Child-Centred Approaches to Ending Family Violence

Breaking cycles of intergenerational trauma through whole of sector change

29th & 30th August 2017, Rendezvous Hotel Melbourne

Key Speakers

The Hon Jenny Mikakos MLC
Minister for Families & Children
Minister for Youth Affairs
PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

Liana Buchanan
Principal Commissioner for Children & Young People
COMMISSION FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE, VIC

Kristy McKellar
Family Violence & Social Change Advocate, Australia’s 100 Women of Influence
DEPUTY CHAIR OF THE VICTIMS SURVIVORS’ ADVISORY COUNCIL

Kate Alexander
Executive Director, Office of the Senior Practitioner
DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES, NSW

Andrew King
Practice Specialist, Group Work & Community Education
RELATIONSHIPS AUSTRALIA, NSW

Anne Goldsborough
Magistrate
MOORABBIN MAGISTRATES COURT (SPECIALIST FAMILY VIOLENCE COURT)

Inspector Regan Carr
Domestic, Family Violence & Vulnerable Persons Unit
QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE

Dave Burke ReNew Program Co-Facilitator
CARINITY COMMUNITIES, TALER

Attend to learn how to:

- Ensure the **needs, interests & voice** of the child play a key role in **work with victims & perpetrators**
- Improve **therapeutic, family-informed services** for children & young people
- Boost **interagency collaboration & workforce capability**

Gain insights & strategies from government agencies, service providers, peak bodies & thought leaders from across Australia

Workshops

- **A** Intervening early to redress impacts of family violence on children
- **B** Working with adolescents who have witnessed & use violence against their mothers

Spaces are limited, book early!
Call (02) 9239 5786 to register

clientsales@criterionconferences.com
www.criterionconferences.com/event/efv17
**In Australia, 25% of all children have been exposed to domestic violence**

Children are too often the silent, unacknowledged victims of family and domestic violence. Exposure to violence can trigger ongoing fear, self-blame, leave children at risk of intergenerational trauma and even lead to the development of coercive or abusive behaviours in the future. However, children can also be the key motivator for change and healing when working with perpetrators or victims - and their experiences and best interests need to play an integral role in improving services across the sector.

This national conference brings together leading case-studies, practices and recommendations to improve child-centred, family-focused approaches to ending family violence.

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**This conference will focus on:**

- Strengthening **family-informed services** for mothers
- Increasing accountability of **perpetrators who are fathers**
- **New strategies** for direct, therapeutic work with children
- **Culturally appropriate** services for **Aboriginal families**
- Working alongside **adolescents who use violence** in the home
- Boosting **interagency collaboration & workforce capability**

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“The energy created during this conference was inspiring and gave me a positive belief in how the sector can work together - and what can be accomplished when the sector works in an integrated way!”

~ June Campbell, Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand Attendee at Working with Men to Tackle Family Violence conference, 2017

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**Who will attend?**

**Government & community sectors with responsibilities for:**

- Family & Domestic Violence
- Women’s Services
- Family Support Services
- Children & Child Protection
- Men’s Behavioural Change
- Family Law & Justice

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**Free Pass Application**

Criterion is delighted to offer a select number of free passes to non-government organisations who ordinarily would not be able to attend.

To apply, please contact customercare@criterionconferences.com

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**To Register**

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**SAVE $700**

when you register & pay by 30th June 2017*

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**Plus key contributions from:**

- Jacqui Watt
  **No to Violence - Men’s Referral Service**

- Cathy Humphreys
  **University of Melbourne**

- Elizabeth Jewson
  **WRISC Family Violence Support Program Manager**
  **Berry Street**

- Jo Howard
  **Kildonan UnitingCare**

- Professor Morag McArthur & Patricia Mackey
  **Australian Catholic University**

- Karen Heap
  **Ballarat & District Aboriginal Co-Operative**

- Leia Mackie
  **Domestic Violence Action Centre, Ipswich**

- Brenda Dobia
  **Western Sydney University, in partnership with NAPCAN & Inner West Council**

- Kristina Birchmore
  **Multi Agency Protection Service (MAPS), South Australia**

- Chris Blakey
  **Peninsula Health**

- Ben Thompson
  **Rosie’s Place**

- Chris Egan & Garry Bamblett
  **Victorian Aboriginal Community**
Day 1
Tuesday 29th August 2017

