



## **Industry Partnership**

### **Domestic and Family Violence Community of Practice**

#### **2017-18 update**

Membership of the Domestic and Family Violence (DFV) Community of Practice (CoP) consists of practitioners from specialist DFV services, women's services, and broader homelessness services. Attendees work across the full spectrum, from small, rural and regional services, right up to large, metro services.

At the first meeting, attendees decided the CoP would remain open to new members. A broad range of practice issues were raised, such as head-leasing of properties, working with complex clients, and the difficulties experienced by rural and regional services far from other towns.

At the second meeting, by request, a member gave a presentation on head-leasing. Key issues raised included challenges of obtaining temporary accommodation in RRR areas, difficult in being listed for priority social housing, difficulties obtaining reimbursements for brokerage used from Victims Services and women on temporary visas experiencing violence.

At the third and final meeting for the 2017-18 financial year, the group discussed working with clients with complex needs and the issue of FACS and other services doing a 'dump and run' of clients. The group identified gaps in appropriate services and housing for LGBTIQ people, women with disability and people with mental health and drug issues.

DFV CoP members have provided feedback that they found the CoP helpful for discussing practice issues and building connections and they would like it to continue into the future. The members expressed an interest in sharing resources with each other and wanted the option of the half day face-to-face meetings being extended to a full day meeting.

The DFV CoP is willing to take new members for the 2018-19 financial year meetings.