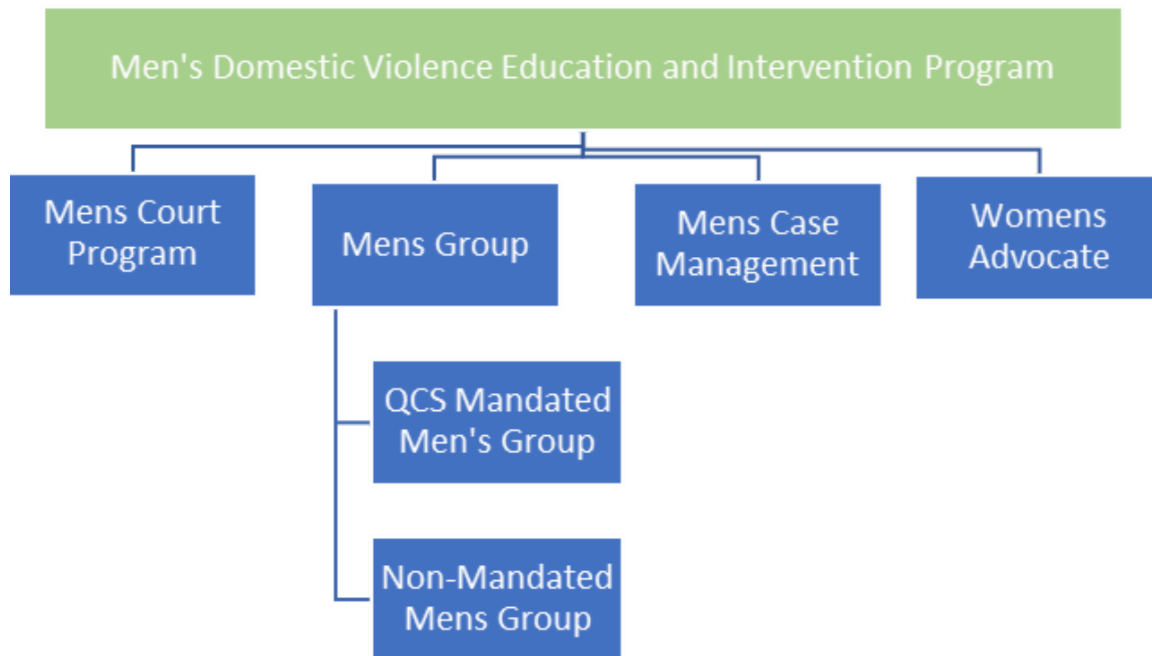
Through this group, DVPC provided the partners and ex-partners of the men with the Women's Advocate support and engaged with the GCDVIR partners in safety planning and intervention and responses to the men in group. This integrated response to the men in group has been recognised for its innovation and effectiveness in bringing the service system together to hold men accountable for their use of violence.

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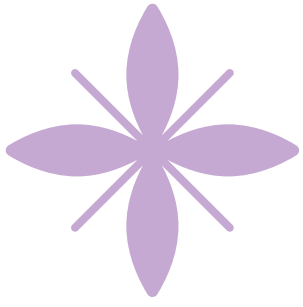
From 1 July 2022, the MDVEIP commenced the Men's Court Program, providing information and referrals for men who attended the Specialist Domestic Violence Court. The first MDVEIP non-mandated Men's Group commenced in September of 2022, the participants having access to the Men's Group through the Men's Court Program and referrals from other service providers.

In the MVEIP we have been able to provide more information and more information to men than ever before. And most importantly, we have been able to offer more men opportunities for change.

The work with men is vital if we are to end violence against women, children and young people.



Men's DV Education & Intervention Program (MDVEIP)	
Mandated program sessions held	193
Non-Mandated program sessions held	80
Women provided support while PUV was in the program	197
Women offered support while PUV was in the program	404



MDVEIP Case Study - Joseph

Men's Court Program

Joseph attended the Southport Specialist Domestic Violence Court as he was the respondent in a police application for a Domestic Violence Order. When Joseph was at court, he approached the DVPC Men's Worker to obtain information about the court process and the Men's Group. The Men's Worker provided an overview of the court process, commenced risk assessment and safety planning, and gave an overview of the Men's Group and the enrolment process. Then Joseph was placed on the non-mandated Men's Group waitlist.

