



Blacktown Women's and Girls' Health Centre Inc.

Annual Report
2016/2017

Accredited at
Certificate Level of the
Australian Service
Excellence Standards



Blacktown Women's and Girls' Health Centre Inc and North West Sydney Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service

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Funded by NSW Department of Health, administered by Western Sydney Local Health District

Funded by Legal Aid NSW

Blacktown Women's and Girls' Health Centre Inc. (BWGHC) is a Public Benevolent Institution with DGR Status. Donations of \$2.00 and above are tax deductible. The Centre holds NSW Authority to fundraise: CFN/23808.

All photos unless otherwise indicated are property of BWGHC. Thanks to the staff and students at BWGHC for their contribution of photographs to this report.

BWGHC Annual Report for 2016/2017 compiled by Christina Adolphus, Casey Simpson and Myriam Drury. Thanks to Nishu Singh for her promotional work.

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30th Anniversary Edition

We are committed to providing a professional, affordable and holistic gender informed service promoting health, wellbeing and empowerment for women and girls, delivered in a caring, non-judgemental, respectful and safe



Blacktown Women's and Girl's Health Centre Inc. (BWGHC) is a community-based, non-profit women's health centre which provides accessible health and wellbeing services for women and girls in Blacktown LGA regardless of their income. Our peak body is Women's Health NSW and we are part of a network of 21 community based women's health centres in NSW which share a similar mission and ethos.

OUR MISSION

We are committed to providing a professional, affordable and holistic gender informed service promoting health, wellbeing and empowerment for women, delivered in a caring, non-judgemental, respectful and safe environment.

We achieve this by:

- Providing a holistic women's health service to the community.
- Educating women and children so they can make informed choices about healthcare and well-being.
- Empowering women and children to make informed choices throughout their lives.
- Providing a safe place for women and children.
- Advocating for and supporting women from a feminist perspective.

OUR VALUES

We recognise that women's health encompasses the physical, spiritual, environmental, emotional and social wellbeing of women and girls. BWGHC offers a holistic approach to understanding, managing and supporting women, girls and the broader community in the Blacktown LGA to make informed decisions about their own health and wellbeing. This approach is based on feminist philosophy, with an emphasis on respect and empowerment for all women and girls. Our values are:

- **Dignity** – we treat all people in a way that is respectful of their diversity and as valued individuals.
- **Compassion** – in our interactions with people, we strive to be kind and empathic.
- **Optimism** – the unwavering belief in the positive potential inherent in people and society.

OUR SERVICE PRINCIPLES

- We are a community based, non-government organisation run by and for women.
- We are a public benevolent institution providing a direct service to disadvantaged women.
- We focus on prevention and early intervention.
- We work in partnership with other agencies.
- We are accessible to all women and girls.
- We strive to maintain ethical standards in all our activities.
- We are committed to best practice.
- Our work environment reflects our values.

Our Community

BWGHC provides health and wellbeing services to women and girls in Blacktown LGA, a 'huge and diverse' area with high levels of cultural and linguistic diversity¹.

Many areas of Blacktown LGA experience high levels of socio-economic disadvantage, poor health outcomes and high levels of unmet need when it comes to service provision³.

Our area is also experiencing rapid urban development and population growth and is now one of the most densely populated Local Government Areas in Western Sydney², further increasing the demand for services.

BWGHC takes into account the unique needs of our local community. We provide accessible services that take into account the social, cultural and economic barriers that may exist for women and girls wishing to access health services and resources in our area.



Jacqueline, Sasha and Jane
One Billion Rising, 14th February 2017



Chairperson's Report | Dr Olayide Ogunsiji

This annual report is my first since my nomination to the role of Chairperson in October, 2016. It is a great privilege to present the Blacktown Women's and Girls' Health Centre's (BWGHC) Annual report covering 2016-2017 financial year, to our members, friends and stakeholders.

The overall performance of BWGHC during the last twelve months has been outstanding and the Centre continues to build on the strong foundation laid under the leadership of the immediate past Chairperson- Suzie van Opdorp. The work done at all levels of the organisation has prepared a solid platform for ongoing growth and success in serving the many women and girls in our area.

