

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mrs Finocchiaro to the Minister for Territory Families:

Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence

1. In your funding under this output, has funding continued for the Respectful Relationship Education program?

ANSWER:

National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect received Territory Families funding for a one year period only to deliver a youth focused domestic violence prevention program in the Northern Territory, based on the Love Bites and the Love Bites Junior programs. This funding ceased on 30 June 2018.

2. How many safe houses are operating in the Territory? Please include centres directly operated by Territory Families and centres funded by Territory Families. Please detail by location and include usage statistics.

ANSWER:

Territory Families Operated Services

No.	Territory Families Northern Region Women's Safe House Service Location	FY 2017-2018 (1 July 2017 to 31 March 2018)	
		Total no. of clients (adults)	Total no. of accompanying children
1.	Angurugu	54	33
2.	Kalkarindji	37	34
3.	Lajamanu	22	18
4.	Maningrida	45	43
5.	Ngukurr	116	140
6.	Peppimenarti	13	12
7.	Ramingining	4	2
8.	Wugularr	23	26
9.	Wurrumiyanga	38	46
10.	Yarralin	5	9
	Total	357	363

No.	Territory Families Southern Region Women's Safe House Service Location	FY 2017-2018 (1 July 2017 to 31 March 2018)	
		Total no. of clients (adults)	Total no. of accompanying children
1	Ntaria	26	19
2	Yuendumu	49	55
3	Ti Tree	13	21
	Total	88	95

Territory Families Funded – NGO Operated Services

Territory Families NGO Domestic and Family Violence program				
Reporting period 1 July 2018 to 31 March 2018				
Provider Name	Service Name	Location	Women Accommodated*	Accompanying Children**
Alice Springs Women's Shelter Inc.	Alice Springs Women's Shelter	Alice Springs	519	410
Alice Springs Women's Shelter Inc.	Alice Springs Safe Place	Alice Springs	2	5
Barkly Regional Council	Ali Curung Safe House	Ali Curung	22	17
Mabjuni Aboriginal Corporation	Borrooloola Safe House	Borrooloola	30	3
The Trustee for the Salvation Army (NT) Property Trust	Catherine Booth House	Darwin	107	0
Dawn House Inc.	Dawn House	Darwin	69	119
Darwin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Shelter Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation	Darwin Aboriginal & Islander Women's Shelter	Darwin	99	125
Darwin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Shelter Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation	Magdalena Safe Place	Darwin	101	4
YWCA Australia	YWCA Domestic & Family Violence Centre	Palmerston	29	66
Barkly Regional Council	Elliott Safe House	Elliott	4	3
Crisis Accommodation Gove Inc	Crisis Accommodation Gove	Nhulunbuy	100	58
West Arnhem Regional Council	Gunbalanya Safe House	Gunbalanya	49	25
The Katherine Women's Crisis Centre Inc	Katherine Women's Crisis Centre	Katherine	177	140

CatholicCare NT	Milikapiti Safe House	Milikapiti	31	15
CatholicCare NT	Naiiyu Women's & Children's Safe House (4 beds & 6 mattresses)	Naiiyu (Daly River)	23	39
Tennant Creek Women's Refuge Inc.	Tennant Creek Women's Refuge	Tennant Creek	166	127
One Tree Community Services Inc.	Wadeye Safe House	Wadye	65	54
	Totals		1593	1210
Notes:				
* Accommodated women means women who accessed overnight accommodation services.				
** Accompanying children means that on arrival women would have children in their care, it could be grandchildren or nieces and nephews.				

3. What therapeutic response is available for children accompanying mothers to safe houses?

ANSWER:

Responses to women and children are tailored depending on the needs identified by the women and children. Given the significant differences in each community, the services available and each person's individual situation, staff will work with women to identify services that they may wish to access, this can include referrals to other domestic violence or counselling services, assistance to leave the community to access services and identification of informal family or community supports that can assist the women and children to feel safe.

The Women's Safe House model utilises some of the principles of a trauma informed approach for the purpose of assisting women and children to feel safe. Examples include:

Establishing a sense of safety

Ensuring staff and clients and their children feel physically and psychologically safe.

Building a strong sense of a team with local remote staff, their Team Leader, (and all other staff in the broader team, Manager and admin staff) to encourage shared decision making in a safe, open and trusted environment.

Sense of cultural safety

The Women's Safe Houses are staffed by local community women, who share the language, cultural and history with the clients and their children. Such an environment provides familiar relationships and local knowledge that facilitates appropriate responses to the cultural needs of clients and their children.

Building a service that is transparent and is trustworthy

Providing consistent responses with clear processes for decision making. Providing clear and accurate information to clients and their children who are welcomed to the Women's Safe Houses so that they are aware of what is happening and what will happen next.

Empowerment, collaboration and choice

Working collaboratively with clients, drawing on their strengths and providing clients with choices.

4. When Action Plan 1 will: Changing Attitudes, Intervening Earlier and Responding Better 2018-2021 be completed?

ANSWER:

The draft action plan is currently before government for consideration.

5. How many instances of domestic violence and sexual assault were reported in the 17/18 financial year?

ANSWER:

This question should be directed to the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services.

6. How many deaths related to domestic violence and sexual assault occurred in the 17/18 financial year?

ANSWER:

This question should be directed to the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services.

7. What proportion of children have been exposed to their mother's or carer's experience of domestic violence in the 17/18 financial year?

ANSWER:

In the 2017-18 financial year, Territory Families conducted 3,318 investigations where Domestic Violence was raised as a concern, of these 736 were substantiated.

8. When will the first biennial DFSV conference be held?

ANSWER:

The conference will be held in May 2019. Official dates are currently being confirmed.