



# 2019 Year in Review

 Queensland Centre for  
Domestic and Family  
Violence Research

# Our focus



*Our mission is to contribute to the prevention of and response to violence against women (and their children) through research, education and sector support.*

## Influences

- Fourth Action Plan of the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-2022
- Queensland Government's Third Action Plan of the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy 2019-20 to 2021-22
- Prevent. Support. Believe. Queensland's Framework to address Sexual Violence.
- Queensland's Framework for Action – Reshaping our approach to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander domestic and family violence

*Creating and sharing  
knowledge since 2002*

# Welcome

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## Welcome



This 2019 in Review presents the highlights of our work across the last calendar year. Although it is divided into the three sections of our endeavours - research, sector support and education – this Review underscores the integrated nature of our work in these domains.

Each informs the other as part of a participatory action learning approach delivering a social impact. In 2019 we continued to connect and grow all three of these areas to develop new and better ways to improve the lives of women and their families.

Our continued growth and improvement in 2019 were thanks to the sustained funding from the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women (DCSYW) and (particularly since 2015) CQUniversity, Australia. The support of the latter allows us to be responsive to trends, emerging issues and requests, including from government, while at the same time focusing on education and training and research more broadly.

The funding from DCSYW over 2019 saw us delivering a very multifaceted response: a significant training component was completed at the beginning of the year, and we had a greater emphasis on evaluative and research projects in the following months. This occurred throughout the year against a backdrop of delivering a range of sector development events and resources. Pages 7 and 8 provide a glimpse of this part of our work the activities for which we are accountable to the DCSYW. You will see that elements of this work are showcased in greater detail elsewhere in this report, particularly in the Research and Sector support sections.

The funding from CQUniversity remains focused on leading the way in Australia in education, training and professional development (see pages 13-16), and because of the alignment with QCDFVR, all offerings maintain a practice orientation. CQUniversity's commitment to being 'an engaged' university has also enabled us to extend our sector capacity building beyond that of the DCSYW funding across Queensland. This is a privileged position to be in, and one we take very seriously.

However, we cannot do this work alone, and nor should we. In order to rapidly and resiliently adapt to changing environments as required, we must work collegially with our valued and diverse partners. Our successes would not have occurred without their advice, information sharing and contributions across all our work. So, in concluding I want to celebrate and acknowledge their experience and the expertise of the networks, services and individuals who partnered with and advised us in 2019. I hope you enjoy the exhilarating journey of 2019 in this snapshot of our work.



**Dr Heather Lovatt**  
Director  
Queensland Centre for Domestic and Family Violence Research



# Researchers and lecturers

Our successes in 2019 could not be achieved without the commitment and hard work of the members and staff of the Centre. Full-time staff are located in Mackay, Brisbane and Perth, while casual staff are located across Queensland.



**Dr Heather Lovatt**  
Director/ Researcher



**Dr Annabel Taylor**  
Research Professor



**Dr Brian Sullivan**  
Senior Lecturer



**Dr Marika Guggisberg**  
Senior Lecturer



**Dr Emily Hurren Paterson**  
Senior Lecturer



**Dr Nicola Cheyne**  
Lecturer



**Dr Liane McDermott**  
Senior Researcher



**Dr Sue Carswell**  
Senior Researcher



**Dr Andrew Frost**  
Senior Lecturer



**Ms Suewellyn Kelly**  
Associate Lecturer



**Mr Mark Walters**  
Associate Lecturer



**Ms Colleen Gunning**  
Lecturer/ Education Coordinator

## Our partners

Thanks to our many partners who are also focused on a world where women and children are safe and have a sense of wellbeing:



CQUniversity flagship lecturers publish critically acclaimed text

In 2015, Drs Silke Meyer and Andrew Frost led the development of the postgraduate suite of domestic and family violence practice courses through the Centre. Their 2019 Routledge publication, *Domestic and family violence: A critical introduction to knowledge and practice*, was written while at CQU. Offering an introduction to the nature and scope of violence in contemporary social contexts, this book has been recognised as providing a basis for informed practice responses. Both Drs Silke Meyer and Andrew Frost are adjunct CQUniversity staff and collaborated with the Centre throughout the year.

