For the Year ended 30th June 2012

	Note	2011 \$	2012 \$
Operating Income			
DHS Recurrent Grants		649,760	657,773
Gifts/Donations		480	50,031
Non DHS Grants		44,633	113,737
Program Income		307,220	152,020
Other Income	2	33,311	46,674
		1,035,404	1,020,235
Operating Expenditure			
Audit and Legal Fees		1,650	1,250
Bank Fees		256	295
Consultancy		9,412	7,999
Depreciation		25,644	28,736
Insurance		1,194	1,148
Meeting Expenses		1,874	3,651
Minor Equipment Purchase:	S	3,263	2,061
Motor Vehicle Expenses		13,768	17,339
Office Expenses		20,982	19,240
Postage & Freight		4,065	3,056
Program Expenses		168,997	152,318
Rent		34,597	35,921
Repairs and Maintenance		1,656	2,086
Resource Expenses		6,432	1,992
Salaries and On-costs		617,224	737,054
Staff Amenities		1,450	1,163
Telephone Expenses		15,044	13,781
		927,508	1,029,090
Operating Surplus		107,896	-8,855
Surplus brought forward		400,677	508,5737

Retained Surplus at year end 508,573 499,718

Balance Sheet As as 30th June 201	2			of all fixed assets are a useful lives of the asse commencing from the
Current Assets	Note	30 Jun 11	30 Jun 12	held ready for use. The method of deprecial Provision for Emplo
Cash on Hand & at Bank Gift Fund Account Prepayments	: 3	774,185 2,707	977,868 22,688	Provision has been mo for benefits accruing relation to annual lea
Receivables	4	11,900 788,792	23,021	leave at the current employee entitlements
Non Current Assets			, ,	their nominal amount purposes of the Staten
Plant and Equipment Less Accumulated Depre Motor Vehicles Less Accumulated Depre		81,395 (52,562) 91,456 (30,884) 89,403	85,422 (62,960) 111,814 (25,690) 108,586	includes cash on hand deposit. (d) Revenue: recognised on a propo- into account the inter- to the financial assets.
Total Assets		878,195	1,132,163	Grants Revenue is accrual basis. Any g
Current Liabilities Creditors and Provisions Grants in Advance Employee Entitlements Non Current Liabilities Employee Entitlements	5	109,840 198,637 53,035 361,512	110,443 455,301 50,408 616,151	provided for speci recognised to the expended on projects for future financial pe grants in advance und to the extent of the u there is an obligat unexpended portion o
	<u>"</u>	369,622	632,444	INDEPENDENT AU

508,573 499,718

508.573 499.7

508,573 499,718

Statement of Cashflows

Net Assets

Accumulated Funds

Total Accumulated Funds

For the Year ended 30th June 2012

Note	2011 \$	2012 \$			
Cash Flows from Operating Activites					
Operating Grant Receipts	821,638	1,007,346			
Other Grant Receipts	74,633	158,737			
Receipts from other sources	13,569	56,711			
P'ments to Suppliers & Employees	(923,483)	(995,536)			
Interest Received	25,393	11,728			
Net Cash from Operating Activities 6(b) 11,749	268,986			

Payments for purchase of fixed assets Proceeds on Sales of Fixed Assets	(34,617) 11,991	(68,176) 22,854
Net Cash used Investing Activities	(22,626)	(45,322)
Net Increase in Cash held	-10,877	223,664

These statements must be read in

Cash at the end of financial year 6(a) 776,892 1,000,556

Income and Expenditure Statement Finance Report for the year ended June 2012

Notes to & Forming Part of the Accounts for the Year Ended 30 June 2012

Note 1 Statement of Accounting Policies This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (Victoria). The committee have determined that the association is not a reporting entity. The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (Victoria) and the Australian Accounting Standards AAS 1 Profit and Loss or Other Operating

AAS 4 Depreciation AAS 5 Materiality AAS 6 Accounting Policies AAS 8 Events Occurring After Reporting Date

AAS 15 Revenue AAS 28 Statement of Cash Flows

No other Australian Accounting Standards or other mandatory professional reporting requirements have been applied. The statements are prepared on an accrual basis. They are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values, or except where specifically stated, current valuations or non-current assets. The following specific accounting policies have been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements

(a) Fixed Assets: The depreciable amount depreciated over the sets to the association he time the asset is The diminishing value iation is used. (b) loyee Entitlements: ig to emp<mark>l</mark>oyees in ave and long service t rates of pay. All nts are measured at nt. (c) Cash: For the ment of Cash Flows, nd, at banks and on e: Interest revenue portional basis takin rest rates applicabl

grants received and cial purposes ar extent funds ar s. Grants received eriods are treated as nder current liabilities tion to repay the of the grant.

