

*Women's Health and Wellbeing Support Services
Queensland Centre for Domestic and Family Violence Research
Community of Practice
2019-2020
TERMS OF REFERENCE*

The Queensland Centre for Domestic and Family Violence Research (QCDFVR), CQUniversity receives defined term funding from the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women.

Under its current Service Agreement Annual Workplan, QCDFVR is tasked with the development of *A community of practice for workers from new Women's Health and Wellbeing Support Services (WHWSS) and existing Women's Health Services to build their capacity through professional development opportunities and peer support to ensure workers are not operating in isolation and remain connected to contemporary practice in the delivery of post-crisis gendered violence support work.*

To this end QCDFVR will:

- Coordinate virtual meetings of practitioners nominated by the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women
- Ensure the attendance of at least one QCDFVR staff member at each meeting of the Community of Practice
- Share professional development opportunities and relevant contemporary research and reports with members of the Community of Practice
- Where possible and practical, identify responses to the professional development needs of members of the Community of Practice
- Provide access to, and maintain a secure Members' site on the QCDFVR website to members of this Community of Practice. The site will contain documentation and other material relevant to the group (e.g. past presentations, journal articles etc.). This site is password protected and access details are not to be shared outside this COP.

Women's Health and Wellbeing Services' workers employed in the WHWSS and nominated by WHWSS managers will:

- Attend and participate in these virtual meetings through sharing information which is relevant to the Community of Practice
- Where required, maintain the confidentiality of the Community of Practice
- Where possible and practical, access the professional development opportunities provided through participation in the Community of Practice

Focus

A safe and respectful place for WHWSS workers to come together with QCDFVR staff to share experiences and practice knowledge in a spirit of mutual learning and peer support.

Objectives

- Building workforce capacity in the broader violence against women sector through professional development opportunities
- Enhancing peer support to ensure workers are not operating in isolation
- Enabling connectedness to contemporary practice in the responding to the post-crisis needs of women who have experienced violence
- Creating opportunities for sharing problem-solving and innovative practice

Principles

1. Membership of the CoP is voluntary. It should be noted that QCDFVR is required to maintain an attendance register for each practice workshop/ discussion identifying the service name, service location and organisation and provide this to the department within 14 days of each event with a general description of the matters workshopped/ discussed.
2. Practitioners wishing to participate are asked to give permission for their contact details to be shared with other members.
3. Materials (hard copy or electronic), not in the public domain, that are shared with members, remain the property of the originating member/organisation.
4. Members providing material should include a document 'footer' indicating the member's name/ organisation and the date the documents were shared with the group.
5. These shared materials are not to be:
 - a. used without appropriate acknowledgement of the originating member/ organisation
 - b. altered without seeking permission from the originating member/ organisation.
6. Materials shared may be used in the normal way for publication, with appropriate referencing.

Meetings will be held every second/third month.