Men's Case Management

While waitlisted, a follow up case management phone call was made to Joseph. Further dynamic risk was assessed and as result of this, Joseph's assessment was prioritised and a decision was made to have him fast-tracked into the program. Due to the increased risk, the Men's Worker continued to have regular case management phone calls with Joseph - during these phone contacts risk assessment and safety planning was undertaken by the Men's Worker.

During case management, Joseph disclosed that he had been sentenced for DV offences

and placed under a Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) Probation Order. He continued to remain on the non-mandated waitlist as the Probation Order was not long enough for Joseph to complete the Mandated MDVEIP through QCS. This information was shared with the MDVEIP Women's Advocate team.

Women's Advocate Support

Joseph's ex-partner Francesca was being supported by the Women's Advocate team when the referral from the Men's Team was made to the MDVEIP Women's Advocate. Francesca had been supported with the following: emergency motel accommodation, High Risk QPS Referral, lock change, victims connect referral and Court Assistance Program support. Upon Joseph being offered a position to commence the program, her support was moved to the MDVEIP Women's Advocate through a warm handover. The MDVEIP Women's Advocate remained in contact with Francesca while Joseph completed the program.

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Men's Group

Joseph attended an induction and commenced the Men's Group the following week.

Facilitators initially observed him to be quiet in group, however as time progressed, Joseph became an active participant. He presented as open and willing to discuss what had happened and reflected on the impacts his behaviours had on his partner.

During the 27-weeks, Joseph attended all three program reviews and accepted to do these outside of the group sessions. These reviews were 1-hour in length, compared to a shorter 15-30-minute review if facilitated prior to group. The Men's Worker was able to have deeper discussions and complete thorough risk assessments and safety planning throughout these reviews.

Throughout the time that Joseph was undertaking the Men's Group, several stakeholders were in contact with the Men's Team regarding his ongoing engagement with MDVEIP. This included QCS and Child Safety. It was noted that due to his engagement in the Men's Group, his case management appointments were reduced with QCS. This demonstrated that QCS were assessing that the program was assisting with risk mitigation and therefore they were able to decrease his reporting.

Joseph completed the Men's Group and facilitators noted there was a shift in his thinking regarding his use of violence. It was observed that he had become more aware about his physical presence and how intimidating he was towards his partner.

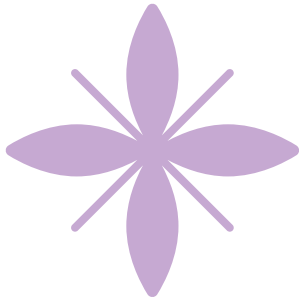
Joseph shared that previously he did not see how much his size could have an impact on his partner and the program helped him see the impacts of this.

He was also observed to have a greater awareness and understanding of domestic violence and was noted to present with accountability regarding his use of violence and abuse.

Exiting Men's Group - Case Management

Joseph attended an Exit Assessment where safety planning for the future was completed. During the Exit Assessment, he self-reported that if he were not in the MDVEIP, he would have been in prison. He explained that the Men's Group helped him to consider the consequences of his actions and the subsequent impacts on all involved, which enabled him to make different choices to how he would have previously behaved.

Due to ongoing risk factors being assessed, Joseph was offered further case management post the Men's Group to which he accepted.



MDVEIP Case Study - Abraham

Self-referral to MDVEIP

Abraham contacted DVPC's Men's Team as he wanted to enrol in the Men's Group. Abraham had previously engaged in another Men's Program for several weeks however had moved and so could not attend that group. He advised that he did not have a current DVO in place however wanted to be "proactive" and engage in a program to address his behaviour in his relationship as he and his partner had only just reconciled after separating due to domestic violence. He stated that he would like to work on mending the hurt that he has caused to his partner and their children.