8:00  Registration, coffee & networking
8:30  Welcome to Country
8:35  Opening remarks from the Chair

The needs, experiences & voice of the child

OPENING ADDRESS
8:45  Message from the Minister
The Hon Jenny Mikakos MLC
Minister for Families & Children
Minister for Youth Affairs
Parliament of Victoria

KEYNOTE
9:20  A victim before birth - keeping the voiceless & vulnerable at the centre
● The family violence experience from utero and after birth
● Perspectives as child survivor and parent survivor
● Children's journey through family violence and the justice system
Kristy McKellar, Family Violence & Social Change Advocate
Australia's 100 Women of Influence, 2016
Australia's Agenda Setter of the Year Award, 2016
Deputy Chair of The Victims Survivors’ Advisory Council

10:00  Engaging men as fathers
● Understanding children as a key motivator for change
Jacqui Watt, Chief Executive Officer
No to Violence - Men’s Referral Servicer

10:40  Morning tea & networking

11:10  Strengthening practice - a child-centred approach to domestic violence
Kate Alexander, Executive Director, Office of the Senior Practitioner
Department of Family & Community Services, NSW

11:50  What do we know about children’s experience of domestic & family violence?
● Why talk to children directly about their experiences of domestic and family violence?
● What do we know from the existing research?
● Exploring the barriers and enablers to carrying out research with children
Professor Morag McArthur, Director Institute of Child Protection Studies
Patricia Mackey, Sessional Lecturer Social Work & Research Scholar
Australian Catholic University

12:30  Networking lunch

Working with children & young people

SPOTLIGHT: NEWLY FUNDED MODELS
1:30  Restoring Childhood: working directly with children to reduce the effects of family violence
Senior Program Manager, Restoring Childhood Model
Berry Street
Also facilitating Pre Conference Workshop A:
’Intervening early to redress impacts of family violence on children’

2:10  VanGo: an innovative & mobile service for children affected by DFV
● Developing a creative therapy response to meet children’s needs
● Increasing community accessibility to children’s support services
Elizabeth Jewson, Executive Officer
WRISC Family Violence Support in partnership with Moorabool Shire Council

2:50  Afternoon tea & networking

3:20  Increasing intensive engagement & case-management services for Aboriginal families
● Building parental strategies to minimise child protection involvement
● Grounding work in wholistic and culturally appropriate approaches
● Working towards self-determination for the Aboriginal community
Karen Heap, Chief Executive Officer
Ballarat and District Aboriginal Co-operative

4:00  Making space for children: collaborative practices in responding to children
● Partnership practices rather than siloed responses
● Children being visible and heard but in the context of safety
● Valuing and responding to children’s voices in future service delivery
Ben Thompson, Counsellor & Group Work Facilitator
Rosie's Place

4:40  Closing remarks from the Chair & close of day one

5:00  Mid Conference Workshop B commences:
Working with adolescents who have witnessed & use violence against their mothers

www.criterionconferences.com/event/efv17  #endingDV17  Phone: (02) 9239 5786
Day 2
Wednesday 30th August 2017

8:00 Welcome, coffee & networking
8:30 Opening remarks from the Chair

The needs, experience & voice of the child

**KEYNOTE**

**8:40 Neither seen nor heard: elevating the needs of children in our family violence response**
- Overcoming the invisibility of children in family violence policy
- Making sure children get the responses they need as victims in their own right
- Improving the intersection between the child protection and family violence systems

Liana Buchanan
Principal Commissioner for Children & Young People
Commission for Children & Young People, Victoria

9:20 Improving safety for all victims - keeping children in view in an integrated system
- What issues arise for children in family violence related court proceedings?
- How can we ensure future safety for all victims including children?
- The role of adults, questions of accountability and child participation

Anne Goldsbrough, Magistrate
Moorabbin Magistrates Court (Specialist Family Violence Court)

10:00 Researching the personal experiences of mothers, fathers & children
- PACT Project - interviewing mothers about their experiences living with a perpetrator
- Fathering Challenges - responsible, reparative, responsive fathering
- Digital stories - children discussing their expectations of fathers

Cathy Humphreys, Professor of Social Work
University of Melbourne

10:40 Morning tea & networking

11:10 Multi-sensory approaches to boosting child visibility in work with men
- Understanding the difference between overt and covert presence
- Allowing the child to be an entity in the room, whether physically present or not
- Understanding the limitations of language and where focus word discussion tools can help