# Research / evaluation

Dr Annabel Taylor, Research Professor Gendered Violence

My role was established by CQU in order to support the existing work of the Centre (as funded by DCSYW and others) and to expand research opportunities so that our knowledge extends to new areas of investigation.

I have been involved with three major projects in 2019. The first was the evaluation of the White Ribbon Workplace Accreditation Program (which you can read about on page 5). The second has been the ANROWS funded study led by CQUniversity's Professor Nerilee Hing on the association between gambling and domestic and family violence. Lastly, (but by no means least) has been the ongoing evaluation of the Uniting Care Community's (UCC) Men's Behaviour Programs.

The UCC evaluation has been planned in three stages and 2019 saw the submission of the report for Stage One and movement into Stage Two. This phase involved pre- and post- surveys with the men attending the program and interviews with their partners, and the program facilitators, stakeholders and managers. Early findings will be reported by mid-2020.

A smaller but very interesting project in 2019 involved a literature review for the Northern Queensland Primary Health Network concerning innovative ways of responding to trauma and the mental health needs of children and adolescents. This work built on our earlier 2018 evaluation of a therapeutic intervention developed by the Mackay Domestic Violence Resource Service to support carers and their children in response to domestic violence-related trauma.

All of this reflects the considerable initiative of community organisations in leading the way with evaluation research in the effort to discover 'what works' in addressing domestic and family violence. It very much fits with QCDFVR's aim of making a social impact.

As well as collaborating on dissemination and development activities a significant role for me is supporting new scholars into CQUniversity's Research by Higher Degree program. Current students include:

Vicki Lowik PhD Candidate: *Not in our church: Addressing Christian women's vulnerability to domestic violence*

Shannon Bakon PhD Candidate: *Exploring Emergency Practices Within Domestic Violence Healthcare Provision: A Grounded Theory Study within Regional Queensland Hospitals*

The Rev Jacqueline Hurren PhD Candidate: *Is there a relationship between PTSD and DFV in ADF veterans?*

Mark Walters Master's Candidate: *"Who are you?" Men who strangle but do not kill. An exploratory review of factors that contribute.*

Lydia Mainey PhD Candidate: *Experiences of providing abortion-related nursing care to women affected by domestic violence or sexual assault.*



