

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

24–25 March 2026

Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

Safe and Equal acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands on which we live and work. We pay respect to Elders past and present.

We acknowledge that sovereignty has never been ceded and recognise First Nations peoples' rights to self-determination and continuing connections to land, waters and community.



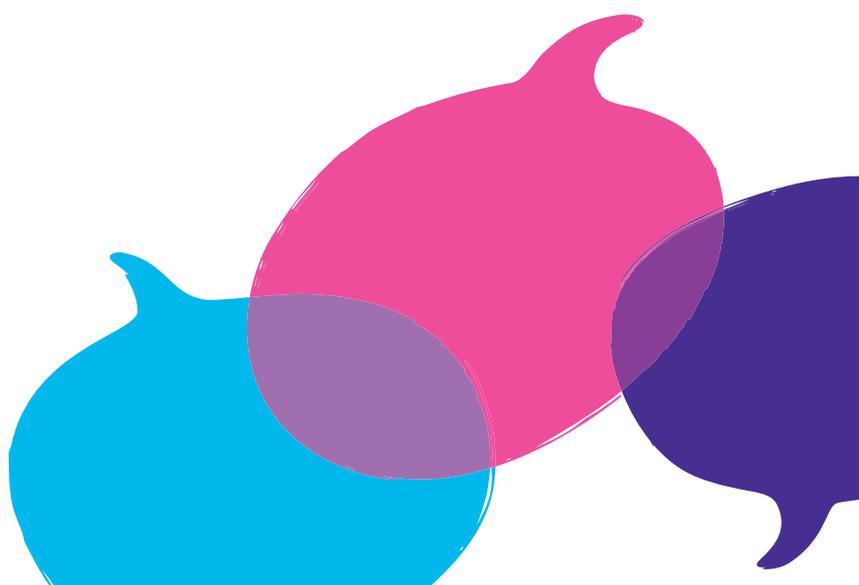
HONOURING VICTIM SURVIVORS

Safe and Equal honours the strength and resilience of adults, children and young people who have experienced family violence and recognises that it is essential that responses to family violence are informed by their expert knowledge and advocacy.

We pay respect to those who have not survived and acknowledge the lasting impacts of this preventable violence on families and communities.

CONTENTS

Acknowledgements	2
About PreventX	4
Key information	5
Key venue information	5
Program on a page	6
Full program information: day 1	8
Opening and closing plenaries	8
Morning sessions 11.45am – 1pm	9
Afternoon sessions 2 – 3.15pm	10
Full program information: day 2	11
Opening and closing plenaries	11
Morning sessions 11.15am – 12.30pm	12
Afternoon sessions 1.30 – 2.45pm	14
PreventX – Grounded on Country wellbeing space	16
Restorative Yarns program	17
Support services	20
Exhibitors	21



ABOUT PREVENTX

Hosted by Safe and Equal, PreventX is Australia's leading conference on the prevention of family and gender-based violence, bringing together practitioners to reflect, connect and explore how storytelling can drive meaningful and lasting change.

Since 2019, it has brought together hundreds of practitioners from across the country to share insights, strategies and learnings on how to build momentum in their work.

PreventX 2026: Stories for Change will expand upon PreventX 2024: Messaging for a Movement, by exploring stories of prevention and how storytelling is an effective way of creating and demonstrating change. Through the art of storytelling, PreventX 2026 will tell us about the people, places and processes that are at the core of primary prevention.

We all want a world where everyone is respected, celebrated, safe and free to live and love without discrimination or violence. Primary prevention in Australia and globally continues to grow from decades of work to advance social and system change. Meanwhile, the forces of resistance and backlash are a constant threat. Reports of violence are on the rise, alongside intensifying and overlapping experiences of inequality and discrimination. The resourcing we have is not yet matching the scale of the problem. Despite this, change is happening through the hard work of many committed people and organisations.

Storytelling is a useful way to connect with people and Country reconciling that there are many stories told, but even more untold due to the ongoing impacts of colonisation. First Nations communities are the original storytellers in so-called Australia. **Stories for Change** is about recognising and celebrating the range of ways in which primary prevention is practiced and inspiring for the future.

There is always more to share and learn about how we gather, use and develop the stories we tell in ways that are ethical, informed by lived experience and community-owned. Stories are also a powerful way to critically reflect on where we have historically, or may currently be, perpetuating colonising or discriminatory practices and help to find ways towards more culturally responsive approaches.



Our supporters



Telecommunications
Industry
Ombudsman



Safe and Equal acknowledges the support of the Victorian Government



Safe and Equal acknowledges the support of the NSW Government in sponsoring the attendance of some NSW delegates.



KEY INFORMATION

Registration area

Our registration desk will be staffed all day throughout the conference. Please feel free to visit us if you have any questions or need any further assistance, or just to say hello!

Exhibition area

The exhibition area is located next to the reception desk. It is a dedicated exhibition space to encourage networking and conversation. It's an opportunity for more stories of change to be shared in ways that complement program content and to learn about what different organisations are doing in the primary prevention space. More information on our exhibitors is included on page 20.

Restorative Yarns

Restorative Yarns provides the *Grounded on Country* wellbeing space – a supportive area where delegates are invited to pause, ground, reflect and connect.

This space will be held by clinicians Sam and Locky, with Lucy from Safe and Equal supporting. It is available for people to yarn together, sit quietly, breathe, or rest in a way that feels right to them.

Sam and Locky are also available for one-on-one support across both days, in a separate space to the quiet room if needed.

Located in Clarendon Room C on level 1

Melbourne Conference and Exhibition Centre rooms being used for PreventX 2026

Clarendon Auditorium, Room C & D are located on level 1.

Clarendon Rooms A & B are located on level 4. This is only accessible via the elevator and we recommend that you allow a few extra minutes to get there before a session.

Lunch time meet ups

During PreventX, we're creating lunchtime spaces for several of our key networks to reconnect, reflect, and catch up in person. Across the two days, Fast Trackers, Community of Practice participants, and the Connecting Communities Network are invited to gather, share stories, and enjoy informal connection time with peers and facilitators. Grab some lunch, drop in, and make the most of being together at PreventX.