	2011 \$	2012
Note 2 Other Income		
Interest Received Sales of Fixed Assets Reimbursements	35,237 -2,373 446	41,23 2,59 2,84
	33,310	46,67
Note 3 Cash on Hand and at Bank		
	500	

260,872 512.813 877.545 Cash on Deposit 774,185 977,868

11,901

Note 4 Receivables 10,822 1,391 548 50 Sundry Debtors Accrued Interest

Note 5 Employee Entitlements

Total	61,145	66,701
Long Service Leave	8,110	16,293
Non-Current	53,035	50,408
Current Annual Leave Long Service Leave	32,572 20,463	37,789 12,619

Operating Accounts Investment Accounts 776.892 1.000.556

operating surprus		
Operating Surplus	137,896	-8,855
Non-cash flows in operating surplus: Depreciation (Profit)/Loss on Sale of fixed Assets	25,644	28,736

(b) Reconcilation of net cash used in operating activities to

Changes in assets & liabilities

(a) Reconciliation of Cash

Net Cash from Operating Activities	11,749	268,989
Increase/(Decrease) in Provisions	0	0
Increase/(Decrease) in Employee Entitlemen	ıts (16,375)	5,556)
Increase/(Decrease) in Creditors	(5,244)	603)
Increase/(Decrease) in Grants in Advance	(122,975)	256,664
(Increase)/Decrease in Prepayments	(50)	(1,341)
(Increase)/Decrease in Accrued Interest	(9,845)	495)
(Increase)/Decrease in Debtors	325	(10,274)

(c) No credit stand-by or financing facilities are in place

unspent grant where (d) There were no no-cash financing or investing activities during the period

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

To the members of Womens Health Goulburn North East <u>Scope</u>

I have audited the attached financial statements being a special purpose financial report comprising the Statement by Members of the Committee, Income and Expenditure, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cashflows and notes to and forming part of the accounts of Womens Health Goulburn North East for the year ended 30th June 2012. The committee of Management is responsible for the financial statements and have determined that the accounting policies used are appropriate to meet the needs of the Associations Incorporation Act (Victoria) and the needs of the members. I have conducted an independent audit of the financial statements in order to express an opinion on them to the members. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, and described in Note 1, are appropriate to the needs of the members.

The financial statements have been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act [Victoria]. I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial statements to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than for which it was prepared.

My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates.

These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

These policies do not require the application of all Accounting Standards and UIG Consensus The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements the financial position of Womens Health Goulburn North East as at 30th June 2012, and the results from operations for the year then

Dated this 30th day of July 2012



MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF **MANAGEMENT**

For the year ended 30th June 2012

In the Oninion of the Committee of Management, the accompanying accounts as set out :

Present fairly the financial position of Womens Health Goulburn North East as at the 30th June 012 and the results and cashflows of the organisation for the year ended on that date.

presented in accordance with applicable Australian Accounting

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Management and i signed for and on behalf of the Board of Management by :-

last Kune to Carol Kunert

tun bound Karyn Howard

Dated this 7th day of September 2012

Executive Officer's Report

2012 Staff Members

Christine Alexander

Finance & Administration

Krystal Cairnes

Judy Davis

Hume Region Family Violence

Integration Coordinator

Bernadette Fraser

Health Promotion Worker

Tricia Hazeleger

Emily Hedger Knowledge Management & Administration Officer

Caitlyn Hoggan

Sandy King

Rachael Mackay

Debra Parkinson

Raelene Nixon

Closing the Health Gap Young Women's Project Worker

Karen O'Connor

Reception/Information Officer NILS Project Worker

Moira Thomson

Nadia Tilson

Julie Tyler

Tracey Whinray

Claire Zara

Board of Governance

Jane Archbold

Marg Arnold

Adele Davies

Chris Hazell

Carol Kunert

Joanne Klischat surer -Resigned Feb 2012)

WOMEN'S HEALTH

57 Rowan Street Wangaratta VIC 3677

Ph 03 5722 3009 Fax 03 5722 3020

whealth@whealth.com.au

www.whealth.com.au

As 2011/12 drew to a close, the winds of change were swelling. The women's health sector, though, has never been stronger. The Women's Health Association of Victoria (WHAV) increasingly works collaboratively to achieve our shared goals for women's health, wellbeing and human rights. This year, in recognition of unequal access to contraception, the five rural women's health services joined forces to build an evidence base through a survey across rural Victoria. Another example is WHAV's advocacy to the Victorian Government to develop a Sexual and Reproductive Rights Strategy for our state.