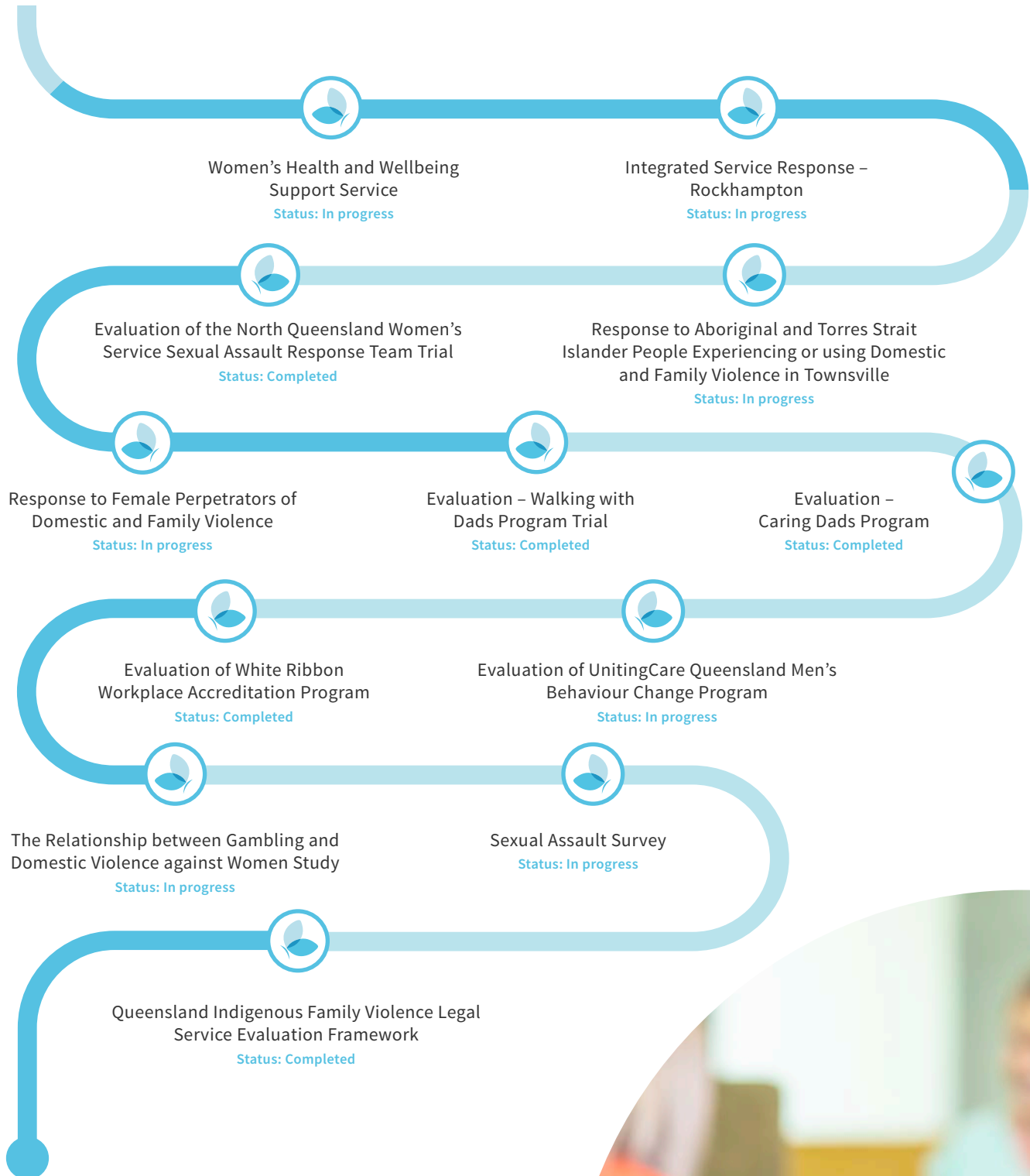
Should you be interested in taking up an exciting opportunity to investigate an issue that you'd like to address and to join an enthusiastic team please do get in touch ([a.taylor@cqu.edu.au](mailto:a.taylor@cqu.edu.au)).

In the following pages, you'll read more about the Centre's research projects, current and emerging.



## 2019 Projects

Centre researchers have worked on projects relevant at regional, state and national levels. In addition to literature reviews and practice papers, key projects included:





# Case Studies

Showcasing a sample of the diversity of our evaluative work, from national to local studies

## Evaluation of White Ribbon Workplace Accreditation Program in Australia

Workplace reform in preventing and responding to domestic and family violence is needed, and is being implemented, across Australia. The White Ribbon Workplace Accreditation Program aimed to effect wider social change to address gender-based violence.

QCDFVR evaluated the former White Ribbon Workplace Accreditation Program during 2019. This program aimed to effect wider social change to address gender-based violence by enhancing the capacity of Australian workplaces to respond to men's violence against women (inside and outside the workplace).

The first phase of the evaluation was completed in April 2019. This involved analysis of baseline and follow-up surveys administered between 2012 and 2018 by staff from 242 participating organisations across government, not-for-profit and private sectors. The baseline surveys involved 142,577 participants and the follow-up surveys 89,786 participants. The average response rate across organisations was 50%.

The high number of participants provides confidence in the findings which showed improvements across most domains. This demonstrated the positive influence of the Program related to:

- Increased awareness about violence against women
- less tolerance of sexist attitudes and behaviours
- increased confidence and preparedness to act as a pro-social bystander

The first phase of evaluation also revealed a small number of participants with entrenched violence-supportive attitudes and behaviours. This highlights the need for an ongoing commitment to continuous organisational improvement in addressing violence within workplaces and the community.

The second phase of evaluation included a survey of personnel responsible for implementing the Workplace Accreditation Program, case studies of organisations, interviews with key experts and a literature review. As the final evaluation report was being written the unfortunate demise of White Ribbon Australia was announced. There are valuable insights from this program evaluation and we look forward to disseminating our findings to inform and support future workplace initiatives.