Assessment

Abraham was placed on the waitlist, an assessment was completed, and Abraham was deemed suitable to complete the Men's Group. During the assessment, the Men's Worker completed a risk assessment and identified risk factors that indicated pre-program support should be offered to Abraham's current partner, Selina. This information was shared with the MDVEIP Women's Advocate team.

Women's Advocate Support

The MDVEIP Women's Advocate contacted Selina who accepted pre-program support.

During the initial contact, Selina advised that if Abraham did not complete the Men's Group she would not allow him to come back - this was because in the past Abraham had never followed through with actions to support a change in his behaviour. The MDVEIP Women's Advocate remained in contact with Selina while Abraham was on the waitlist.

Men's Group

Abraham attended the induction and commenced the program the following week.

The MDVEIP Women's Advocate spoke with Selina shortly after Abraham commenced the Men's Group. Selina shared that she felt Abraham was trying hard, that she had noticed a shift in his presentation and felt that he was showing more interest in Selina and the family.

During his time in group, facilitators observed Abraham to be an active participant who reflected on the beliefs driving his behaviours and the impacts this has had on his family. While there have been

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positive shifts noted from facilitators, it was evident that Abraham had strongly entrenched beliefs that needed exploring further, in line with the change process.

The MDVEIP Women's Advocate continued to support Selina and noted that what she disclosed was consistent with Abraham's disclosures in group regarding his presentation and behaviour change. Selina noticed positive changes regarding how Abraham interacted with her and their children. Despite the positive changes, Selina sometimes felt like it was one step forward and two steps back with Abraham's behaviour.

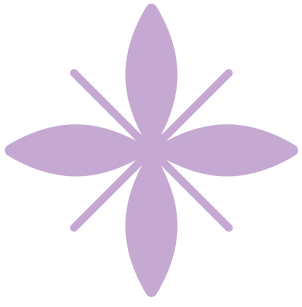
Risk assessment and safety planning were explored with Selina and no safety concerns

have been reported to date. The biggest change for Selina has been regaining her independence and self-autonomy, which is a positive change to the previous relationship dynamics where high levels of control were present.

While Selina was engaged with the MDVEIP Women's Advocate, she also attended the DVPC Mothering Session and the 6 Week Psychoeducation Group.

MDVEIP engagement remained ongoing for both Abraham through the Men's program, and Selina with the MDVEIP Women's Advocate.





In his own words

These quotes are from men who have engaged with the MDVEIP

This is a safe and non-judgmental space that I have not had before where I can talk about this stuff. When I had to go back to jail, I missed group and wondered what was being discussed.

During group

If I did not complete the program, I would have continued to repeat the same behaviour.

Exit Interview

If it wasn't for this program, I'd most probably be in prison right now.

During group

I didn't need pills or mental health support, what I needed was a DV course.

During group

At first didn't think I needed the program, then after a few weeks I realised that I am in the same boat as the other men, and now we are working together to be paddling up stream to calmer seas.

During group

I now see the meaning of respect as more complex than I had.

During review



In her own words

These quotes are from women who are connected to men doing the program.

He is learning stuff on the program; he doesn't mind going and it is helping him open up his mind.

It is positive to see the program is making a change.

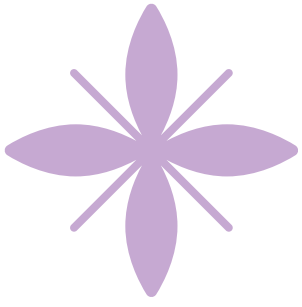
You just seem to understand, and you don't place any pressure on me. I feel like I can just be genuine about what I'm thinking and feeling, and I won't be judged.

You've been amazing, thank you for all the work and support you give to women, your whole team.

I couldn't have done this all without you!

You just seem to understand, and you don't place any pressure on me. I feel like I can just be genuine about what I'm thinking and feeling, and I won't be judged.

Thank you for speaking with me and listening to me, you always make me feel better, I really truly appreciate all you say and do for me and my children.



Gold Coast Domestic Violence Integrated Response

For 25 years DVPC has convened the Gold Coast Domestic Violence Integrated Response (GCDVIR) which brings together systems agencies and relevant organisations to improve responses to high-risk women and children to enhance their safety and wellbeing.