Our work at WHGNE over the past decade demonstrates the unique capacity of the women's health sector to forge strategic and often time-bound relationships — with state and national peak bodies, corporate and philanthropic bodies and leading academics — that contribute financially or intellectually to trialing and modelling new ways to improve women's health and wellbeing. Vitally, this 'big picture' understanding intersects with our 'on-the-ground' work with Hume region women. The imperative to hear women's voices has never been clearer.

Our strategic work has elicited sustainable change to challenge inequity and embrace diversity. Just one example is the Partner Rape project which influenced change in both policy and practice – and continues to do so. Another is the Women, Lawyers and Workers partnership project, funded by the Legal Services Board, which sees us working in close collaboration with the Women's Legal Service Victoria. While women are immediately helped by a lawyer, we research, evaluate and refine to offer a replicable model of work to others.

WHGNE has demonstrated its leadership through many projects, and perhaps the Bsafe project best encapsulates our approach. Bsafe has had nation-wide recognition for its effectiveness in keeping women and children safe. The intensive media attention that followed its threatened closure revealed to Australians everywhere the inequities for rural women faced with danger from violent ex-partners. Equally, it brought to public attention the capriciousness of funding – even for evaluated and awarded programs like Bsafe. WHGNE welcomed the generosity of numerous private benefactors and ultimately, the Federal Government, which allowed this life-saving program to continue, for now.

WHGNE, like other women's health services, is a feminist organisation, working within a system that discriminates against women. We understand the inequity that faces all women, and that intersects with other factors to raise the barriers for women, including those from CALD backgrounds, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and women with disabilities. Ongoing inequality between men and women relies on curbing women's equal access to employment, money and power. We continue our fight for equal rights, and our innovative work through DV NILS and Tools for Change provides a sound foundation for future work.

Environmental justice (EJ) is a new focus for WHGNE and one that goes to the heart of human rights for women. Again, we take a multi-pronged approach, partnering with Women's Health In the North to host the EJ website with its wealth of resources – from our joint published journal article, to filmed presentations, to women's artwork. The pinnacle was ne Identifying the Hidden Disaster Conference, held in conjunction with the Australian Domestic and Family Violence Clearinghouse, opened by the Deputy Commissioner of Victoria Police, Tim Cartwright, and featuring world-leader in gender and disaster, Dr Elaine Enarson. The conference signalled the end of a week full of events from Kinglake to the reasury Theatre which drew together WHGNE's work on disaster and resilience with women across Hume region Both streams are ground-breaking, signifying change to the way disasters in Australia will be managed – critical for the one in six Australians who will be affected by disaster.

WHGNE is a leader in challenging inequity. The strength of our organisation and our partnerships build each year, due essentially to the women involved. My sincere thanks go to our committed and capable team, our wonderful volunteers, and to our dedicated Board members for their hard work and insight.



Susie Reid Executive Officer

Chairperson's Report

Women's Health Goulburn North East remains in the forefront of advocacy for women's health in Victoria. This year's highlights include co-hosting the 'Identifying the Hidden Disaster: the first Australian (and world) Conference on Natural Disasters and Family Violence'; managing numerous research projects, the continual involvement with partnerships in the family violence alliance and Women's health networks; and being represented at all major Primary

mportantly, WHGNE continues to be a voice for women in the Hume region, bringing women's issues to the attention of governments, media and influential organisations using systematic, structured and sustainable methods that have gained this organisation respect far beyond our borders.