## Responses to sexual assault in north Queensland

This evaluation investigated the participation of a specialist sexual assault service response within a Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) trial implemented in the Townsville region.

The SART model was developed as violence- and trauma-informed response across agencies to provide a '24/7 wrap around response' to victims of sexual assault. Using participatory action research QCDFVR explored the implications of the trial for Townsville, and for broader responses to sexual violence in Queensland.

A final summative/outcome evaluation report on the service model and its operation was completed in July 2019, benchmarking against good practice principles and approaches, including those of the Queensland Government Interagency Guidelines and Prevent. Support. Believe. Queensland's Framework to address Sexual Violence (the Framework).





## Co-designing an Evaluation Framework

The Queensland Indigenous Family Violence Legal Service (QIFVLS) Case Management Practice is a healing program that aims to support QIFVLS clients to address their needs while they are accessing the legal service.

The Case Management Officer (CMO) works in partnership with clients and their families to identify issues, some of which may be impacting on their legal matters, and develop a case plan to address these issues. Clients are encouraged to prioritise goals and are supported to take steps to achieve these goals.

QIFVLS engaged the Centre to support a review of the case management monitoring and evaluation tools and develop an evaluation framework, with funding received from the NVPLS Capacity Building funds 2018/2019. We used a collaborative approach with QIFVLS, working together and drawing on each other's expertise and experience to co-design the evaluation framework and importantly ensure it is relevant for the QIFVLS Case Management Practice. This resulted in updated monitoring tools and a design for a process evaluation that QIFVLS can use to examine how the Case Management Practice has been operating to inform continual improvement. An outcome evaluation was also designed which will identify outcomes for clients, communities, QIFVLS and other key stakeholders.



## Emerging Research

### Strangulation research with Red Rose Foundation

The prevalence and impact of acts of strangulation within domestic and family violence and sexual assault situations is a developing area of research. Attempted strangulation features as a key indicator of lethality in risk assessments, yet it remains under-reported and under-acknowledged by responding services. The Red Rose Foundation (the Foundation) has been leading the way in Australia in raising awareness and conducting training about non-fatal strangulation.

During the year members and staff attended training in Australia and advanced training in San Diego to learn more about contemporary knowledge and approaches. The Foundation's advocacy for increased research was acknowledged and CQUniversity, through the QCDFVR, liaised with the Foundation to explore the generation of new knowledge.

This saw a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) drafted between QCDFVR/ CQUniversity and the Foundation. Under this MOU at least two research projects will be conducted, with findings shared, over 2020.

### Women who use force

A research project for DCSYW was commenced in the latter half of 2019 to explore responses to women identified as perpetrators of domestic and family violence. It is apparent that increasing numbers of women are being issued with intervention and protections orders, while at the same time often not having access to gender-, trauma- and culturally responsive programs. Knowledge about female perpetrators of domestic and family violence is scant but in Australia, universities and organisations undertaking programs and/or evaluations are linking up in a Community of Interest (facilitated by the University of Melbourne). A report will be delivered to the Department early in 2020 but, such is the importance of this topic, the exploration of this complex area will continue as part of our emerging research agenda. Of particular interest is exploring culturally appropriate programs for women from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities who may use violence.

# At a Glance

In recognition of the historic resourcing received from the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women (DCSYW) - the basis for all our achievements.

This 'roadmap' summarises our 2019 journey of work commissioned by DCSYW (\$752,000). It illustrates our capacity to respond to the needs of government, seamlessly integrating across our three strengths - research, sector development and education. The contribution of CQUniversity is also gratefully acknowledged.



## January

- Series of training events to support integrated service responses completed



## February

- Evaluation of Women's Health and Wellbeing Support Services: Theory of change workshop
- Webinar 1: Strangulation in Domestic Violence Contexts
- Rockhampton Integrated Service Response: Progress Report completed

## April



- Scoping Study: Women's Health and Wellbeing Support Services completed
- Webinar 3: Intimate Partner Violence: Coercive control: Invisible Victims?

