

## SETSCoP

### Communique: Queensland Domestic and Family Violence sub-group

#### Videoconference – 30 November 2021

On 30 November 2021, SETSCoP held its first meeting for members of the Queensland Domestic and Family Violence (DFV) sub-group. The focus of the meeting was to consult members on the systems and tools currently in place to provide DFV supports to SETS clients, identify referral systems and pathways, discuss the intersection between DFV and migration regulations and identify current prevention and intervention programs in place to work with men.

#### **Identifying DFV, risk assessment and safety planning**

Members described the various strategies used to identify DFV and tools used for risk assessments and safety planning. These included:

- Intake assessments which include DFV identification
- Tools to remind the caseworker to ask questions about family
- Adopting the risk assessment model used in the Intensive Family Support program
- Duluth Power Control Wheel.

An example of prevention work is the Peace Building program which is delivered to male and female community leaders of refugee and migrant communities and encourages them to educate their communities about DFV.

Providers reported that they often refer clients to specialist services who provide risk assessments and safety planning. Caseworkers are continuing to ensure clients are in a safe space.

Providers discussed the importance of building trusting relationships with clients to create a safe environment for disclosures to occur. This is done through women's programs such as Mum's groups.

Staff are being upskilled quickly to work in this space. It was acknowledged that this area required specialist skills.

#### **Referral pathways**

Providers discussed the challenges of getting consent to refer female clients to a specialised DFV program. Some clients do not want to engage with other services due to language barriers, lack of female interpreters and lack of culturally responsive service.

Providers work with their networks to determine who to refer to. Members discussed the services they regularly refer to.

Gaps in support which were identified included:

- Housing
- Emergency accommodation
- Childcare for women who want to report.

### **DFV and migration regulations**

Providers reported that clients on temporary visas experiencing DFV face barriers including not being aware of what psychological abuse is, not wanting to seek support outside of their community or family, not trusting that disclosure will be confidential and a lack of access to financial support if they leave.

### **Men's programs**

Some providers refer to other services who provide men's programs, although many clients are hesitant to join as these are in English and are not targeted at migrant and refugee men.

There are limited programs in some areas specifically for migrant and refugee men. These include information for men to identify what DFV is under Australian law. Some programs are group sessions which discuss family wellbeing including DFV.

The Peace Builders program mentioned above includes a prevention component, encouraging community leaders to share information about DFV with their communities.