Day 1 Lunch time

+ **Fast Trackers** – Clarendon Balcony (next to the lifts on Level 1)

Day 2 Lunch time

+ **Safe and Equal Community of Practice participants** – Clarendon Balcony (next to the lifts on Level 1)

+ **Connecting Communities Network** – Clarendon Rooms Foyer (next to our quiet space)

KEY VENUE INFORMATION

Toilets and accessible toilets

- Gender neutral bathrooms on level 1 and level 4
- Accessible bathrooms on ground floor and level 4
- Gendered bathrooms located on ground floor

Prayer room and parent room

- Both located to the right of Goldfields café, down a corridor (5-minute walk).
- Goldfields café is located towards 1 Convention Centre Place entrance, you can access by heading down the hall opposite Door 9.

Smoking areas

- On Clarendon street
- Outside the exit/entrance of Door 1

Cloak room

- Customer service desk at the 1 Convention Centre Place entrance (5-minute walk)

Use of lifts to access rooms A & B

Sessions held in rooms A & B are on level 4. Please use the lifts from ground floor or level 1 to access these rooms, and allow an extra 3-5 minutes to get there.

Emergency and evacuation procedures

In the event of an emergency, one of two alarms may sound:

- **Alert alarm: "Beep! Beep! Beep!"**
If you hear the alert alarm, remain where you are and wait for further instructions.
- **Evacuation alarm: "Whoop! Whoop!"**
If you hear the evacuation alarm, leave the building immediately. A MCEC warden will direct you to the safest evacuation point and let you know if/when it is safe to return.

Our closest evacuation point is at the grass area near the Clarendon Street entrance by the river.

TIME	SESSION			
8 – 9.30am	Registration opens			Clarendon Foyer
9.30 – 9.45am	Welcome to Country			Clarendon Auditorium
9.45 – 9.50am	Ministerial welcome The Hon. Ged Kearney, Commonwealth Assistant Minister for Social Services and Assistant Minister for Prevention of Family Violence (video)			Clarendon Auditorium
9.50 – 10.05am	Conference opening and setting the scene: Marina Carman, Safe and Equal			Clarendon Auditorium
10.05 – 11.15am	OPENING PLENARY <i>Storytelling on Country: First Nations primary prevention</i> Moderator: Adele Cox, Adele Cox Consulting Speakers: + Regan Mitchell, Our Watch + Selena O'Meara, Kimberley Aboriginal Women's Council + Kowana Welsh, Women and Girls Emergency Centre			Clarendon Auditorium
11.15 – 11.45am	Morning tea – Clarendon Foyer			
11.45am – 1pm	SESSION 1 Clarendon Auditorium <i>Stories from multicultural and faith-based communities</i> + PRONIA + Women's Health in the South East + GenWest	SESSION 2 Room B <i>The future is local</i> + Municipal Association of Victoria, in collaboration with Macedon Ranges Shire Council, Monash City Council and Ballarat City Council	SESSION 3 Room A <i>Stories from the frontline: the trans women and our allies transforming the prevention sector</i> + Zoe Belle Gender Collective in collaboration with Women's Health in the North and FVREE	SESSION 4 Room D  <i>Yarning Circle: safety, acceptance and identity on Country</i> + Restorative Yarns
1 – 2pm	Lunch – Clarendon Foyer Fast Track meet up – Clarendon Balcony			
2 – 3.15pm	SESSION 5  Clarendon Auditorium <i>It began in the West ... almost a decade of adaptation: the story of Working Together with Men</i> + RMIT University in collaboration with Melbourne Playback Theatre and Women's Health Grampians	SESSION 6 Room B <i>Young Luv: Aboriginal-led program design</i> + Djirra	SESSION 7 Room A <i>Stories from lived and living experience</i> + Women's Health Grampians + Anchor Point Therapy & Innovative Resources + Professor Anastasia Powell	SESSION 8  Room D <i>Stories from the frontline of Respectful Relationships Education</i> + Victorian Department of Education and Respectful Relationships workforce
3.15 – 3.45pm	Afternoon tea – Clarendon Foyer			
3.45 – 4.45pm	CLOSING PLENARY <i>Informing policy making: how and when do stories matter?</i> Moderator: Tania Farha, InTouch Multicultural Centre Against Family Violence Speakers: + Micaela Cronin, Commonwealth Cuv Commissioner for Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence + Moo Baulch, Women and Girls Emergency Centre and Our Watch + Michelle Reddy, Pacific Feminist Fund + Dr Anna Cody, Sex Discrimination Commissioner, Australian Human Rights Commission			Clarendon Auditorium

