



Bayside Peninsula Integrated  
Family Violence Partnership

# STRATEGIC PLAN 2021 - 2026



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We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work. We pay our respects to their Elders and the Elders from other communities past, present and emerging.

The Bayside Peninsula Integrated Family Violence Partnership acknowledges the strength and resilience of all victim survivors of family violence and recognises that it is essential that responses to family violence are informed by their experiences.

We remember those who did not survive and acknowledge friends and family members who have lost loved ones.



# OUR PARTNERSHIP APPROACH

## BAYSIDE PENINSULA INTEGRATED FAMILY VIOLENCE PARTNERSHIP

The Bayside Peninsula Integrated Family Violence Partnership (the Partnership) was established 2015. Our mandate was to bring together the many specialist and universal services whose work intersects with family violence response, early intervention and prevention, into a partnership arrangement and create a more integrated “one system” approach to dealing with family violence.

The Bayside Peninsula area is defined by the Victorian Department of Families Fairness and Housing, and comprises seven municipalities located to the South east of metropolitan Melbourne. These are the Cities of Port Phillip, Stonnington, Glen Eira, Bayside, Kingston, Frankston and Mornington Peninsula Shire.

The Partnership has representation from specialist family violence services as well as broader cross-sector organisations and alliances whose work intersects with family violence response, early intervention and prevention. Partnership members and all senior leaders are involved in strengthening the family violence system and ending family violence in the Bayside Peninsula Area.





## BPIFVP HAS REPRESENTATION FROM

SECTOR	ORGANISATION
Auspice	Uniting Vic/Tas
Specialist Women's family violence services	The Salvation Army Australia Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand
Specialist Women's family violence services-refuge	Olive's Place – VincentCare Victoria Emerge Women and Children's Support Network Inc.
Specialist men's family violence services	Peninsula Health Family Life Victoria Inc. Star Health Anglicare Victoria
Family Safety Victoria	The Orange Door Bayside Peninsula Area
Victoria Police	Area Commander and FVIU – Div 1,2,4
Bayside Peninsula Child & Family Services Alliance	Partnership Manager
Bayside Peninsula Area South Division Department of Families Fairness and Housing (DFFH)	Agency Performance and system support APPS Area Director
South Metro Dhelk Dja Regional Coordinator Aboriginal Engagement Unit	DFFH
Community Legal Service	Peninsula Community Legal Centre
Magistrate's Court of Victoria	Moorabbin Justice Centre Frankston Magistrate's Court
Health Services Primary Health Network	Alfred Health – SHRFV Peninsula Health SEMPHN



## BPIFVP HAS REPRESENTATION FROM

SECTOR	ORGANISATION
Elder Abuse	Peninsula Health
Mental Health	Peninsula Health Alfred Health Monash Health
Child Protection	Department of Families, Fairness and Housing DFFH
Department of Justice and Community Safety – Corrections Victoria	South East Metropolitan Region - Bayside
Bayside Peninsula RAMP Coordinator	Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand
Alcohol and other Drugs (AOD)	Taskforce
Cultural Diversity Family Violence	JewishCare
Primary Prevention	Women's Health in the South East (WHISE)
Sexual Assault	South Eastern Centre Against Sexual Assault (SECASA)
Aboriginal FV Services	Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency VACCA
LGBTIQ+	Thorne Harbour Health
MARAM Training Coordinator	Uniting Vic/Tas



## OUR PLANNING CONTEXT

BPIFVP is one of 14 regional family violence committees or partnerships that exist across Victoria. As local system governance structures these committees are integral to the success of the Victorian Government's current agenda to transform family violence under *Ending Family Violence: Victoria's plan for change*.

*Ending Family Violence* is the Victorian Government's plan to deliver on all the recommendations of the historic Victorian Royal Commission into Family Violence which concluded in 2016. Since its release, *Ending Family Violence* has seen an unprecedented breadth and pace of family violence reform and transformation across Victoria, with initiatives set to continue over several years.