## March



- Community of Practice 1 (Domestic and Family Violence specialists, Family and Child Connect and Intensive Family Support Services)
- Webinar 2: Intimate Partner Violence: Supporting women from different cultures
- Practice Paper: *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People who have Experienced Sexual Violence* completed
- Workshop: IWSS/ Dr Ron Frey *Helping Children Heal*



## May

- Queensland Indigenous Family Violence Prevention Forum implemented
- Community of Practice 2 (Domestic and Family Violence specialists, Family and Child Connect and Intensive Family Support Services)
- Webinar 4: Intimate Partner Violence: Working with clients with intellectual, learning or cognitive disabilities



## June

- Thought Leadership Forum: Strengthening Queensland Workplaces: implemented
- Webinar 5: Reproductive Coercion
- Review of the Rockhampton Integrated Service Response: Final Report submitted
- Resource: *A measurement tool to support Integrated Service Responses*
- Resource: *Myths and Facts (Domestic and Family Violence)*





July

- 2019-20 Workplan: Completion of negotiation with DCSYW, reflecting a move from earlier training focus to additional evaluation and research projects.



August

- Responses to Female Perpetrators of Domestic and Family Violence: commenced



September

- Community of Practice 1: Women's Health and Wellbeing Services
- Community of Practice 3: (Domestic and Family Violence specialists, Family and Child Connect and Intensive Family Support Services)



October

- Webinar 5: Constructions of complex trauma and implications for women's wellbeing and safety from violence
- Evaluation of Women's Health and Wellbeing Support Services: Progress Report
- Resource: Myths and Facts (Sexual Violence)

November



- Commencement of evaluation of new model: Response to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People Experiencing or using Domestic and Family Violence in Townsville



December

- Community of Practice 4: (Domestic and Family Violence specialists, Family and Child Connect and Intensive Family Support Services).
- Community of Practice 2: Women's Health and Wellbeing Services



Queensland  
Government

# Sector support

Supporting and building the sector in responding to domestic and family violence and sexual assault is a key component in having a social impact.

Ingrained in our daily work is an approach of listening to, understanding and involving, the voices of people with the lived experience of, and those who respond to, gendered violence. Meaningful engagement underpins all of our activity, and the types of support we provide are diverse, including:

- At a practical level, our relationship with CQUniversity enabled us to share facilities around Queensland, including videoconferencing mechanisms, with our network partners.
- We contributed to Boards and Councils, such as the Queensland Domestic and Family Violence Death Review Board, the Queensland Premier's Domestic and Family Violence Implementation Council, Australian Institute of Strangulation Prevention, Queensland Child Death Review Board.
- We engaged with the sector to review and develop resources, as well as training and educational materials.
- We worked with communities, including through a contribution to the Torres Strait Island Social Justice Interagency Group Forum.



## RESOURCES

In this sphere of sharing knowledge we developed:

- A **Practice Paper** for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People who have Experienced Sexual Violence
- **Key messages** for practice (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People who have Experienced Sexual Violence)
- A **measurement tool** for integrated service responses to assist monitoring progress of integrated responses to domestic and family violence and sexual assault.
- Two sets of **'Myths and Facts' cards** for use by practitioners and trainers to challenge stereotypes and raise awareness. An additional special edition of hard copy Sexual Violence Myths and Facts cards was available to order during Sexual Violence Awareness Month. 3,000 sets were despatched to 76 practitioners /organisations around Queensland.



## COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

A new Community of Practice for the 21 services responding to Women's Health and Wellbeing was introduced in September. As well, the Community of Practice for the 60 services providing FACC and IFS services continued throughout 2019. With an overall 81 services across these two Communities of Practice, a dedicated project lead was recruited to maintain connectedness with the services. Over the year external leaders have contributed their expertise to ensure the services participating have access to the best available evidence, and evaluation strategies are in place to ensure the relevance and appropriateness of the Centre's approach.

Topics explored with domestic and family specialists in the FACC and IFS services included presentations and discussion related to:

- The intersection between Family Law and domestic violence
- Financial assistance for the victim
- Domestic and family violence best practice principles: A framework
- Unintended consequences of Domestic Violence Civil Matters

The Women's Health and Wellbeing Support Services Community of Practice had its inaugural meeting in September; the second convened in December to focus on approaches and practices to support women's long-term recovery from gendered-based violence. A presenter spoke about contemporary knowledge in this field.