 = Capped attendance  = Loud interactive session

TIME	SESSION			
9 – 9.15am	Welcome to Country <i>Clarendon Auditorium</i>			
9.15 – 9.20am	Opening day two: Chris Mathieson, Safe and Equal <i>Clarendon Auditorium</i>			
9.20 – 9.30am	Ministerial address The Hon. Ingrid Stitt, Victorian Minister for Prevention of Family Violence <i>Clarendon Auditorium</i>			
9.30 – 10.45am	OPENING PLENARY Stories of gender transformative practice and change Moderator: Amelia Ditcham, Safe and Equal Speakers: + Professor Steven Roberts, Monash University + Starlady, Zoe Belle Gender Collective + Sarah Drury, Men and Family Centre + Dr Chay Brown, HerStory Consulting <i>Clarendon Auditorium</i>			
10.45 – 11.15am	Morning tea <i>Clarendon Foyer</i>			
11.15am – 12.30pm	SESSION 9 <i>Clarendon Auditorium</i> Stories from prevention workforce development + Our Watch + Domestic Violence NSW + Multicultural Centre for Women's Health + Women with Disabilities Victoria	SESSION 10 <i>Room B</i> Stories of working with young people in prevention + Our Watch + Australian Muslim Women's Centre for Human Rights + Centre for Multicultural Youth	SESSION 11 <i>Room D and Clarendon Room</i>   The Game: an immersive game-based workshop about LGBTIQ+ inclusion in sport and recreation + Proud2Play	SESSION 12 <i>Room A</i> Stories from research and program impact + Our Watch + Respect Victoria + Jesuit Social Services – The Men's Project
	12.30 – 1.30pm Lunch – <i>Clarendon Foyer</i> Community of Practice meet up – <i>Clarendon Balcony</i> Connecting Communities meet up – <i>Clarendon Rooms Foyer</i>			
1.30 – 2.45pm	SESSION 13 <i>Clarendon Auditorium</i> More than a setting: primary prevention and digital lives + Respect Victoria in collaboration with The Global Institute for Women's Leadership at the Australian National University, University of Melbourne and Body Safety Australia	SESSION 14 <i>Room B</i> Stories to advance practice in the early years + healthAbility + Baby Makes 3 + Better Health Network + FVREE + Women's Health Loddon Mallee	SESSION 15 <i>Room A</i> Stories from sport + The Sexual Assault & Family Violence Centre + Crash the Boards + CatholicCare NT + Rainbow Health Australia	SESSION 16 <i>Room D</i> Stories from across the prevention continuum + Centre for Non-Violence + Safe and Equal, Jesuit Social Services – The Men's Project and Women's Health Grampians + Settlement Services International
	2.45 – 3.15pm Afternoon tea <i>Clarendon Foyer</i>			
3.15 – 4.15pm	CLOSING PLENARY Stories for change: where to next? Moderator: Hannah Dwyer and Meghan Cooper, Safe and Equal Speakers: + Jay Jones, Body Safety Australia + Lena Molnar, Women with Disabilities Victoria + Sharmila Falzon, Domestic Violence NSW + Nagma Shaik, Women's Health and Equality Queensland + Alicia Gibbs, Preventing Violence Together <i>Clarendon Auditorium</i>			
4.15 – 5.15pm	Ongoing networking, drinks and nibbles <i>Clarendon Foyer</i>			

 = Capped attendance  = Loud interactive session

FULL PROGRAM INFORMATION: DAY 1

TUESDAY 24 MARCH 2026

OPENING PLENARY 10.05 - 11.15AM

Storytelling on Country: First Nations primary prevention

Moderator: Adele Cox,
Adele Cox Consulting

Speakers:

- + Regan Mitchell,
Our Watch
- + Selena O'Meara,
Kimberley Aboriginal
Women's Council
- + Kowana Welsh,
Women and Girls
Emergency Centre

Stories from the First Peoples of this country have been passed down through generations. They carry cultural knowledge, values and perspectives that have been in existence for more than 60,000 years.

Storytelling for prevention is crucial to build understanding and share knowledge. We also need truth-telling of stories from the past and ongoing impacts from colonisation that continue to be a key driver in the violence experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Now with *Our Ways – Strong Ways – Our Voices*, Australia's first standalone national action plan to address the disproportionate high-rates of violence experienced by Indigenous women, we are in a moment of change. A moment that requires community-controlled, culturally safe, and self-determined solutions.

First Nations people are the first storytellers and will open this PreventX with a yarn – to share stories and speak of the power of storytelling in driving change that is needed now to create a world free from violence, particularly for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Join us to hear from this panel of leading voices in First Nations-led prevention and self-determination as we explore questions like: *What is primary prevention for First Nations women and communities? How is it different from mainstream primary prevention approaches and work? What can everyone do to contribute to changing this? And, what can this work tell us about the role of men?*

CLOSING PLENARY 3.45 - 4.45PM

Informing policy making: how and when do stories matter?

Moderator: Tania Farha,
InTouch Multicultural Centre
against Family Violence

Speakers:

- + Micaela Cronin,
Commonwealth Commissioner
for Domestic, Family and
Sexual Violence
- + Moo Baulch,
Women and Girls Emergency
Centre and Our Watch
- + Michelle Reddy,
Pacific Feminist Fund
- + Dr Anna Cody,
Sex Discrimination Commissioner,
Australian Human Rights
Commission

Policy plays a crucial role in primary prevention – it sets out the frameworks and resourcing needed to support whole-of-population strategies to end family and gender-based violence. Primary prevention is a key focus of The National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children with a bold vision for change to end gender-based violence in a generation. States and territories are also advancing policy, strategies, plans and reform agendas. All of these actions are crucial for creating the structural conditions we need for primary prevention to be effective, but more is needed.

While we are in a moment of significant policy change, how do we further build a narrative for change? How do we connect with policy makers? How do we talk about evidence and the practice wisdom of our workforce in convincing ways?

Developing a strong narrative for change plays an important role in policy development by turning complex issues into something that is relatable and engaging for policymakers. But which stories need to be told? Drawing from work nationally and regionally, how are stories currently shaping our policy landscape and what more is needed to better understand primary prevention? And what comes next?

Learn more about our speakers



MORNING SESSIONS 11.45AM - 1PM

SESSION 1

Stories from multicultural and faith-based communities

Presented by PRONIA, Women's Health in the South East and GenWest

This panel will showcase how storytelling is transforming prevention with multicultural and faith-based communities. Hear powerful examples of migrant women leading change, intergenerational approaches to gender-based violence prevention, and community-led initiatives that amplify community voices and foster connection. Discover how stories can inspire action, strengthen relationships, and create lasting social change in this exciting panel discussion. This session will feature:

- + **PRONIA:** *Stories for change in multicultural communities: prevention across generations*
- + **Women's Health in the South East:** *Culture, connection and change: migrant women leading prevention through storytelling*
- + **GenWest:** *Voices of change: stories of community-led prevention, by the community, for the community*

SESSION 2

The future is local

Presented by Municipal Association of Victoria, in collaboration with Macedon Ranges Shire Council, Monash City Council and Ballarat City Council

Local government shapes the conditions of daily life – as a service provider, connector, civic leader, large employer and beyond. For those engaged in gender equality and violence prevention work, councils are not peripheral actors. They are essential, place-based partners across the continuum from primary prevention through to response and recovery.

Join Municipal Association of Victoria and some of the practitioners working in local council to hear stories about councils' domains of influence, examples of great work being undertaken locally and the opportunities to join in moving gender equality from an aspiration to an everyday reality.