The Partnership is well placed to inform, influence and shape the priorities and directions of the state-wide family violence reform agenda as the Victorian Government implements initiatives of *Ending Family Violence* across Victoria.





## THE REFORM IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID 19

This Strategic Plan is being delivered as Victoria continues to respond to the global pandemic.

We know that the need for family violence response and prevention is greater than ever. There are many victim survivors yet to seek help, and perpetrators who must be held to account and supported to change their behaviour.

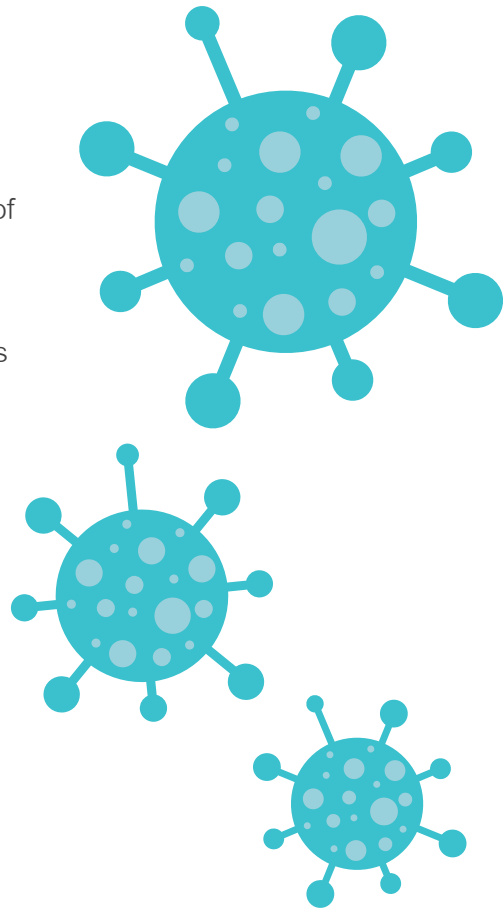
The government has reaffirmed that the family violence reform remains a priority as part of the social and economic recovery of Victoria. The two are inseparable: the continued rollout of our family violence reform will support Victoria's recovery, and a strong recovery will help reduce the stressors that contribute to perpetrators choosing to use violence.

COVID-19 has created additional challenges for our community: increased anxiety, social isolation, financial stress.

We know from evidence here and internationally that these factors increase the incidence and the severity of family violence and that we must be prepared to meet those challenges.

We will consider what we have learnt from the changes and innovations that have already taken place as we assess the impacts of these events on the system and continue to deliver the reform.

Despite the extraordinary context of the pandemic in Victoria, we continue to build a system that is stronger, better joined up, more flexible and more resilient.





# VICTORIAN POLICY AND LEGISLATION THAT FRAME OUR STRATEGIC PLANNING CONTEXT

**Ending Family Violence:** Victoria's plan for change (2016) and its three year rolling action plans

**Building from Strength:** 10-year industry plan for family violence prevention and response (2017) and its three-year rolling action plans

**Dhelk Dja Safe Our Way:** Strong cultures, strong peoples, strong families (Family Violence Agreement 2018-2028)

**Free from Violence:** Victoria's strategy to prevent family violence and all forms of violence against women (2017)

**Safe and Strong:** A Victorian gender equality strategy (2016)

**Family Violence Protection Act 2008** and **Family Violence Protection** (information Sharing and Risk management) **Regulations 2018**

**Prevention of Family violence Act 2018** (created Respect Victoria as an independent statutory authority focused on primary prevention)

**Gender Equality Act** (2020)

## NATIONAL POLICY CONTEXT FOR OUR STRATEGIC PLANNING



National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and Their Children 2012-2022 and its fourth Action Plan 2019-2022.





# OUR UNIQUE VALUE PROPOSITION

Our unique value proposition to the Victorian Government and Ending Family Violence highlights three core capabilities of regional integration.



## LOCAL SYSTEM FOCUS

We have a dedicated focus on the local family violence system as it exists and is understood in the specific geographic and system contexts of the Bayside Peninsula area. As such we can make local system sense of reform initiatives.