Anywhere the issues of women's health are raised you will find our Executive Officer, Susie Reid, is there; whether it be in the papers; on radio; at organisational meetings or representing us at conferences. The Board thanks Susie for her dedication and hard work over this last year. If all indicators are correct, we are entering a period of conservatism and frugality in the government departments. Funding cuts of 5% in each of 2012 and 2013, together with hidden costs of CPI rises and increasing competitiveness for fewer grants means that our organisation must remain resilient and strong and be able to rise to the challenges that will come its way. Susie, together with her staff and the Board, are well advanced in laying the groundwork to turn these challenges into opportunities to take WHGNE into the

The organisation's success and high profile is even more remarkable when you consider that its size is only nine equivalent full time staff. I thank the talented team of workers who support our EO and undertake their work in a professional and dedicated manner, and who are in turn supported by our wonderful group of volunteers who regularly give many hours of their time to assist WHGNE.

BSafe continues to be championed by WHGNE and this year's The EVAs (Eliminating Violence Against Women Media Awards) saw ABC's Kerrie Ritchie recognised for her 7.30 report on Bsafe. This report garnered more support for Bsafe, with donations by individuals and organisations temporarily sustaining the program, as we continue the fight to have it funded by the state government.

Hearing the women's voices of the Hume region and finding the gaps where women's health issues need to be addressed is what makes this organisation outstanding. Doing something about it takes it to another level. The organisation is steered by a Board of dedicated, strong women who voluntarily give their time, ideas, enthusiasm and wisdom to this remarkable organisation to promote the wellbeing, security and happiness of women. They come with many levels of expertise and varied experiences in both personal and professional lives and have worked hard this year to ensure that our governance practices are accurate, relevant and up to date. We have established a one year Strategic Plan to tide us over the uncertainty and have embarked on planning for the next four year Strategic Plan; its completion will be a major focus for next year. I thank all members for their untiring work in this past year, and particularly I thank Adele Davies (Vice Chair), Chris Hazell (Secretary) and Joanne Klischat (Treasurer), then Karyn Howard (Treasurer).

I will leave my final words to Dolly Parton who said 'Find out who you are and do it on purpose'.

last Kunet **Carol Kunert** Chairperson





GOULBURN NORTH EAST

'challenging inequity, embracing diversity'

Equality for women, through challenging inequity & embracing diversity.

Women's Health Goulburn North East is a dynamic, independent, feminist organization committed to improving the health and wellbeing of women in the Goulburn Valley and North East Victoria.

Our work is underpinned by a social model of health which recognises that a complex array of factors influence a woman's sense of self, security and wellbeing. We respect and affirm diversity among women.

Women's Health Goulburn North East is an organisation that is innovative and collaborative. It is sustainably and efficiently managed.



Our Work

We research women's experiences of health to raise awareness, change attitudes & influence service response.

Women's Health Goulburn North East (WHGNE) gave a keynote presentation to the Intimate Partner Sexual Violence: Lifting the Lid seminar in Canberra hosted by the ACT Domestic Violence Intervention Council and has submitted two chapters to a forthcoming book on intimate partner sexual violence. In addition, the ABS sought permission to use our research in training their fieldworkers for the next Personal Safety Survey.

Women, Lawyers, Workers Project (WLW)

The WLW project offers legal advice via Skype to women who are victims of family violence and to workers from participating agencies. Funded by the Legal Services Board (Vic), it is led by WHGNE, Women's Health In the North (WHIN) and Berry Street working closely with the Womens Legal Service Victoria (WLSV). The aim is to prevent violence against women with timely advice on the complexities of the legal system governing family law matters.

WHGNE compiled vignettes of how 21 women escaped or survived Black Saturday. Beating the Flames, published as an e-book, recounts that women were sometimes alone on Black Saturday to escape or fight the sudden fires, and often with children. Some made the decision to leave early, and returned to a community changed both physically and emotionally.

The Way He Tells It – Relationships after Black Saturday

This first Australian research to focus on family violence after disaster, The Way He Tells It – with 29 women and 47 workers – yielded complex and disturbing findings. Women experiencing family violence were silenced and other needs were prioritised. No sound data collection existed after the fires to identify and record family violence incidents – the focus of a Health Promotion journal article by WHGNE and WHIN. Reports and journal articles available on our website.

Environmental Justice Website

The United States Environmental Protection Agency coined the term, 'Environmental Justice' to refer to 'the just distribution of environmental risk and benefits amongst the population and the right of all, to meaningful participation in environmental decision-making'. Our webpage developed in conjunction with WHIN, actions the theory, offering thoughtful education and engagement opportunities to women, workers, organisations and governments.

