

Estimates Committee 2006 Questions Taken On Notice

(20/06/2006 to 31/08/2006)

Date: 23/06/2006 Output: 3.0 Family and
Children's Services
Sub Output: 3.2 Support Services
for Individuals and
Families in Crisis

Subject: SAAP Funding - Domestic & Family Violence Clients

From: Dr Richard Soon Huat LIM to Ms Delia Phoebe Lawrie
Minister for Family and Community Services

Question: **6-3**
Minister, would you provide a breakdown of the number of clients that are supported through this program for domestic violence across the regions?

Answer:
Answered On: 23/06/2006
Answer: FACS funds Domestic Violence Counselling Services in each region. The number of clients seen is provided in agency performance reports.

Approximate 12 month figures for DV counselling:

Top End 579

Central Australia 149 (there have been vacancies in some services which impact on the number of clients seen)

Total 728

The FACS program provides support to women and children escaping Domestic and Family Violence through the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP).

Published SAAP data refers to the provision of support periods, from this information it is not possible to determine the number of clients supported as one client may be provided with more than one support period. This data is also not presented at a regional level, so information would need to be collated manually from agency performance reports.

In 2004-05, women escaping domestic and family violence was listed as the primary reason in 35.7% of support periods. A total of 4550 support periods were provided in 2004-05. Of these, 1624 relate to women escaping domestic and family violence.

Definition of a 'Support Period' Definition contained in Homeless People in SAAP SAAP NDC Annual Report 2004-05 NT Supplementary Tables – Australian Government Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

Commences when a client begins to receive support and/or supported accommodation from a SAAP agency. The support period is considered to finish when:

- the client ends the relationship with the agency; or
- the agency ends the relationship with the client.

If it is not clear whether the agency of the client has ended the relationship, the support period is assumed to have ended if no assistance has been provided to the client for a period of one month. In such a case the support period ended is one month after the last contact with the client.