

Tuesday 11 June 2024



Inaugural national Roundtable into healing and recovery from domestic, family and sexual violence.

The Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commission, together with the Australian Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Recovery Alliance is convening a national Roundtable taking place today, Tuesday 11 June, to develop actions that will improve government and service responses.

The national Roundtable will bring together experts – academics, sector representatives, and people with lived experience – from across the country to build upon and advance the priority area, “Recovery and Healing” in the *National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022-2032*.

Significantly, this Roundtable will ensure that the people who have experienced this violence are heard, with over fifty-per-cent of participants having lived experience of domestic, family and sexual violence.

Ms Micaela Cronin, the Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commissioner, said that prioritising healing and recovery from violence is critical to ending domestic, family and sexual violence.

“If we are ever to see a reduction – and ultimately an end – to domestic, family and sexual violence in this country then we need to ensure that healing and recovery is at the forefront of our conversations and actions,” Ms Cronin said.

“We know that a significant proportion of the population in this country have experienced violence and abuse, and that this can contribute to a cycle of violence – greater vulnerability to both experiencing or perpetrating violence. If we are to stop this cycle of violence, we need to prioritise healing and recovery.”

“This first-ever, national Roundtable into healing and recovery will ensure that we build on and prioritise the work that is happening to end domestic, family and sexual violence.”

Members of the Recovery Alliance said the inaugural national Roundtable into healing and recovery will be a significant in prioritising positive outcomes for people who have experienced domestic, family and sexual violence.

Beyond DV Founder and Recovery Alliance Chair Carolyn Robinson said “Recovery after domestic, family and sexual violence is often a life-long journey and we must ensure that all victim-survivors are offered holistic, trauma-informed support every step of the way.”

“We need evidence-based strategies for recovery and healing that are effective for all communities,” said Associate Professor Lata Satyen from Deakin University.

“This is a milestone coming together of different and diverse voices. Healing and Recovery can be achieved, when we understand that we liberate so many people,” said Talie Star, Systems change Advisor/Trauma Informed Trainer/Creative.

The Alliance and the Commissioner have invited diverse, representative and often unheard voices to contribute to this landmark gathering –ensuring the discussion will not only be rich, it will provide meaningful and practical insights that, when supported and funded, will deliver realistic, and much needed positive outcomes,” said Sally Stevenson AM, Illawarra Women’s Health Centre Executive Director.

The national Roundtable into healing and recovery from domestic, family and sexual violence will take place today at Deakin University on Tuesday 11 June 2024. It will focus on the next ten years and discuss specific are required for recovery and healing – housing, economic needs, justice, long-term health outcomes, and coordination across systems – as well as investment needs.

Following, the Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commission and Australian Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Recovery Alliance will publicly distribute a statement of the outcomes.

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If you or someone you know is experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, domestic, family or sexual violence, call 1800RESPECT on 1800 737 732, chat online via www.1800RESPECT.org.au, or text 0458 737 732 .

Feeling worried or no good? No shame, no judgement, safe place to yarn. Speak to a 13YARN Crisis Supporter, call 13 92 76. This service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

If you are concerned about your behaviour or use of violence, you can contact the Men’s Referral Service on 1300 766 491 or visit www.ntv.org.au.