## WEBINARS

Practitioner experts and researchers shared their knowledge through a series of interactive webinars. The topics selected drew 2288 registrations across a range of sectors and locations attesting to the interest in:

- Strangulation in Domestic Violence Contexts
- Intimate Partner Violence: Supporting women from different cultures
- Intimate Partner Violence: Coercive control: invisible victims?
- Intimate Partner Violence: Working with clients with intellectual, learning or cognitive disabilities
- Reproductive Coercion
- Constructions of complex trauma and implications for women's wellbeing and safety from violence



## DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT

Our 24/7 website and digital reach continued to grow. It became clear a new more intuitive website was needed and as 2019 ended the work on the website was nearing completing. Our reach saw:



Page Views

34,925

Average  
Time on  
Website:

1:34



69,042

E-newsletter reads



54,510

Resource downloads



282

Facebook posts



## Growing our partnerships: the role of workplaces

The Centre teamed with Australia's CEO Challenge to create a unique event for leaders from 26 corporate, government and specialist domestic and family violence organisations to share best practice strategies in preventing and responding to gendered violence in workplaces.

The foundation of the Forum was established by TED-style Talks, which informed and challenged attendees. Activities across the day enabled productive conversations between champions from workplaces and domestic and family violence experts from the field.

The benefits identified were:

- Stimulating the integration of learning from the day to "update our procedures at my Company and ensure the awareness is built on over the next six months".
- Enabling the initiation of "a working group with QDVSN members to develop a policy for responding to staff experiencing domestic and family violence and sexual violence in their personal life to use at regional domestic and family violence services".
- Creating a space to "explore opportunities for (better understanding of) perpetrator accountability".
- Prompting participants to "check our Employee Assistance Provider's domestic and family violence expertise and the domestic and family violence policy on how to respond to employees identified as perpetrators", as well as ensuring "we have the right referral systems in place".



*The Ted talks were really beneficial and set the scene for the whole day.*

*Excellent work, a fantastic day as well as a wonderful opportunity to connect with others and hear their stories. Well done.*

# Queensland Indigenous Family Violence Prevention Forum

## Standing Strong

Venue: Mackay Entertainment and Cultural Centre  
Delegates: 151

Workers from around Queensland and beyond were welcomed back to Mackay after Forums in more northern locations in recent years. In the spirit of coming together to learn more about preventing and responding to family violence, the Centre proudly opened its doors to our state and national colleagues on the eve of the Forum to host an informal welcome. From the Opening Address to the final presentation, this Forum at the MECC was one to remember.

### PRESENTERS:

#### Keynotes:

Dr Jackie Huggins  
Mr Desmond Campbell

#### National

Dr Heather Nancarrow and  
Dr Kyllie Cripps: ANROWS  
Ms Hannah Taylor:  
1800 Respect

#### Workshop facilitators

Ms Karla McGrady: Our Watch  
Ms Samantha Wild and Mr John Brady: Awakening Cultural Ways

#### Community presenters:

Mr Namarca Corowa: MARABISDA, Mackay

Ms Rachel Johnson, Mr Laurence Anderson and Ms Patricia Smyth:  
Strong Families, Strong Community, Cunnamulla

Ms Julia Yorkston, Ms Gina Binjuda and Ms Dalasa George: on behalf  
of Torres Strait Social Justice Interagency Services

Ms Leanne Smith and Ms Rhonda Nicholls:  
Murrigunyah Family and Cultural  
Healing Centre, Woodridge

Ms Bino Toby: Queensland Indigenous  
Family Violence Legal Service,  
Rockhampton

Mr Eddie Hollingsworth and Ms Desley AhWing:  
Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait  
Islander Partnerships, Mount Isa





## Feedback



97%

of attendees strongly agreed or agreed that they gained new knowledge at the Forum



98%

of attendees strongly agreed or agreed that they could use the knowledge gained in their work



98%

of attendees were very pleased or pleased with the content/ topics/ presentations at the Forum



99%

of attendees were very pleased or pleased with the networking opportunities at the Forum

## What delegates said were the best things about the Forum



*Listening to the stories. Hearing the knowledge and knowing we are all on the same path to provide better outcomes for indigenous communities.*

*Great to hear so many ideas from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people about how culturally appropriate services and responses could be developed and delivered.*

*Community presentations were inspiring and informed. Excellent to see community based, ground up approach by community.*

## Planning for 2020

While the Forum was hosted in May, the remainder of the year involved planning for 2020. An acknowledgement must be made to Mr Les Stewart, a faithful Forum attendee over the years from Cherbourg, who painted the logo for the 2020 Forum before the year ended. The logo is stunning - incorporating the annual theme, as well as the meaning of the Forum to workers and their communities. This is a powerful example of the community contributions to the planning and organising of each Forum that make for such rich and diverse events each year.





