

Womenwithdisabilitiesvictoria  
empowering women



# Who we are

- Member-led
- Elected Board
- Employing Women with Disabilities
- Developing Community Leaders



***Our Vision - A world where all women are respected and can fully experience life***

# Our Priorities

## Our Priorities

Our commitment to create opportunities for women with disabilities to realise their leadership and advocacy potential is central to our work within each priority area.

### Violence

We will **prevent and respond to violence and abuse against women with disabilities.**

### NDIS

We will **work to make the NDIS relevant and responsive to women with disabilities and empower women to engage with the new system.**

### Health

We will **promote access to health services for women with disabilities.**

## Key Program Areas:

- **Women's Empowerment and Community Inclusion**
- **Workforce Development – for Violence Prevention and Response**
- **Policy, Advocacy and Research**

# Gender and Disability

- **Family violence is the leading cause of death or disability in women under the age of 45 in Australia**
- **Women with disabilities experience higher rates of family and sexual violence than women and men without disabilities**
- **Over one third of women with disabilities experience family violence**
- **Some are at higher risk of family violence and sexual assault than others, for example women with intellectual disabilities**
- **Women with disabilities experience violence over longer periods of time**
- **Women with disabilities experience violence from many perpetrators.**

# **Empowering Women and Community Inclusion**

- **Enabling Women Leadership Program**
- **Victorian Women's Board Leadership Program**
- **'Here We Are' Project**
- **'Linking Up, Speaking Out' Project**

# Enabling Women Leadership Program



- **A community-based leadership program for women with disabilities**
- **Empowering women with disabilities to become leaders within their own communities**

# Enabling Women Leadership Program

## What is covered?

- **social model of disability**
- **identity and self-esteem**
- **human rights**
- **communication and advocacy**
- **violence – speaking up**
- **how to engage with the NDIS**
- **connecting with services in the community**
- **working towards a leadership goal**

# Partners with Local Government

## Local Government is:

- **Critical to delivering successful Enabling Women programs**
- **Often a formal project partner**
- **MetroAccess / RuralAccess officers are key support in establishing a program in a new region**

# Leadership Network – Hubs



- **4 Leadership Networks for Women with Disabilities in Barwon, Wellington, Moira, and Warrnambool**
- **The Hubs are for women with disabilities who are interested in leadership, advocacy, human rights, and empowerment, and local matters impacting on their lives**

# Community Inclusion – Here We Are



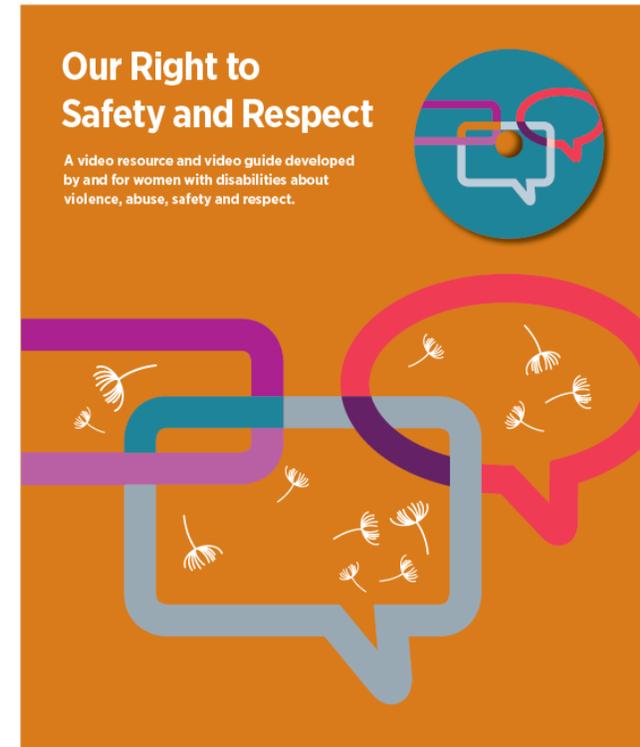
- **Regional capacity building project, with partner organisations in Geelong, Sale, Warrnambool & Cobram**
- **Employing women with disability to lead and model social inclusion, with a focus on women's support structures and activities**

