

Meeting Summary Communique

DISCUSSION: Successes

- From Western Australia, funding was secured for a program to provide respectful relationship training to young refugees and migrants, operating in collaboration with education settings, including three high schools, two primary schools and a holiday program.
- Introduction of response teams at all metro WA Police stations, providing immediate support to those affected by DFV. These teams not only assist victim-survivors but also engage with perpetrators. On that, the [Breathing Space](#) program in Port Hedland was mentioned, which offers services tailored to those using violence.
- Chaihana Teahouse (VIC) brought together men from Dari and Persian-speaking backgrounds to connect on a broad range of topics, from health and mental health to computer skills, and created a space for respectful relationships to be discussed.
- A newly-setup group for men from the Iranian community in Melbourne, focussing on fatherhood and the differences in parenting experiences in Iran compared to Australia.
- In Queensland with the Yazidi community, connections are made over tea and casual conversation, with further opportunities to build capacity, such as museum visits to support a knowledge uplift in areas such as language, history and important events.
- One member has also created a men's reference group to advise on current and future initiatives.

DISCUSSION: Challenges and opportunities

- For all, challenges such as ongoing funding, creating similar in-language programs for smaller communities, and outreach strategies to attract more community members were areas that required attention.
- The need for local behaviour change programs tailored to specific language and cultural backgrounds was discussed, for example, for the Arabic-speaking community in Melbourne.
 - For most, offering community members webinars or online training was not a helpful strategy in itself, although these resources were seen as useful as part of a program or wider strategy.
 - The lack of specific referral pathways was also raised, as well as general wrap-around support and consistent cooperation from mainstream services, likely due to resource and funding constraints.
- Engagement: it was hard to engage community members in the programs and get the word out there generally.
- Referral pathways: linking in with mainstream services and vice versa.
- Language: Finding specialists and services able to support in-language, including men's behaviour change programs, particularly for smaller communities.
- Funding: to encourage better referral pathways and also to expand on programs that are working well.

RESOURCES

- [SETSCoP Domestic and Family Violence Subgroup](#)
- [Our Watch's 'Change the Story' resources](#) in Dari, Hazaragi, Hindi, Punjabi and Tamil-speaking community members (thanks to SECL!) – with Arabic coming soon.
- [Our LinkedIn group chat](#): all members are welcome to join, connect and share updates.

Attendees (10 SETS Staff / 8 SETS Providers):

Katrina Swanston (SETSCoP Secretariat)
Nick Ross (SPG – SETSCoP Secretariat)
Chai Oonnankat (SPG – SETSCoP Secretariat)
Ahmad (Multicultural Australia QLD)
Andrea (South East Community Links VIC)
Farida (Communicare WA)
Jantina (SSI QLD)

Jeff (SSI QLD)
Jesse (SMRC VIC)
Marijo (MIC East VIC)
Rowayda (Arabic Welfare VIC)
San (SSI NSW)
Shalini (MCS Central Australia NT)