Vocational  
education and  
training (VET)

# Education and training

2019 was a year of growth and transformation in this area of our work as well. Our focus on 'practice' and equipping current, and potential, workers in this field saw us offering additional opportunities.



## Our People

- An additional Associate Lecturer position joined the team to meet industry demands for the delivery of vocational and customised training.
- Our pool of casual teaching and tutoring staff - who reflect the high value we place on diversity, lived and practice experience - also grew to add authenticity to our education offerings.
- The post-graduate teaching team comprised four full-time continuing lecturers, three of whom are Senior Lecturers, in two metropolitan locations.







## The opportunities

We offered a continuum of opportunities from customised unaccredited professional development to accredited study including postgraduate Masters qualifications, and supervision for Doctoral students.

While we maintain our traditional focus on Queensland, and the specialist gendered violence sector, we recognise that survivors and perpetrators of domestic, family and sexual violence may encounter many services.

Integrated responses - where agencies are violence- and trauma-informed, information sharing occurs, and common language and risk assessment are in place – improve the safety of women and their children.

Because workers from so many sectors need to understand the complexities of gendered violence, our suite of learning experiences is aimed at the broader service system responding. We believe this will strengthen and expand the workforce in a field where demand is growing and ultimately contribute to improving the livelihood of individuals and families.

## Strengthening our state's High-Risk Teams

In 2019, through our agreement with the DCYSW, and relationship with WorkUP, customised workshops have been delivered to Domestic Violence High-Risk Teams, Integrated Service Response personnel and key stakeholders in specific Queensland sites.

We are proud to be a crucial stakeholder in building greater integrated service responses to domestic and family violence in our state.

500 front line workers were trained in domestic violence risk assessment in 2019.



*Didn't know what to expect but very pleased I attended. Will assist me in many fields in my job. Positive learning experience!*

*Beyond expectation – I enjoyed diverse discussion and experience in room.*

*Great training. Definitely improved my understanding on this topic.*

*My expectations were very well met! A great two days of networking, knowledge and engagement.*

## Partnering to improve health responses to gendered violence

We continued to work with Brisbane South Primary Health Network in building the capacity of general practices to positively respond to those experiencing family violence, to *Recognise, Respond, Refer*. The multi-strategy approach has seen our team (the trainers) work collegially with the University of Queensland (the evaluators) and The Australian Centre for Social Innovation (TACSI) (the service system reviewers).

*Recognise, Respond, Refer whole of practice training*  
Streams 1 and 2 of this training were completed in 2019 equipping general practice staff with skills necessary to identify signs of abuse, sensitively make enquires and respond and refer when required.

544 Primary health care staff were trained (Stream 1) from 72 General Practices with 58 Primary health care staff receiving follow up professional development (Stream 2) .

*Family Matters: Responding to Intimate Partner Abuse in General Practice Settings: a Masterclass*

A masterclass exploring how to respond to perpetrators of intimate partner violence in primary health settings was delivered. Thirty-six attendees - drawn from various disciplines, including general practitioners - identified that their learning needs had been met.



*Just scratching the surface - would listen to him all night on such a huge problem in our society - very insightful and glad I came.*

*Presenter so knowledgeable and it was so helpful to learn more about how to work with men.*

*Very informative lecture. Speaker very experienced and well-spoken.*

*I would now feel more confident to apply support to vulnerable women and refer on and where to get help.*



## Training for frontline workers: accredited units

We provided training to Churches of Christ Care Queensland, as we did last year, extending the knowledge and skills of its staff from diverse areas across Queensland.