SESSION 3

Stories from the frontline: the trans women and our allies transforming the prevention sector

Presented by Zoe Belle Gender Collective, Women's Health in the North and FVREE

Hear the stories of survival, resistance and leadership from trans women, trans feminine people and allies. *Stories from the frontline* will explore several interconnected themes, including the impacts of increasing transphobia and transmisogyny on trans women and transfeminine people and the harms caused by the historic and ongoing exclusion of trans women from prevention of violence initiatives and frameworks. The session will also examine the intersections of backlash against gender equity and trans and gender diverse communities, highlighting how these forces are intertwined.

The work required for feminist organisations and trans and gender diverse organisations to build authentic, respectful partnerships is a central focus, as are the stories of healing and hope that emerge from successful initiatives and collaborations addressing gender-based violence against trans and gender diverse people.

SESSION 4

Yarning Circle – safety, acceptance and identity on Country

Presented by Restorative Yarns

- 👤 Capped at 50 people
- 🔊 Loud interactive session

This Yarning Circle will showcase a groundbreaking, community-led project that centres the voices of First Nations LGBTIQ+SB peoples in primary prevention. Developed through co-design and local consultations, the project responds to the urgent need for culturally safe and intersectional approaches to preventing sexual and gender-based violence. Participants will hear stories of change and gain practical tools and frameworks to embed cultural identity, self-determination and collective care into prevention practice.

SESSION 5

It began in the West ... almost a decade of adaptation: the story of Working Together with Men

Presented by RMIT University in collaboration with Melbourne Playback Theatre and Women's Health Grampians

🔊 Loud interactive session

This session will reveal the story of adaptation and the shared evidence of almost a decade's worth of primary prevention work with men using the Working Together with Men (WTWM) model. This creative take on a panel presentation will weave the stories of three people who have been involved over time, sharing their lived experience of practice and what it takes to engage men in violence prevention and collective action.

SESSION 6

Young Luv: Aboriginal-led program design

Presented by Djirra

Young Luv: Aboriginal-Led Program Design shares the story of the Young Luv program redesign. As one of Djirra's early intervention and prevention workshops, Young Luv has been promoting healthy relationships for young Aboriginal women since inception in 2015. With a focus on sistahood, empowerment and assertiveness, Young Luv is a culturally safe workshop that is designed and delivered by Aboriginal women, guided by senior Aboriginal women, for young Aboriginal women. In this session, Leticia – the current Young Luv Coordinator – invites you to follow the journey of redesigning Young Luv, emphasising the importance of Aboriginal-led, culturally grounded methodologies to inform program design, monitoring, evaluation and learning.

SESSION 7

Stories from lived and living experience

Presented by Women's Health Grampians, Anchor Point Therapy & Innovative Resource and Professor Anastasia Powell

This panel will explore how centring lived experience – through survivor voices, intersectional frameworks and storytelling – can challenge systemic barriers, shift attitudes and drive meaningful change in the prevention of family violence. This session will feature:

- + **Women's Health Grampians:** *Living expertise as a primary prevention tool: the Intersectionality Workbook and its practical applications*
- + **Anchor Point Therapy & Innovative Resources:** *Shame to safety: stories that prevent family violence*
- + **Professor Anastasia Powell:** *The story in-between: centring survivors in primary prevention work*

SESSION 8

Stories from the frontline of Respectful Relationships Education

Presented by the Victorian Department of Education and Respectful Relationships workforce

🔊 Loud interactive session

This session brings together powerful stories from schools implementing the Respectful Relationships initiative, a whole-school approach to promoting respect, equality, and healthy relationships. Through firsthand experiences from teachers and the Respectful Relationships workforce, participants will hear how embedding respect and gender equality across school culture can drive long-term change and contribute to the prevention of gender-based violence. This session will include an interactive activity from the Respectful Relationships teaching resources to explore opportunities for the sector to strengthen schools' RR implementation.

FULL PROGRAM INFORMATION: DAY 2

WEDNESDAY 25 MARCH 2026

OPENING PLENARY 9.30 - 10.45AM

Stories of gender transformative practice and change

Moderator: Amelia Ditcham, Safe and Equal

Speakers:

- + Professor Steven Roberts, Monash University
- + Starlady, Zoe Belle Gender Collective
- + Sarah Drury, Men and Family Centre
- + Dr Chay Brown, HerStory Consulting

Gender transformative practice is about striving for a world where we can all be who we want to be, free from the constraints of rigid gender stereotypes, inequalities and norms. It challenges deeply rooted power dynamics that drive gender-based violence and the pressure on men to conform to dominant forms of masculinity that emphasise power, control and disrespect.

Gender transformative practice engages people of all genders in changing systems, structures, attitudes, behaviours and stereotypes. To do this, how do we engage in storytelling that meets people where they are and pushes them towards gender transformation? How do we engage men and boys in action and conversation to transform these stereotypes and retain accountability to women? This session will explore the practice of storytelling to facilitate conversations about gender, masculinities and working with men and boys.

CLOSING PLENARY 3.15 - 4.15PM

Stories for change: where to next?

Moderators: Hannah Dwyer and Meghan Cooper, Safe and Equal

Speakers:

- + Jay Jones, Body Safety Australia
- + Lena Molnar, Women with Disabilities Victoria
- + Sharmila Falzon, Domestic Violence NSW
- + Nagma Shaik, Women's Health and Equality Queensland
- + Alicia Gibbs, Preventing Violence Together

Sharing and hearing stories is central to primary prevention – whether they're about engaging community, forming partnerships, influencing policy or the impact from programs. Storytelling is a cross-cutting practice across many disciplines. It is about how we share messages that speak to common values, inspire specific actions and engage with audiences to create connection.

After two days covering a range of discussions, this plenary will close the conference and look at: *where to next?* A panel of PreventX delegates will speak about these questions: *What have you learned about storytelling as a part of primary prevention? What actions do you think are needed next – for the sector and for yourself?*

This session will be about practitioner ideas to synthesise and inspire ahead of closing conference networking.