Andrew King, Practice Specialist - Group Work & Community Education Relationships Australia

12:20 Leading collaborative, state-wide cultural change following the Bryce Report
- Boosting accountability to children through protecting the aggrieved and working with perpetrators
- Evaluating the success of the DFV Coordinator role at a district level

Inspector Regan Carr, Domestic, Family Violence & Vulnerable Persons Unit, Queensland Police Service

1:00 Networking lunch

2:00 Playing Our Part: developing a whole of community approach to prevention
- Scoping community needs for respectful relationships education
- Securing broad engagement – a key role for local councils
- The social ecology of capacity building – NAPCAN’s model

Dr Brenda Dobia, Senior Researcher & Lecturer
Western Sydney University in partnership with NAPCAN & Inner West Council

2:40 Supporting systems change through co-location & interagency information sharing
- Overcoming the complications of siloed data
- Shifting attitudes to see information sharing as a health tool to assist victims of violence
- Safeguarding responses to children in the context of DFV

Kristina Birchmore, Manager, Women’s Safety Strategy
Multi Agency Protection Service (MAPS), South Australia

3:20 Afternoon tea & networking

3:50 Understanding the dynamics of adolescents who use violence in the home

Jo Howard, Kildonan UnitingCare
Dave Burck, Carinity Communities, Talera
Leia Mackie, Domestic Violence Action Centre, Ipswich
Chris Blakey, Keeping Families Safe, Peninsula Health

4:50 Closing remarks from the Chair & close of conference
Intervening early to redress impacts of family violence on children
Pre Conference Workshop A
Monday 28th August 2017, 5:00pm-8:00pm
Price: $499 + GST

Your workshop leader:
Senior Program Manager
Restoring Childhood Model
Berry Street

The workshop
Exposure to family violence affects children psychologically, cognitively, emotionally and physiologically. This interferes with personal development throughout childhood and can continue to have impacts well into adulthood, contributing to intergenerational patterns of trauma.

The Restoring Childhood Model is a child focused, trauma informed service designed to intervene early to redress the traumatic impacts of family violence on children and young people aged 0-17 years.

Why attend this workshop
• Intervene early to redress traumatic impacts of family violence
• Be responsive to the needs and best interests of children
• Repair and reestablish parenting relationships with children

What you will take away by attending
• A tailored assessment plan for children and their protective parent
• Trauma-informed strategies for working with vulnerable young people
• Skills to assist primary parents in the care of themselves and their children

*Refreshments & dinner provided

Working with adolescents who have witnessed & use violence against their mothers
Mid Conference Workshop B
Tuesday 29th August 2017, 5:00pm - 8:00pm
Price: $499 + GST

Your workshop leaders:
Dave Burck
ReNew Program Co-Facilitator
Carinity Communities, Talera

Leia Mackie
ReNew Program Co-Facilitator
Domestic Violence Action Centre, Ipswich

The workshop
Research indicates that male adolescents most at risk of using violence in future relationships are those who have witnessed domestic violence and are currently using violence towards their mothers. It is critical we find ways to help these families rebuild their relationships before the criminal justice system becomes involved.

ReNew is an Australian-first early intervention program combining specialist trauma and domestic violence knowledge to work with this population. This interactive workshop will cover aspects of trauma, attachment and violence prevention, while also arming you with strategies you can use in your own practice.

Why attend this workshop
• Identify adolescent-to-mother violence and what perpetuates it
• Learn aspects of trauma, attachment and violence prevention research
• Gain insights from the ReNew program to apply in your own contexts

What you will take away by attending
• Practical skills in working with mothers and sons who use violence
• How to adapt your service to work with this vulnerable population
• Strategies to engage sons and mothers in an attachment based intervention

*Refreshments & dinner provided

To register, call us on
(02) 9239 5786 or book online
www.criterionconferences.com/event/efv17
Child-Centred Approaches to Ending Family Violence
29th & 30th August 2017
Melbourne

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Mail: Criterion Conferences Pty Ltd
GPO Box 259
Sydney NSW 2001

Venue & Accommodation
Rendezvous Hotel
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Workshop attendees must also register for the conference.
*Early bird prices subject to availability.

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