Life Without Barriers was another organisation to engage us to conduct training in Cairns, Townsville, Rockhampton and Brisbane.

Staff completed units from our accredited vocational training options, enabling us to be instrumental in building the capacity of key services to recognise and respond to gendered violence and its impacts.

Through this important area of our work, we embody our commitment to encouraging integrated responses to family violence.

“““

Very well presented with many opportunities to engage

Would love to attend more training like this

Very worthwhile learning. Trainers were very inspiring, passionate and easy going. Very knowledgeable of DV and helpful over the past 2 days. Thank you!

Facilitators were great. Info informative, great activities, engaging

This course is highly relevant to others who are new to the work environment

## Research higher degrees

The Centre works through CQUniversity Australia to offer a range of Research Higher Degree programs to meet your needs.

Unlike coursework study, a Research Higher Degree usually does not follow a structure of lectures and assignments. A research higher degree is a program of supervised research and study leading to the preparation and submission of a thesis. Members of the Centre are available to help with your study journey, which may commence at any time of the year.



## Higher education – a focus on ‘practice’

CQUniversity continued to develop its range of higher education study options, focused on domestic and family violence practice, and maintained its position as the Australian leader in this field. The courses are delivered by research-active teaching staff who are members of the Centre team. All lecturers are connected to, and/or have had experience in, the specialist service sector.

In 2019 two new Higher Education units were added to the suite available for study through CQUniversity:

- An undergraduate unit was offered for the first time (Violence against women: key themes), open to students from any discipline, designed to introduce them to foundational concepts in the field.
- A new post-graduate unit was also offered for the first time - Sexual violence in domestic and family violence contexts.
- A new unit was introduced (Sexual violence in domestic and family violence contexts) as an elective option for postgraduate students.
- An undergraduate unit was offered for the first time (Violence against women: key themes), open to students from any discipline, designed to introduce them to foundational concepts of the field.

## Postgraduate Courses on offer:

- Graduate Certificate in Domestic and Family Violence Practice
- Graduate Certificate in Facilitating Men’s Behaviour Change
- Graduate Diploma of Domestic and Family Violence Practice
- Master of Domestic and Family Violence Practice

## Postgraduate Units

CQUniversity responded to the needs of current and potential workers with the option of enrolling in a single unit – as a professional development option or a pathway towards a degree. This offers the opportunity for busy workers, and potential workers in the field to select individual units of interest to upskill in specific areas.

The range of units available in 2019 included:

- Domestic and Family Violence Theories and Perspectives
- Domestic and Family Violence Responses and Interventions
- Advanced Studies in Domestic and Family Violence Practice
- Child Safety and Domestic and Family Violence
- Men’s Behaviour Change Interventions and Practice
- Working with Victims/Survivors of Domestic and Family Violence
- Domestic and Family Violence Project
- Leadership and Management in Domestic and Family Violence Practice
- Advanced Skills for Men’s Behaviour Change
- Integrated Services and Systems for Men’s Behaviour Change
- Sexual Violence in Domestic and Family Violence Contexts



*The highlight of my study experience was having a lecturer who was highly engaging, very encouraging and experienced in the field. My practice has been influenced by developing my understanding of current best practices with men who use violence, and how to talk with men about their use of violence in order to invite genuine change and thereby increase safety for families.*

*I am also acutely aware that domestic violence won't stop until there is change at the socio-cultural level. We all need to be talking about our learned biases around gender: this now shapes every conversation in my practice.*





## Support staff

Patrice Zarzecki  
Lauren Pattie  
Janine Hicks  
Bronwyn Honorato  
Maree Gibbs  
Monique Blundell  
Petrina Frankham  
Liz Boardman  
Jude Marshall

Carle Williams  
Bino Toby  
Tersia Mouton  
Amy Compton-Keen  
Jamie Anderson  
Margaret Roche  
Terese Kingston  
Rhiannon Dooley  
Vicki Lowik

## Adjunct Staff

Associate Professor Silke Meyer  
Dr Andrew Frost

*The work of the Queensland Centre for  
Domestic and Family Violence Research  
would not be possible without*

 *The Queensland Government, Department of  
Child Safety, Youth and Women*

 *CQUniversity Australia*