Learn more about our speakers



SESSION 9

Stories from prevention workforce development

Presented by Our Watch, Domestic Violence NSW, Multicultural Centre for Women's Health and Women with Disabilities Victoria

This session will explore how the primary prevention workforce is being strengthened across diverse contexts in Australia. You will hear how organisations are supporting governments to build the foundations for primary prevention and are building capability, confidence and inclusion within the workforce, from centring disability and gender equity, to enabling statewide collaboration and investing in bilingual health education. Through their collective experience, the session will highlight emerging approaches, the challenges and opportunities shaping workforce development, and what sustained investment is needed to support prevention practitioners to drive long term change and respond to backlash and resistance. This session will feature:

- + **Our Watch:** *Strong foundations, strong futures: sustaining primary prevention efforts*
- + **Domestic Violence NSW:** *The NSW Primary Prevention Collaboration: a NSW story of primary prevention practice, advocacy and growth*
- + **Multicultural Centre for Women's Health:** *Amplifying bilingual voices: investing in a critical workforce for community-led prevention*
- + **Women with Disabilities Victoria:** *From fear to confidence: embedding gender and disability-inclusive prevention*

SESSION 10

Stories of working with young people in prevention

Presented by Our Watch, the Australian Muslim Women's Centre for Human Rights and Centre for Multicultural Youth

At the heart of creating a safer, more equitable future is the leadership and lived experience of young people. This session will highlight how three organisations are working with young people to strengthen prevention across generations.

Through youth-led initiatives, culturally grounded programs and conversations that centre young people's realities – in schools, community spaces and faith-based contexts – these organisations will demonstrate how prevention becomes most powerful when young people shape its direction. Together, their work shows how investing in young people today lays the foundations for long-term, inclusive prevention. This session will feature:

- + **Our Watch:** *Changing the story for young people: complementary and reinforcing prevention approaches where young people learn, play and engage*
- + **Australian Muslim Women's Centre for Human Rights:** *Navigating Halal and Haram: conversations on relationships, consent and safety with young Muslim women*
- + **Centre for Multicultural Youth:** *Youth-led change: the Speak Up program and the future of inclusive family violence prevention*

SESSION 11

The Game: an immersive game-based workshop about LGBTIQ+ inclusion in sport and recreation

Presented by Proud2Play

- 👤 Capped at 40 people
- 🔊 Loud interactive session

This immersive, scenario-based game draws participants into real world situations LGBTIQ+ people encounter in sport, encouraging them to navigate challenges, decision points, and different perspectives.

As the session unfolds, participants explore how inclusion and exclusion emerge in everyday environments, prompting reflection on how culture, structures, and interactions shape someone's experience. During the workshop, you'll not only understand why this work is important, you'll feel it! You will have the option to observe or play, we encourage you to join in this collective experience right from game kick-off through to match review discussions! Participants will gain a grounded understanding of the links between LGBTIQ+ inclusion and prevention in sport settings, building practical insight and confidence to support meaningful inclusion in their settings. Light active participation is suitable for all abilities; attendees are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing, bring a phone or tablet for QR codes, and arrive with an open mind!

SESSION 12

Stories from research and program impact

Presented by Our Watch, Respect Victoria, and Jesuit Social Services – The Men's Project

Robust research and meaningful evaluation are essential to understanding progress, shaping strategy and strengthening prevention efforts across communities. In this session speakers will explore how evidence is being generated, interpreted and applied to drive effective primary prevention.

Together, they will demonstrate how population-level monitoring, secondary data analysis and research into young men's attitudes can deepen insights into what is changing and where there are gaps in our practice. By sharing emerging findings and real-world implications, this session will highlight how strong evidence systems help the sector track impact, refine approaches and build a more informed and adaptive prevention landscape. The session will feature:

- + **Our Watch:** *Sharing stories of change: monitoring population-level progress in primary prevention*
- + **Respect Victoria:** *Collect once, use often: insights from secondary analysis of National Community Attitudes Survey (NCAS) data from Victoria*
- + **Jesuit Social Services – The Men's Project:** *Unpacking the Adolescent Man Box research and practice implications*

SESSION 13

More than a setting: primary prevention and digital lives

Presented by Respect Victoria,
The Global Institute for Women's
Leadership at the Australian
National University, University
of Melbourne and Body Safety
Australia

This session will rethink the role of digital life in primary prevention, recognising online spaces not as separate settings but as powerful forces shaping norms, relationships and the drivers of gendered violence. Respect Victoria will bring to this session findings from new research, practice and discussions to explore how prevention can better engage with digital technologies, from algorithmic influence and online misogyny to technology-facilitated harassment and community-led digital activism. The session will invite the sector to advance a more nuanced, multifaceted approach to prevention that responds to the realities of our interconnected digital and physical worlds.

SESSION 14

Stories to advance practice in the early years

Presented by healthAbility Baby
Makes 3, Better Health Network,
FVREE and Women's Health
Loddon Mallee

Early childhood is a powerful window for shaping attitudes, relationships and gender equality. In this session speakers will explore how prevention in the early years can influence children, parents and communities for generations to come.

Drawing on storytelling approaches, whole-of-service changes and early intervention programs, this session will highlight how organisations are supporting educators, families and systems to move beyond neutrality and actively model gender equity from the beginning. Together, they will show how prevention in the early years can create more equitable environments for children to grow, learn and thrive. The session will feature:

- + **healthAbility Baby Makes 3:** *Stories of systems change: Baby Makes 3 in action*
- + **Better Health Network:** *Moving beyond neutral: aligning practice with the story you want to tell about gender equity in the early years*
- + **FVREE:** *Gender equity in the early years: engaging parents, educators and children through storytelling*
- + **Women's Health Loddon Mallee:** *Raise them equal: gender in the early years*



SESSION 15

Stories from sport

Presented by The Sexual Assault & Family Violence Centre, Crash the Boards, Rainbow Health Australia and CatholicCare NT

Sport sits at the heart of many communities and offers a powerful platform for shifting social norms, promoting inclusion and driving primary prevention initiatives. In this session, speakers will explore how prevention efforts in community sport can challenge homophobia, misogyny and transphobia, strengthen respectful relationships and catalyse broader community-led change.