## FAMILY VIOLENCE LENS

We maintain resolute focus on evidence-based understandings of family violence in our accountability to the diverse experiences choices, safety and long -term recovery of victim survivors and by keeping perpetrators squarely in view through an integrated systems approach.



## ACROSS ALL WORKFORCES

We are strongly focused on building the capability and capacity of all workforces in sectors that intersect with the family violence system with a specific focus on achieving greater consistency in evidence based understandings of family violence and risk identification, assessment and management.



# HISTORY OF THE PARTNERSHIP

The Partnership aims to strengthen collaboration to maximise the capacity for integrated responses to family violence. A DHHS boundary realignment in 2014 has seen a change in the area. The change brought together two sub catchments, Frankston Mornington Peninsula and the Inner Middle, to form one larger Partnership over a broader area. The Partnership has met regularly since Feb 2015 with a commitment to roll out the Government's family violence reform agenda.

We have been in our current form for just over five years, during this time the Partnership has forged critical linkages across key family violence agencies and organisations across the region.

The challenge for the Partnership is to continue to define, explore and extend the capacity for an integrated service response to family violence.



## OUR VISION

Our communities free from family violence and the fear of family violence.



## OUR PURPOSE

The Partnership exists to drive greater integration of family violence services and systems to achieve safety, choice and accountability.

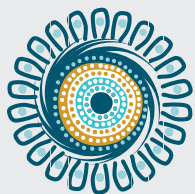


# THE PRINCIPLES BEHIND THE REFORM-WIDE PRIORITIES



## INTERSECTIONALITY

Considering the needs of diverse communities and people at different life stages who face additional barriers to accessing support in delivery of the family violence reform.



## ABORIGINAL SELF-DETERMINATION

Embedding the social, cultural and economic needs of Aboriginal Victorians in the design and delivery of a culturally safe, holistic family violence reform.



## LIVED EXPERIENCE

Working with people with lived experience of family violence to inform policy development, service delivery and the broader reform to support better outcomes for all Victorians.



## COLLABORATIVE

Members are committed to working together to strengthen the integration of family violence responses.



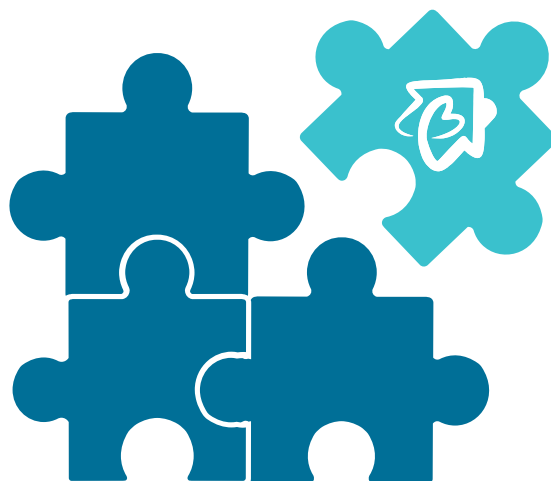
## INFORMED BY LOCAL NEEDS

A regional lens is applied to the current family violence reform environment and priorities are tailored to local needs.



## OUR ROLE AND FUNCTION

- **Provide expertise and leadership** on all matters relating to family violence and the family violence system in the Bayside Peninsula area.
- Strive for **system integration and improvement**
- **Advocate** on behalf of our family violence system and its unique contexts
- **Influence** system designers and decision makers so that state-wide initiatives coming to the BPA are articulated and delivered in a way that maximises benefits for our community
- **Communicate** the inherent value of our role in system integration and improvement and in facilitating the state-wide reform agenda as initiatives roll through the BPA
- **Partner** with the Victorian Government and others as reform initiatives are implemented
- Ensure **evidence informed design, sound planning collaborations** and linkages take place to integrate and improve the BPA family violence system
- **Innovate and evaluate** so we can contribute to the evidence base.
- **Share** our achievements and lessons learned as we build our evidence base for the BPA
- **Address** identified workforce capability development and capacity building needs through advocating for tailored resourced strategies and initiatives in BPA
- **Enable** improved knowledge of the structural causes of family violence and facilitate more consistency in family violence risk literacy across the BPA
- **Acknowledge** that preventing family violence is everyone's business work purposefully and **collaboratively** with primary prevention leaders and governance structures to prevent family violence from happening in the first place





# OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AT A GLANCE

## STRATEGIC PRIORITY ONE: THE CLIENT EXPERIENCE OF OUR SYSTEM

The client experience of our family violence system (i.e. our responses, practices, collaborations) is of paramount importance. For their experience to be seamless, the parts that make up our system have to be **integrated**. This strategic priority encompasses our ongoing work as a Partnership to improve and integrate our local system, including as new family violence reform elements roll out across the state and into Bayside Peninsula Area.

### For this strategic priority, we will:



1. Invest in the client experience as our primary evidence for everything we do to improve the system.



2. Cultivate opportunities for innovation and best practice, including inter-sectional practice in family violence response and prevention.



3. Facilitate local system integration, including ensuring state-wide reform initiatives are implemented in ways that suit local contexts and conditions.



## STRATEGIC PRIORITY TWO: WORKFORCES AND SECTORS CAPABILITY

Capable workforces and sectors are fundamental enablers of an integrated family violence system, and are a critical part of the statewide reform agenda through *Building from Strength: 10-year industry plan for family violence response and prevention*. Embedding a **local** MARAM-ISS mindset into our system is key to this – at practitioner and organisational levels.

### For this strategic priority, we will:



1. Actively contribute to the capability and growth of our workforces and sectors.



2. Create opportunities for building MARAM-ISS capacity among practitioners.



3. Facilitate organisational conversations to help embed MARAM-ISS across Bayside Peninsula Area.



4. Expand opportunities for meaningfully promoting lived experience of family violence in our workforces and sectors.



5. Maintain and grow the critical role of the specialist family violence sector.



6. Enable pathways for current and future leaders within our workforces.



7. Enable effective entry pathways into our workforces.



## STRATEGIC PRIORITY THREE: EVIDENCE AND KNOWLEDGE FOR DECISION MAKING

The client experience of our family violence system (their voice) and our shared understandings of what works for system improvement and integration, inform **all** our Partnership decisions. 'Evidence and knowledge' underpins everything we do, which is why we commit to this strategic priority.

### For this strategic priority, we will:



1. Embed a culture of evaluation and learning into our system improvement and integration work.



2. Build Partnership capacity to collect and collate client and service data that are critical for sound decision making e.g. via shared frameworks or tools.



3. Build Partnership capacity to make sense of prioritised data so we can use data in informed ways; this includes bringing the client voice into our sense-making process.



4. Ensure we consistently use evidence and knowledge in our design and implementation of initiatives for our local system.



## STRATEGIC PRIORITY FOUR: GOVERNANCE AND LOCAL SYSTEM LEADERSHIP

Over the life of our new Strategic Plan, the Partnership will continue to exert its position as **the** leading and expert partnership for the family violence system in Bayside Peninsula Area through our strategic influence and advocacy; effective partnerships, linkages and collaborations; and clear communications with stakeholders. 'Governance and local system leadership' also encompasses actions on how we organise ourselves as a Partnership.

### For this strategic priority, we will:



1. Continue to be the thought and practice leaders of our family violence system through our influence, advocacy and communications across Bayside Peninsula Area and at the statewide level



2. Sustain and grow our strategic partnerships, linkages and collaborations to deliver all actions in our Strategic Plan 2021–2026



3. Ensure that our Partnership is inclusive and reflects our entire system



4. Maintain the high functionality of our Partnership in the way we lead and in holding a systems view as we commit to our purpose

## MONITORING AND REVIEW

Our four strategic priorities and their objectives will inform annual Operational Action plans which include responsibilities, timeframes, and progress measures to monitor our performance as we implement the Strategic Plan.

Review and reflection will occur towards the end of each annual operational action plan to support the development of subsequent plans and in 2026 the next Strategic Plan.





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