We asked our GCDVIR colleagues about the value of the response group - one of the answers perfectly encapsulates the essence of our work. She said, "In my job the organisation is always bigger than me, but in the DVIR this work is always bigger than the organisation."

At GCDVIR we share a common goal of enhancing the safety and wellbeing of women, young people and children who are victim-survivors. Our collective strength is greater than any individual effort.

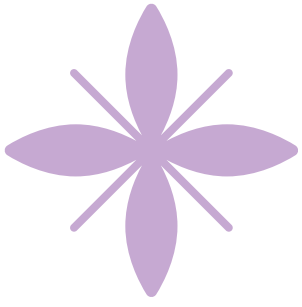
Another response was that there is no finger pointing with the GCDVIR. We know that healthy conversations are about questioning the issues and the truths that we believe about these issues. Whereas ego-driven conversations are focused on questioning and blaming individuals. Pointing fingers. These types of conversations do not assist the GCDVIR in doing our collective work.

Another hallmark of the GCDVIR is that we do not try to "know" everything. We understand that continuous improvement is better than delayed perfection encapsulated by the comment "We don't have to be experts in everything, you can't be everything to everyone, but at the DVIR you have the specialists working together."

Even as a collective we may not have all the answers to the issues we are responding to, but what we do have is high quality ignorance!

We may never see the full impact of our work, but hopefully they do, their families do, and our community benefits from our positive collective impact.

"In my job the organisation is always bigger than me, but in the DVIR this work is always bigger than the organisation."



Integrated Response Case Study

Jane and Tim had been in a 15-year relationship and had two children together when Jane ended their relationship. Tim had never physically abused Jane, but throughout the relationship he had made threats to kill Jane, the children and himself.

Tim was highly jealous and obsessive and accused Jane of cheating on him and had an extensive history of mental health issues and alcohol and substance use.

After Jane ended the relationship, Tim attended her property multiple times and damaged it and continued to make further threats to kill Jane, the children and Jane's family. Jane reported Tim's abusive behaviour to police and as a result Tim was taken into custody and charged with domestic violence offences. A Police Protection Notice was issued to provide temporary protection for Jane and her children, and a police referral was made to DVPC.

Tim was released on bail.

DVPC provided crisis support and safety planning to Jane and completed a risk assessment which identified Tim's behaviour as high risk. With Jane's consent, DVPC made a

high-risk referral to the QPS Vulnerable Persons Unit and to the Gold Coast Domestic and Family Violence Triage Response (Triage) so that key agencies could collectively respond to the risk that Tim posed to Jane and the children.

Tim started posting threats to harm Jane and himself on social media and was calling and texting Jane several times a day. Jane reported this to the police and Tim was taken into custody again for breach of bail and for breach of protection order. Tim's charges were heard before the Specialist Family Violence Court. Given the high risk that Tim posed to Jane and her family, a DVPC Advocate was in court so that if Tim were released on bail, Jane could be notified immediately, and immediate safety plans could be enacted.

Information Sharing between DVIR members

The DVPC Advocate shared information with the Police Prosecutor under Part 5a, advocating for the safety for Jane and her children. The Police Prosecutor opposed bail and submitted to court the concerns for Jane's safety and that Jane was highly fearful of Tim.

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As a result, Tim was released on bail on strict conditions, including a requirement that he wear an electronic monitoring device, submit to drug testing, not consume of alcohol or illegal substances and was restricted to travelling to certain parts of the Gold Coast. These strict conditions were a direct result of advocacy and services working in an integrated and collaborative way in court.

Following his release on bail, Tim made threats to kill Jane and himself if his criminal court matter outcome was not positive for him. DVPC shared this information with Triage members so the service system could work together to address the risk Tim posed and provide increased safety for Jane.

Through Triage planning, police and mental health co-responders visited Tim, informing him they had seen his threats on social media without disclosing the source of the information. Tim engaged with the mental clinician and agreed to follow-up support. This included safety planning and the court matter was heard without incident.