# Linking Up, Speaking Out

- **Forums with women with disabilities in Victoria who are regionally or otherwise isolated**
- **To connect women with disabilities with WDV, relevant advocacy organisations, and other women with disabilities**
- **Particular focus on working with women with deafblindness in Victoria**

# Workforce Development

- **Gender and Disability**
- **Responsive Access Project**
- **Safeguarding**



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# Gender and Disability Program



**Provides the disability sector with training in:**

- **Gender and disability intersectionality**
- **Prevention of violence against women with disabilities**
- **Gender equitable and responsive practice**

**Our co-facilitation model brings together women with disabilities and prevention partners**

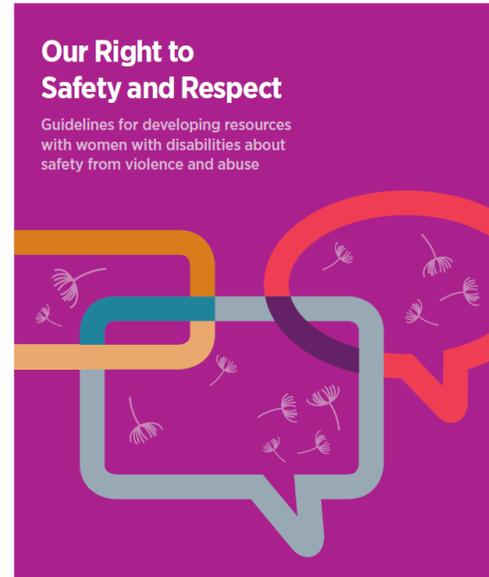
# Partners with Local Government

**The Gender and Disability Program has partnered with:**

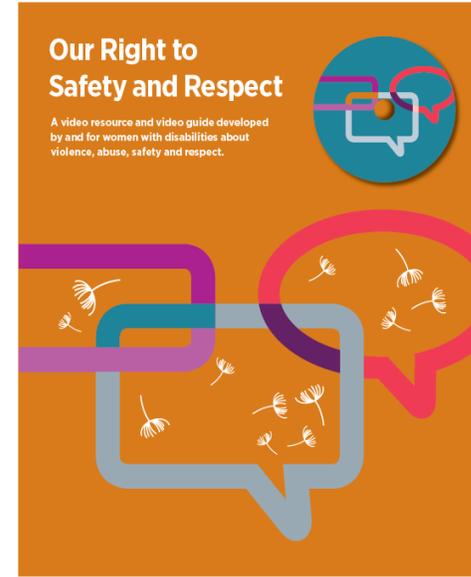
- **Manningham City Council**
- **Shire of Yarra Ranges**

**To provide training in Prevention of Violence Against Women with Disabilities, using our co-facilitation model**

# Safeguarding



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## Our Right to Safety and Respect

- Guidelines for organisations for developing resources with women with disabilities about safety from violence and abuse
- Video resource and guide by and for women with disabilities about violence, abuse, safety and respect, including Easy English version

# Key Resources

- Sylvia Petrony et al, 2012, '[Access to Health Services for Women with Disabilities.](#)' WDV & University of Melbourne
- Anne Kavanagh et al, 2013, '[Time trends in socio-economic inequalities for women and men with disabilities in Australia.](#)' International journal for equity in health
- OPA, 2015, '[Rebuilding the village: Supporting families where a parent has a disability.](#)'
- VicHealth, 2013, '[National Community Attitudes towards Violence Against Women Survey.](#)'
- Stella Young, 2013, '[The Politics of Exclusion.](#)' ABC Ramp Up
- Jen Hargrave, 2016, '[The boy who saw an alien: stopping sexism & disability discrimination at the start.](#)' WHISE
- WHV Clearinghouse

# More Information

Women with Disabilities Victoria (WDV)

<https://www.wdv.org.au/>

factsheets, submissions, research, membership

Women with Disabilities Australia (WWDA)

<http://wwda.org.au/>

<https://www.facebook.com/womenwithdisabilitiesvictoria>

<https://twitter.com/WDVtweet>

<https://www.instagram.com/womenwithdisabilitiesvic/>

\* [Sign up to the WDV eNews](#)

\* [Sign up to the Violence & Disability Quarterly](#)

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