Bush to Beach (BTB) Evaluation

WHGNE and WHIN were invited to evaluate the third BTB retreat. Over 100 women attended. All had experienced the trauma of Black Saturday. The retreat extended beyond women's enjoyment and relaxation to new strategies of support and recovery. The evaluation will be used to help source ongoing funding for this critically important retreat for women.

'Identifying the Hidden Disaster' Conference

WHGNE, with WHIN and the Australian Domestic and Family Violence Clearinghouse (ADFVC), held the first Australian conference into natural disaster and family violence where WHGNE launched The Way He Tells It the first Australian research to examine the impact on relationships after a natural disaster. Watch proceedings on the WHGNE website.

Conference Spin-offs!

The conference attracted Australia-wide media coverage and sparked invitations to present at the Women and Emergencies Forum in Melbourne hosted by DHS Health & Human Services Emergency Management and the Office of Women's Policy in March 2012, and to the Managing Internally Displaced People Forum in May 2012, hosted by the Monash Injury Research Institute (MIRI).

- 600 people including practitioners, researchers and policymakers heard international gender and disaster researcher, Dr. Elaine Enarson
- The Way He Tells it was presented to more than 500 people including CFA, Victoria Police, Red Cross, Ambulance Vic, DHS, FV, local government and community sectors
- Media coverage on 'Disaster and Women' reached thousands, with short films, radio interviews and front page print media, including articles in The Age and The Australian
- Filmed resources have already been used internationally in a US webinar



This Annual Report has been printed on 100% recycled paper in accordance with the policies of the WHGNE Green Group.

We provide professional training and education to develop skills and resources to empower local women, communities and service providers. We provide health information and a referral service.

Through Women's Eyes: Increasing Disaster and Community Resilience Skills

WHGNE partnered with Alpine Shire in a project funded by the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal to gather women's unique perspectives on disaster and resilience. As a result of this information the Alpine Shire will use the women's ideas in the work of the Community Resilience Committee and advocate for changes at state and federal levels. Posters produced are on our website.

Gendered Data and Planning

WHGNE has worked with a range of Hume region organisations and steering committees to advocate for women's health needs and equitable approaches. We assisted local government and organisations in health planning, demonstrating the value and implications of a gendered approach, and developed 12 local government area data profiles with sex-disaggregated data and a Hume region profile. View your local stats on the website.

Promoting Respectful Relationships: Women and Young People

WHGNE works with providers and organisations to reduce violence against women and girls. We resource schools, local government and community based workers to plan and embed effective education and interventions to promote respectful relationships amongst young people aged 12 to 25 years. Thirty professionals were supported to develop and facilitate partnership programs for young people in different settings.

Sharing and Capacity Building

WHGNE organised four focus groups across the Hume region to hear from providers and agencies working with young people and to share innovative approaches to promote respectful relationships. The focus groups enabled eighty-four professionals from education, health and community based organisations to identify a wide range of current programs and interventions targeting young people and explore strategies to support collaboration and

Women Gathering Facilitator Training

The Women Gathering program builds social connection, community, and individual women's capacity. Facilitator training continues to be offered to service providers interested in implementing a Women Gathering program in their community.

Women's Sexual Health and Reproductive Rights

WHGNE works with relevant agencies to ensure women are empowered to make choices about their sexual and reproductive lives. WHGNE is auditing the availability of, and access to, sexual and reproductive services in the Hume region and state-wide, in partnership with other rural women's health services.

Making Two Worlds Work

Making Two Worlds Work is a resource kit developed in partnership with Mungabareena, Upper Hume PCP and Wodonga Regional Health Service. The kit supports the health and community sector to work effectively and respectfully with the Aboriginal Communities in the Hume region. The resources are available online at www.whealth.com.au/mtww. In 2011, WHGNE conducted a snap-shot evaluation of the use and application of tools with member agencies from the Upper Hume area. Any additional work on this resource will be informed by the Hume region's Closing the Health Gap project.

International Women's Day (IWD)

WHGNE's IWD seeding grants provided funding for seventeen projects across 10 local government areas and included breakfasts, art exhibitions, theatrical plays and literature workshops. WHGNE, too, celebrated IWD with a breakfast in Wangaratta bringing together local women to celebrate women's achievements.

Healthy Eating

WHGNE continues to work with all health promotion agencies in the Hume region to support the regional priority of healthy eating. We assist agencies to use a gendered lens with issues of healthy eating, obesity and food security by providing research and literature searches.