Due to this coordinated, collaborative response, the service system was able to demonstrate to Tim that he was visible to the service system and that he would be held accountable for his abusive behaviour. Jane was informed of the outcome and Jane continued to engage with DVPC for crisis and safety support and referrals to services.

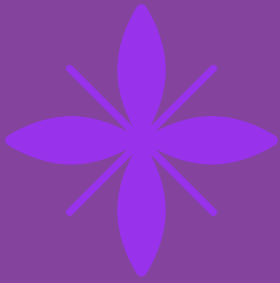




DVIR 25th Anniversary Celebration

The DVIR marked its 25th anniversary on 11th November 2022. We came together to commemorate the hard work and dedication of Gold Coast agencies in improving collaboration and creating a more holistic approach to meeting the needs of victim survivors.





DVPC Events



Carmel O'Brien OAM
"Understanding & Responding to Domestic Violence"
September 2022



Jo Howard
"Adolescent Violence in the Home"
February 2023



Remembrance Ceremony and Candlelight Vigil
May 2023



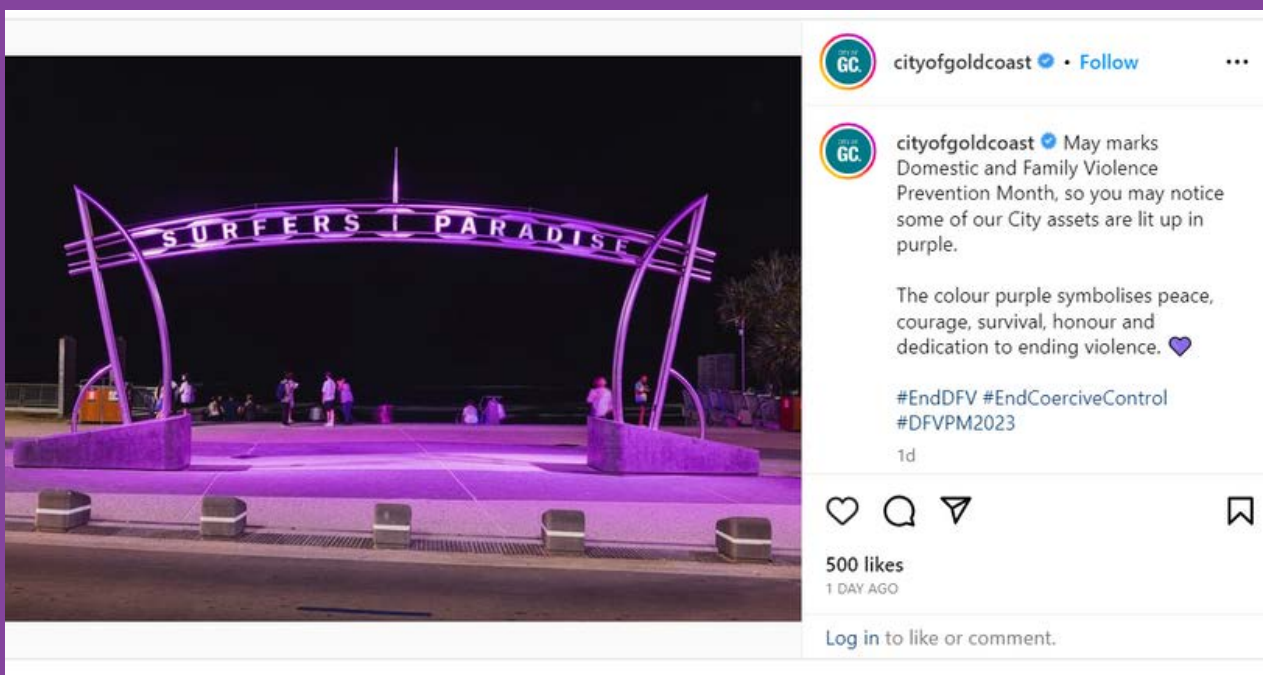
Simone O'Brien
DV Prevention Month Breakfast
May 2023

