

# Collaborative approaches to responding DFV in families: fathers, mothers and child protection

October 2017



Bringing the light of Christ into communities

# Working with male perpetrators



## Overview

- Churches of Christ Care Children, Youth and Families
- DFV pervasive and reflective of community occurrence
- Partnership with QCDFVR and CQU
- Outcomes for CYF – clients and employees

# Timeline

2015

- Developed partnership with CQU
- Roll out of first phase of training
- Advanced training topics
- Post-graduate students

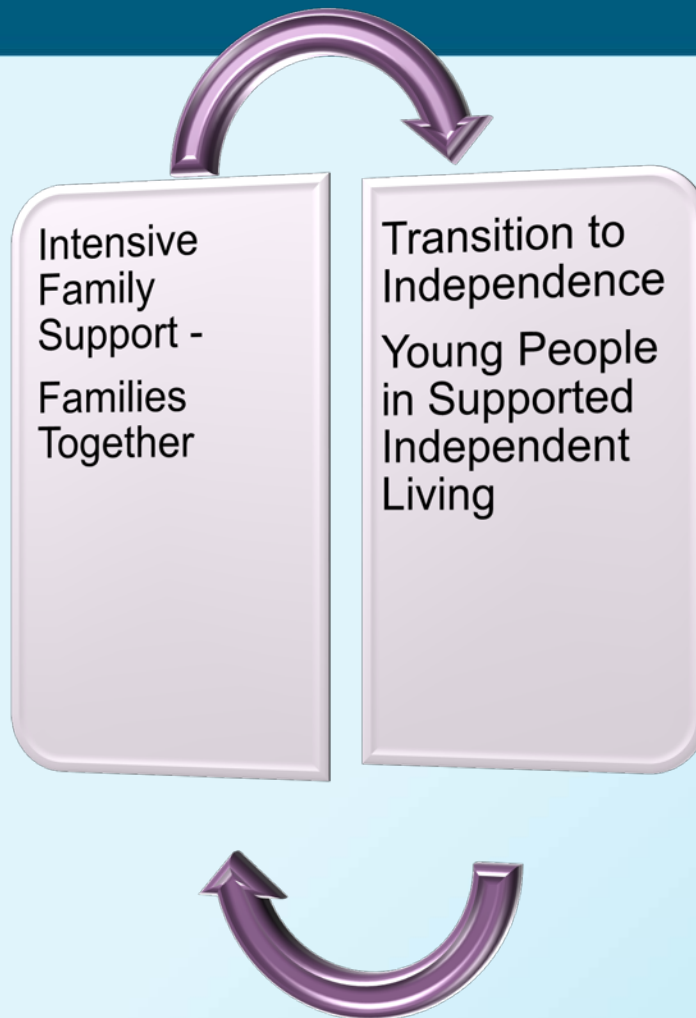
- Over 400 staff members trained
- Over 55 staff complete advanced modules

2016

- Co-design advanced practice workshops

2017

# Practice Dilemmas





# Developing Practice

## Area of focus 1:

- Male Perpetrators and Cultures of Masculinity

In 2017 we added advanced practice workshops to be developed through co-design process

## Area of focus 2:

- Risk and Safety Assessment

# Attitudes & beliefs

- Services cannot work with families with perpetrator present
- Women's responsibility to protect children
- AOD, mental health, history of trauma as factors
- Men invisible when DFV intersects with CP

**Why doesn't s he leave stop?**

# Workshop Preparation



Workshop developed with Andrew Frost (CQU academic) and Mark Walters (DV Connect Mensline) with support from CCDFVRC

Focus of workshops for DFV Practitioners and practice staff as foundation

Sent out survey questions seeking feedback to capture views of staff and used the dilemmas of case examples from practice

Encourage shift in understanding of workers to be able to develop practice working with male perpetrators of IPV and to develop practical skills

# Instrumental vs Expressive

- Violence has forms!
- Violence has strategic applications!
- Violence is goal orientated!
- Violence is not the inevitable consequence of certain situations!
- Non violence is a choice!
- Violence is gendered!



# Future

- Creating MBC programs and approaches that actually work
- Issues of diversity
- Complexity of family work where DFV remains a consideration
- Integrative approaches
- Supporting our employees

# References

Carrington (2014) Masculinity matters: Super-capitalism, men and violence

Hearn (2001) Men, Social Work and Men's Violence to Women

Jenkins (2009) Becoming ethical: A parallel, political journey with men who have abused

Kauffman (1999) The 7 P's of men's violence

Langlands and Ward (2009) Applying the Good LIVES Model to Male Perpetrators of Domestic Violence

Mandel (2010) Child welfare and domestic violence: Tackling the thorny questions that stand in the way of collaboration and improvement of child welfare practice

Vlais (2014) Domestic violence perpetrator programs: Education, therapy, support, accountability 'or' struggle?