Snap-shot - What did we do at WHGNE in 2011 - 12?

- We hosted 50 meetings, workshops and focus groups
- 1472 people attended WHGNE presentations, workshops or focus groups We held 30 conference presentations and speaking engagements
- There were 69 articles published in the media, 20 radio interviews and 3 TV segments
- Three editions of the WHGNE Newsletter were posted/emailed to 80 members and 500 other interested individuals.

New or reprinted publications for the year:

- Women Gathering Literature Review (80), Women Gathering Facilitator Trainers
- Bsafe Final Evaluation Report (50)
- Women's Clinics/ Family Violence/Financial Services & Concessions Sheets
- Health information packs and passports (1,333) and for young women (222)
- Women and Disaster Snap-shots (2000)

- Gender in Disaster Snap-shots (2000)
- The Hidden Disaster Snap-shots (2000)
- Checklist for Emergency Services (2000)
- 10,000 postcards 'Disaster is no excuse for family violence'
- 10,000 postcards 'Environmental Justice and Women'

This year saw the production of our first e-books:

- Beating the Flames e-book
- The Way He Tells It: Relationships after Black Saturday (Vol. 1) e-book
- The Way He Tells It: Women and disaster literature review (Vol. 2) e-book
- The Way He Tells It: Landscape of my soul: Women's accounts (Vol. 3) e-book
- The Way He Tells It: A gut feeling: Workers' accounts (Vol. 4) e-book

We are alert to the political environment to uphold and advance women's rights by influencing policy and planning.

Primary Care Partnerships

WHGNE has contributed to all four PCPs through either the integrated health promotion committees or executive. Our work in the PCPs contributed to the mental health priority, and focused on capacity building and gender equity.

Bsafe & Bsafe Evaluation

The Bsafe project has continued to support women and children across the region to remain safe at home and in their communities. We have been working hard to ensure we have a product which can be implemented across the rural regions of Victoria, whilst ensuring the evaluation is thorough and timely for a funding push in 2013. For the final report see our website.

Integrated Family Violence Services

The Hume Region Integrated Family Violence Services initiated and strengthened communication with the Children and Family Services Sector (Child First) across the Hume catchments via two successful forums for cross sector discussions. Training opportunities included Safe from the Start, Identifying Family Violence, CRAF, Best Interest, Social Media and Social Marketing. A comprehensive mapping document of the Hume region has been developed to identify referral pathways.

Integrated Family Violence Prevention Networks

Events for White Ribbon Day November 2011 were held across the Hume Region with a diverse range of activities including community BBQs, street stalls, street marches and school based functions. The new regional family violence information cards have a standard logo that is discreet and does not identify the purpose of the card. Members of each network participated in Social Media training in June and will now develop an annual plan that utilises all forms of social media to promote awareness of family violence and prevention strategies.

Identifying Family Violence Training

Hume is the only region in Victoria to have prioritised family violence training. 'Identifying Family Violence' sessions have been conducted at 15 locations in partnership with the five specialist family violence services. More than 170 people from a range of organisations have attended the sessions.

Towards A More Resilient and Safer Victoria

The Victorian Government published a Green Paper aimed at reforming the State's crisis and emergency management arrangements to create a more disaster resilient and safer Victoria. WHGNE responded with a submission reflecting the agency's work with women experiencing bushfire and disaster, including recommendations to improve women-centred and gender sensitive responses. Available on our website.

No Interest Loan Schemes

WHGNE has now been operating No Interest Loans (NILS) for over five years. To date a total of \$235,196 has been lent to 158 financially disadvantaged women across the Hume region. These loans have been used to purchase essential household items and services, e.g. computers, medical services, vehicle repairs, and education fees. Further information and forms are on our website.

Tools for Change

Financial dependence is a major factor influencing a woman's decision to remain with a violent partner. This innovative project involves the financial mentoring of women who have exited family violence. Sixteen mentors have been meeting with women to develop their financial confidence and knowledge. Another outcome of this project will be the development of a training package to improve the financial capacity of women, thereby increasing their ability to live independently and free from violence.

Closing the Health Gap

WHGNE hosted the Closing The Health Gap Young Women's Project. This project aims to improve the service and support available to address the sexual and reproductive health needs of Indiaenous women in the Hume region through more accessible services and improved health literacy.



The Board of Management, Executive Officer & staff of WHGNE would like to thank those who have contributed to our work in 2011-12.