Together, these organisations will show how working through sport, both on and off the field, can create long-term opportunities to influence attitudes, disrupt harmful norms and build cultures of respect and equity. The session will feature:

- + **The Sexual Assault & Family Violence Centre:** *Why sport? The respect starts here story*
- + **Crash the Boards:** *Primary prevention in sport*
- + **CatholicCare NT:** *Playing the Long Game: Sport as a Catalyst for Community-Led Prevention*
- + **Rainbow Health Australia:** *Connecting the dots between homophobia, misogyny and transphobia through a focus on sport and masculinities*

SESSION 16

Stories across the prevention continuum

Presented by Centre for Non-Violence, Safe and Equal, Jesuit Social Services – The Men’s Project and Women’s Health Grampians, and Settlement Services International

Prevention is most effective when delivered in solidarity with efforts in early intervention, response, and recovery. In this session, speakers will explore how prevention efforts can be strengthened with reinforcing efforts across the prevention continuum. Through insights from refugee settlement, frontline service delivery, and a partnership focused on engaging masculinities and men, these organisations show how everyday interactions, client work and community engagement can all play a role in shifting social norms, supporting safety and reducing harm.

- + **Centre for Non-Violence:** *Frontline Services: the missing link in prevention!*
- + **Safe and Equal, Jesuit Social Services – The Men’s Project and Women’s Health Grampians:** *Masculinities and Men: A Theory of Change for Victoria*
- + **Settlement Services International:** *Conversations for prevention: transforming social norms in the context of refugee settlement*

PREVENTX - GROUNDED ON COUNTRY WELLBEING SPACE

(ongoing throughout conference)

Restorative Yarns is a therapeutic consultancy service that weaves old ways and new ways of knowing, being and doing to support healing, wellbeing and recovery. Grounded in a social justice and human rights framework, Restorative Yarns draws on a decolonial approach, acknowledging the ongoing impacts of colonisation while centring cultural wisdom and culturally safe, trauma-informed care. They offer a range of services including consultancy, counselling, supervision and therapeutic practices designed to empower individuals and communities through culturally responsive support and meaningful healing.

At the PreventX conference, Restorative Yarns is honoured to provide the *Grounded on Country* wellbeing space. This is a supportive area where delegates can pause, ground, reflect and connect throughout the event. This space, held by clinicians, is available for people to yarn together, sit quietly, breathe, or rest in a way that feels right to them, acknowledging that everyone cares for themselves differently and that wellbeing looks different for each person.

Restorative Yarns are also available to support delegates experiencing distress or in need of support throughout the conference.

Facilitators

Sam Ivancsik (she/her) is a proud LGBTQIA+ SB Wiradjuri woman from the South Coast of NSW. Sam brings over a decade of experience working across child protection, domestic and family violence, sexual assault and supporting children and young people affected by problematic and harmful behaviours. She holds a Bachelor of Social Work and integrates somatic-based practices and technologies like biofeedback into her therapeutic work, alongside culturally informed care.

Locky Bygrave (he/him) is a proud LGBTQIA+ SB Kamilaroi/Gamilaroi man and First Nations Social Worker with extensive clinical experience across the lifespan. Locky's practice centres strengths-based, culturally responsive and trauma- and violence-informed approaches, with a deep commitment to enhancing wellbeing and supporting those impacted by complex trauma and sexual harm.

Together, Sam and Locky hold this space with care, cultural awareness and gentle support, inviting delegates to enter *Grounded on Country* when they need a moment of rest, reflection, somatic grounding, support or connection.

RESTORATIVE YARNS PROGRAM

TIME	TUESDAY 24 MARCH	WEDNESDAY 25 MARCH
Morning 9am – 1pm	(No specific activity offered while Restorative Yarns are delivering a parallel session)	<p>Collective Care Yarn</p> <p>Collective Care Yarn is a facilitated reflective space using <i>Sacred Embers</i> cards to explore the ethics and values that guide our work. Through shared reflection and conversation, participants are invited to consider how collective care – rather than individual endurance – can be a meaningful way of resisting burnout.</p> <p>This activity centres slowing down, listening and making sense of our experiences alongside others. The <i>Sacred Embers</i> prompts support discussion around responsibility, limits, solidarity and sustainability in this work, with an emphasis on what it means to care for ourselves and each other within shared systems and contexts.</p> <p>The focus is not on problem-solving or productivity, but on connection, reflection and reaffirming values that make this work possible to continue.</p>
Afternoon 2 – 4.45pm	<p>Creating weighted cushions</p> <p>In this hands-on workshop, participants will create their own weighted cushion using fabric and filling of their choice. The process involves measuring, assembling and filling the cushion to a preferred weight, allowing for personal customisation.</p> <p>Weighted cushions can provide steady, grounding pressure and are often used as a sensory or somatic support. This session focuses on the practical making process while offering space for participants to notice how weight, texture and pressure feel in their body.</p> <p>No sewing experience is required. All materials are provided and participants can work at their own pace.</p>	<p>‘What I want to remember’</p> <p>This activity invites delegates to write a short letter to themselves, using guided prompts to reflect on what they want to remember from this conference. The prompts encourage reflection on key learnings, stories for change shared across the two days, and the hopes and possibilities these have sparked for what primary prevention of gendered violence could look like moving forward.</p> <p>Participants are invited to name what they want to carry with them – values, commitments, questions, or dreams and how they hope this conference will continue to shape their thinking and practice over time.</p> <p>Letters can be taken home by participants or collected and held by the Safe and Equal team to be posted to participants six months after the conference. This offers a way of reconnecting with reflections and hopes in the future.</p> <p>Participation is optional and there is no expectation to share what you write.</p>
End of day 4.45 – 5pm	<p>Winding down</p> <p>A gentle end-of-day space facilitated by the team, offering guided somatic exercises and light stretching to help the body settle.</p> <p>Participants are invited to slow their pace, release accumulated tension and transition out of the day in a calm, supported way. No experience is required.</p>	<p>Winding down</p> <p>The day will close with a guided meditation facilitated by clinicians, offering a quiet space to settle the body and mind after the conference. This session is designed to support rest, integration of the day’s content and as a gentle transition out of the program.</p> <p>The meditation will be accessible and optional, with participants invited to engage in a way that feels comfortable for them.</p>

WHAT'S THE NEXT STEP IN YOUR PREVENTION CAREER?