One of the Centre's Strategic Plan 2015-2017 is to provide programs, services and activities in order to meet identified needs. I am proud to say that 2016-2017 has been a very active and successful year with numerous programs and services provided in our area in the course of the year. As part of our programs, BWGHC worked with Coreen School to provide sexual and reproductive health education for the students and the Centre took part in a number of local events. The full details of our extensive range of programs are laid out in the following pages of this report, which I encourage you all to read in depth. The significant impact that the Centre's programs and services is having on the lives of the women and girls has been recognised with the Executive Officer Jhan Leach nomination for a Pride of Australia Award. Warm congratulations to Jhan.

BWGHC is fortunate to be a member of the peak-body Women's Health NSW and to be part of a network of 21 women's health centres across the State. With our history and strategic positioning, women's health centres such as ours are ideally placed to provide the range of domestic violence responses required by women and girls. With the North West Sydney Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service (NWS WDVCS), BWGHC is able to offer a seamless service to women and their children in our area that require support and assistance following domestic violence. Services cover the continuum from prevention, early intervention and responding to women who have experienced domestic violence. We have skilled and experienced staff, gender and trauma-informed programs and systems, a committed and aware management structure and relevant partnerships in the community which enable us to access and mobilise services when needed. We wish to see a greater investment in the prevention of, and response to, domestic violence and for this funding to be committed to women's health centres in NSW.

I will like to acknowledge and express our appreciation to our community partners, including the Outer Western Domestic Violence Network, Family Planning NSW, the Western Sydney Local Health District, NSW legal Aid and the Department of family and Community Services, as well as numerous grass-root services and their workers whom we closely work with on a daily basis to ensure that women and girls get the relevant support they need.

On behalf of the Management Committee, I wish to extend my gratitude to our able Executive Officer, Jhan Leach for her professionalism and determination in executing our strategic and operational goals effectively and efficiently. Under her leadership and guidance, BWGHC is growing from strength to strength as evident from the variety of programs, services and partnerships established over the number of years she has been in the Centre.

I thank all the staff for their hard work, dedication and loyalty to BWGHC. I acknowledge their welcoming smiles, their passion and commitment really make a big difference to the health and well-being of our clients and are crucial to our success.

I would like to thank all the members of the Management Committee whose responsibility it is to provide effective governance and ensure that the services, programs and policies of the Centre meet current health and service standards. I acknowledge their dedication and commitment and guidance.

Finally, and very importantly, I wish to thank all the women and girls who use our services; for their trust and for enabling BWGHC to continue to be the Centre of excellence in women's health and domestic violence response in the Blacktown Local Government area. On this note, it gives me a great pleasure to present to you 2016-2017 Chairperson's annual report.

Yours Sincerely,

Olayide Ogunsiji

Report | Treasurer



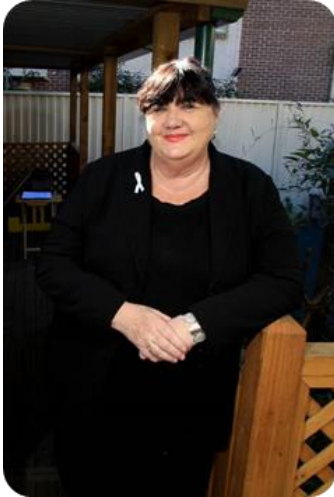
Treasurer's Report | Denele Crozier

2016-2017 was again a year of expansion – increased services, partnerships, staff, programs and clients, all good for the business of increased capacity to improve care for women and girls in the Blacktown area. Improvements to the premises and new offices up at Windsor have also helped. We take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the Western Sydney Local Health District and Legal Aid NSW for our core recurrent funding and for small grant programs through Coca Cola Grants, Blacktown Workers Club NSW Grants, Blacktown RSL and Multicultural NSW Grants, Solar Communities Program 2016-2017 and Community Building Partnership 2016 Grants. We give a heartfelt thank you for the continued support of the community who organised donations, financial and material, through raffles and races! All the efforts really help to make a difference.