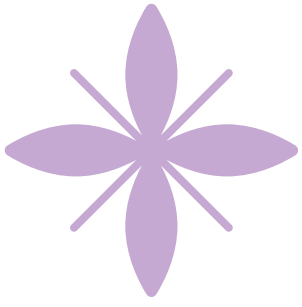


Light It Up Purple - Gold Coast



During DV Prevention Month, DVPC along with DVIR partners participated in 'Light It Up Purple', a nation-wide movement to light up significant landmarks across Australia to raise awareness of Domestic and Family Violence. Various landmarks across the Gold Coast were lit up purple, including the QPS Gold Coast Headquarters and Gold Coast City Council infrastructure including the signage at Surfers Paradise and the Isle of Capri Bridge.





Treasurer's Report

It is with pleasure I present the financial results for the Domestic Violence Prevention Centre Gold Coast Incorporated ("the Association") for the year ended 30 June 2023.

These financial statements were prepared in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission 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, and I am happy to confirm a positive audit opinion was achieved.

The Association is primarily funded by government grants, for which DVPC tenders on a regular basis. There has been a substantial increase in these funds for the year, reflecting the good work that the Association is delivering.

In addition to these funds, I am pleased to report we were also the recipient of a large grant from the Beryl Lloyd Foundation, and DVPC also generated income outside of its grant commitments from the "In Her Shoes" program.

On behalf of the Association, I am pleased to report a net surplus of \$1.1m for the 2023 financial year. This is a considerable increase on the prior year.

The additional surplus is attributable to several causes:

1. A 24% increase in grant income, equating to just over \$1m, attributable to increases in grant funding from Department of Justice and Attorney General. Of significant note was the 30% increase awarded to the Association for the Men's services.
2. Net expenses grew from \$3.79m in the prior year to \$4.46m this year. This was expected as the additional grant income is anticipated to be wholly expended. Indeed, we expected expenditure to increase more than it has. Unfortunately, due to delays in recruitment and associated costs servicing more clients, not all the additional grant money was spent. This is the primary cause of the increased surplus this year.
3. Most other expenditure areas have held constant, other than ICT costs which have risen in line with increased activity and staffing numbers.

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For a detailed analysis of grant revenue and other income, please refer to Note 2 of the Financial Statements. It should be noted that DVPC's income is recognised only when it can deliver services in line with its performance obligations, and there is a further \$260,000 of unearned income yet to be recognised and held on the balance sheet. This is similar to the prior year balance carried forward of \$251,000.

The Association also owns a property which was bequeathed to it. We are required to value this formally on a 3-year cycle. This year was the end of the cycle, and the increased valuation of the property has added a notional \$40,000 to the Association's surplus.

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

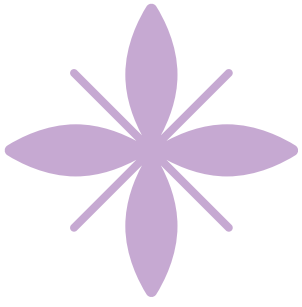
DVPC is by nature a conservative Association, given its existence relies on government grants. To ensure stability, the Association manages its cash reserves prudently, such that the surplus this year can be seen reflected in the increase in short term cash reserves to \$3.48m.

The Association continues to value strong cash management which ensures it can thrive in an environment where any interruptions to grant funding can be navigated successfully. It also enables the Association to consider expansion of the team and premises, which is underway currently.

Despite the prevailing economic uncertainty in the wider community, I am pleased to reaffirm DVPC is in a sound and sustainable financial position. The leadership team, supported by the Board, readily accept the challenge to ensure the utilisation of our funding and capital is best serving the women and children who need our services the most.

Mike Gilbert
Treasurer





Supporters of DVPC

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

Beryl Lloyd Foundation
G5H Pty Ltd
Glow Church
Shae Style Photography
QT Gold Coast
Mylie Campbell
Speaking Styles

We cannot do this work alone and we want to acknowledge our sector partners, our funding body, and their staff.

We also want to recognise and applaud the dedication and tenacity of the staff at DVPC, who show up every day with heart and hope.

Thank You!