Creating a safer world starts with a primary prevention workforce that is empowered, valued and equipped to lead. Continuous professional development provides the ongoing development and connection needed to navigate the complexity inherent in this work and meet our goals.

Safe and Equal offer a clear progression for every career stage. Our prevention training establishes the foundational, evidence-based skills and knowledge to help you navigate projects, resistance and disclosures. This leads into our Fast Track leadership program, which integrates technical expertise with the feminist frameworks and networks necessary for systemic change.



**RESPONDING TO
DISCLOSURES IN
PREVENTION**



Scan the QR codes to learn more about our offerings and how we can support you and your organisation to end family and gender-based violence.



**TRAINING
AND
UPCOMING
DATES**



**FAST TRACK
INTENSIVE
LEADERSHIP
PROGRAM**

SAFE + EQUAL

Share your story

If you're working to lead the change for gender equality and violence prevention, get in touch, we'd love to collaborate and share your story.

Together, we can shift attitudes, behaviours and systems that drive gender-based violence and lead a public conversation that keeps prevention on the national agenda.



Partner with us to help share your story.
Email: finn.murphy@ourwatch.org.au



This is prevention videos
See how other organisations have shared their story and impact with us



Download our free socials graphics
and tag us in your posts #THISISPREVENTION



Our Watch

Our Watch is Australia's leader in the primary prevention of violence against women, aiming to stop violence before it starts.

Our vision is an Australia where women and their children live free from all forms of violence. This work is happening in communities across Australia, and everyone has a role to play.

Stay connected

Get monthly updates on Our Watch's latest primary prevention work and access new evidence-based resources.



**Scan the QR Code to sign up
or visit: eepurl.com/hrNQHR**

ourwatch.org.au



Meet us at our PreventX exhibition booth



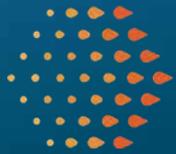
OurWatch Preventing violence against women

WHAT KIND OF MAN DO YOU WANT TO BE?

We asked Victorian men about everything from fatherhood to relationships to online gaming to social media

HEAR MEN'S STORIES

 **RESPECT VICTORIA**



**Telecommunications
Industry
Ombudsman**

Family Violence

How Telcos Must Respond

When someone is affected by family violence, telcos must act with care, safety and flexibility.

We expect providers to:

- Believe the consumer
- Treat family violence as financial hardship
- Offer support like payment plans or debt waivers
- Secure accounts from unauthorised access

Guided by the 2025 Family Violence Consumer Protections Standard.



White Ribbon Australia is made up of a group of exceptional people who all share the same goal – a nation where every woman and child is free from all forms of men’s violence and abuse.

White Ribbon Australia takes a primary prevention approach across communities, schools and workplaces. Through education and awareness programs, we help shift the attitudes, behaviours and systems that drive men’s violence against women and children. We engage men and boys as part of the solution, supporting them to take responsibility and lead change in their relationships, workplaces and communities.



SUPPORT SERVICES



SAFE STEPS (1800 015 188)

is Victoria’s statewide family violence crisis service for anyone experiencing family violence.



SEXUAL ASSAULT CRISIS LINE (1800 806 292)

is Victoria’s statewide crisis service for anyone who has experienced sexual assault.



RAINBOW DOOR (1800 729 367)

is a free service for all LGBTIQ+ people in Victoria, their friends, family and peers.



YARNING SAFE AND STRONG (1800 959 563)

is a free and confidential counselling service for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

EXHIBITORS

Our Watch



Our Watch is Australia's leader in the primary prevention of violence against women, working to embed gender equality and prevent violence where Australians live, learn, work and socialise. Our Watch is focused on growing primary prevention knowledge, inspiring action on gender equality, leading for impact through inclusive leadership and strengthening their performance and success by being a thriving, high-performing, values-led organisation. Visit the Our Watch exhibit at PreventX to meet Our Watch staff and learn more about their national activities including campaigns, free training, professional networks, national frameworks and free resources. Remember to ask about Our Watch's inspiring social media series "This is Prevention", which showcases diverse and innovative prevention work led by organisations and communities across Australia.

Respect Victoria



Stories sit at the heart of Respect Victoria's prevention approach. Learn how Respect Victoria's campaigns, research and place-based work use evidence-informed storytelling to challenge harmful norms and support behaviour change, including the 'What Kind of Man Do You Want to Be?' campaign, the 'Respect Ballarat' place-based initiative and 'Your Image Belongs to You', and learn more about Respect Victoria's Three-Year Report to Parliament, which outlines Victoria's story of progress in preventing family violence and violence against women.

White Ribbon



Visit the White Ribbon exhibit to learn more about their Workplace Training and Workplace Accreditation programs, which builds staff understanding of FDV and strengthens respectful, safe and equal workplaces. Explore the Schools Program, supporting students and staff to challenge harmful gender norms and develop respectful relationships. You can also hear about the Community Partners Program, which mobilises everyday people to take practical action in workplaces, schools, clubs and communities to prevent men's violence against women. Discover Not Perfect, Better, a campaign supporting behaviour change by turning awareness into everyday action.

Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman (TIO)



The Telecommunications Ombudsman (TIO) provides support to people who haven't been able to resolve an issue with their phone or internet provider. TIO's services are free and independent and their staff are supported to approach every conversation with care and sensitivity. TIO is deeply committed to improving outcomes and strengthening protections for victim survivors of domestic and family violence.

Through TIO's advocacy, including submissions to the Australian Communications and Media Authority for the new Telecommunications (Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Consumer Protections) Industry Standard 2025, they provide information to policy makers, regulators and the public about the role of the TIO and how they can support Australians experiencing domestic and family violence. The TIO has also previously worked with Safe and Equal on their Guidance Document (domestic and family violence issues) for consumers.

Visit the TIO's exhibit to learn more how TIO helps consumers and providers to resolve issues, as well as informing regulators to strengthen protections and build safer telecommunications systems for everyone. Keeping people safe when using their phone and internet services is central to TIO's work and advocacy of victim survivors of family violence. Come and visit the TIO at PreventX 2026 – they're here to help and looking forward to connecting with you.

Melbourne Playback Theatre (MPT)



Melbourne Playback Theatre Company (MPT) is a not-for-profit interactive theatre and community engagement organisation with over 45 years' experience using the power of storytelling to foster connection, reflection and positive action. They create dynamic performances, participatory workshops and tailored training that bring people together, amplify lived experience and open space for listening, dialogue and insight. Grounded in principles of inclusion, respect and collaboration, MPT's work supports organisations and communities to explore complex social issues and strengthen communication, empathy and shared understanding. Visit the Melbourne Playback Theatre exhibit to learn more about their prevention partnerships (which have included Our Watch, Wagga Women's Health and SECASA and RMIT's Working Together With Men project), and their broader project work with community groups, government and not-for-profit organisations. Through storytelling and theatre-based practice, MPT aims to create environments where every voice is heard and collective learning can flourish.

Consent Labs



Visit the Consent Labs exhibit to learn more about how they are empowering young people to recognise, prevent and take action against sexual violence. Consent Labs offers a range of programs for high schools, universities and other organisations to meaningfully support young people and their communities across Australia to actively change the culture around sexual violence. Consent Labs' sessions combine evidence-based best practice with the voices of young people to create both relevant and realistic takeaways for participants.

Women's Health and Equality Queensland (WHEQ)



Women's Health and Equality Queensland (WHEQ) have been leaders and innovators of women's health, gender equality and recovery from violence initiatives in Queensland for over 40 years. Learn more from the WHEQ exhibit about their journey to state leadership in primary prevention of gender-based violence. Visit the WHEQ exhibit to chat about how lived experience, local knowledge and cultural insight shape every stage of their prevention efforts. WHEQ understands that centring community voices, elevating stories that challenge assumptions, and translating community narratives into strategies can shift systems, shape policy and create meaningful change.

Queensland Centre for Domestic and Family Violence Research



Queensland Centre for Domestic and Family Violence Research (QCDFVR) understands that education and awareness are powerful prevention tools and would love to chat with you about opportunities to support you in your research in a way that is affordable and educational. Visit the Queensland Centre for Domestic and Family Violence Research exhibit to learn about their research, community engagement activities and accredited and non-accredited training. QCDFVR has created a QR code specifically for PreventX 2026 attendees where you can access electronic copies of their 'Strong Women Hard Yarns' booklet for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, including real stories from First Nations victim survivors, the 'Non-Fatal Strangulation Research' booklet and many other resources.

Zoe Belle Gender Collective



Visit the Zoe Belle Gender Collective (ZBGC) exhibit to access their extensive range of prevention of violence resources. ZBGC staff welcome you to come and talk about their expertise in:

- + Trans and gender diverse inclusion in prevention of gender-based violence initiatives
- + Addressing men's violence against trans women and trans feminine people
- + Sex and consent for trans and gender diverse people and their partners.

ZBGC is also offering lots of goodies for you to take such as posters and practice guides to create welcoming workplaces or further learning to increase your capacity in preventing violence against trans and gender diverse people, their families, partners and communities.

Women's Health in the North (WHIN)



Women's Health in the North (WHIN) invites you to consider how to move beyond words and make inclusion real. Visit the WHIN exhibit, and the Zoe Belle Gender Collective (ZBGC) exhibit (right next to WHIN's table), to hear insights about their ongoing Allyship in Action partnership and the practical work they've undertaken together to strengthen trans and gender diverse inclusion in the prevention of gender-based violence.

From policy shifts to changes in practice, both exhibitors are excited to speak openly with you about what has worked, what they've learned and the challenges that remain. WHIN is also embedding these learnings through their regional prevention partnership 'Building a Respectful Community'. WHIN can support you to put Allyship in Action into practice by updating policies, designing inclusive programs, strengthening partnerships with trans-led organisations, preparing for backlash and resistance and building safer workplace cultures.

Djirra



Visit the Djirra exhibit to learn more about their early intervention and prevention programs (Young Luv, Sisters Day Out, Dilly Bag and Koori Women's Place) and chat about the importance of Aboriginal-led, culturally safe responses to family violence and prevention work. Djirra deeply understands that sharing stories, listening to lived experience and finding shared solutions are central to prevention work. Djirra's programs and resources reinforce this by highlighting the importance of culture, community and women's voices in driving change. Come and connect with Djirra and learn more about how to refer and support those who may need Djirra's services. You may also be lucky enough to pick up some beautiful merchandise such as keyrings, tote bags, pens, lanyards, stickers and scrunchies.

Rainbow Health Australia



Visit the Rainbow Health Australia (RHA) exhibit to hear about the ways they can support your organisation in LGBTIQ+ inclusion work. No matter where on the journey your organisation is, they have training, resources, masterclasses and more to support you. If you're based in Victoria, you may be eligible for fully subsidised training. They can also answer questions about Rainbow Tick accreditation. Broader workplace LGBTIQ+ inclusion significantly supports and reinforces LGBTIQ+ inclusive primary prevention work.

Women with Disabilities Victoria (WDV)



Visit the Women with Disabilities Victoria exhibit to explore their expertise at the intersection of ableism and gender-based violence prevention. Learn how they strengthen primary prevention through workforce development, practice resources, lived experience consultation and co-design, research and advocacy. Connect with them for practical tools and insights to advance disability-inclusive prevention practice.



**PARTNERS IN
PREVENTION**

PARTNERS IN PREVENTION NETWORK

Hosted by Safe and Equal the Partners in Prevention (PiP) Network is a network of more than 4000 people, working to prevent family and gender-based violence.

Established in 2007 by Domestic Violence Resource Centre Victoria (DVRCV), PiP supports prevention practitioners working across locations, sectors, communities and organisations.

PiP membership is free to join and for all practitioners who deliver or support prevention work in paid and unpaid roles. It is not bound by organisation, employment or role type. If prevention is part of your work, the PiP Network is for you.

Join us to be the first to learn about engaging training and events, connect with other practitioners through our PiP Connects and online practice network and browse through useful resources to help you in your work.

SIGN UP



safeandequal.org.au/partners-in-prevention

PREVENT X Stories for Change



SAFE+EQUAL