Special thanks also go to White Ribbon NSW, Blacktown Local Area Police, Blacktown City Council, Gold Crest Security, Nestle Australia Ltd (Blacktown) and Storage King. Thank you for being part of our community by sharing our aims to improve support for women and girls in the Blacktown area, we have really appreciated your commitment.

We have finished the year with an unqualified audit, strong accounting systems and can meet our financial responsibilities when and if they fall due. I commend these accounts to the membership.

Denele Crozier



Executive Officer's Report | Jhan Leach

I would like to thank our Chairperson Dr Olayide Ogunsiji, our Treasurer Denele Crozier and the Management Committee for their excellent guidance, good governance and support over the past twelve months.

This year we were successful in setting up the Women's and Girl's Emergency Fund with the support of grant funding from Coca Cola, Clubs Grants from the Blacktown Workers Club, Blacktown RSL and much needed storage from Storage King and to them, and to all our other sponsors and donors who have assisted us materially, physically and financially this year we're all very grateful.

The North Western Sydney Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service has developed strongly with additional funding, from Legal Aid NSW, for the Local Coordination Point, Safety Action Meeting's. I'd like to thank Coordinator of the North West Sydney Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service, Kerry Kent for her commitment and to her team for the excellent work they're undertaking, which has also received much praise from Michelle Jones the Manager of Legal Aid NSW.

We've achieved solid progress this year with staff recruitment and development, team building, strategic and business planning, enabling our continuing solid service growth.

I would like to thank our professional and dedicated staff, including our service partners, contracted and casual staff, our volunteers and students on placement. Their strong resolve has been to provide women and girls with a high standard and excellence in service delivery of health and domestic violence services and this has been achieved.

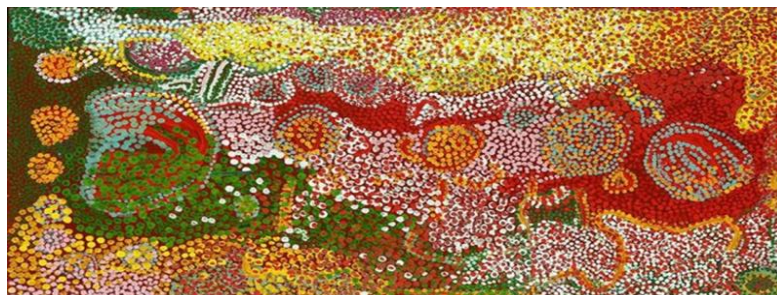
We have succeeded in partnering with a number of government and non-government organisations in the Blacktown and Hawkesbury Nepean Local Government Areas. I would also like to thank them for their support and dedication to women, girls, children and families in our community.

I'd like to make a special mention of John Robertson who resigned as the Member for Blacktown this year and who is now the CEO of Food Bank, we have been so grateful for all his support this year and in helping us to secure a Community Building Partnership Project Grant for a new front fence.

Our great thanks to the Blacktown Police Area Command, under their Commander, Gary Mereweather, DVLO, Michelle Goble and Crime Prevention Officer, Deb Lee for their dedication to assist in fundraising through the White Ribbon Campaign, speaking at Candle Light Vigils and through educating our community to understand that Domestic Violence and any other form of Violence, perpetrated against women, girls and children is not acceptable.

I'm really honoured and proud to represent our organisation as a result of these achievements.

Jhan Leach



Carol Maayatja Golding, Warlu Tjukurrpa

Staff and Personnel

BWGHC employs permanent and sessional/casual staff as required and also provides students with placement opportunities. BWGHC also receives invaluable assistance and support from our volunteers. Personnel are accountable to the Executive Officer, Jhan Leach, who reports to the Management Committee.

Management Committee

BWGHC is an Incorporated Association, which is governed by a Management Committee made up of women committed to advancing the health priorities of women, girls, children and families living in our local community. The Management Committee is structured and operates according to the Rules of Association, and consists of the Chairperson, Vice-chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and Ordinary Members.

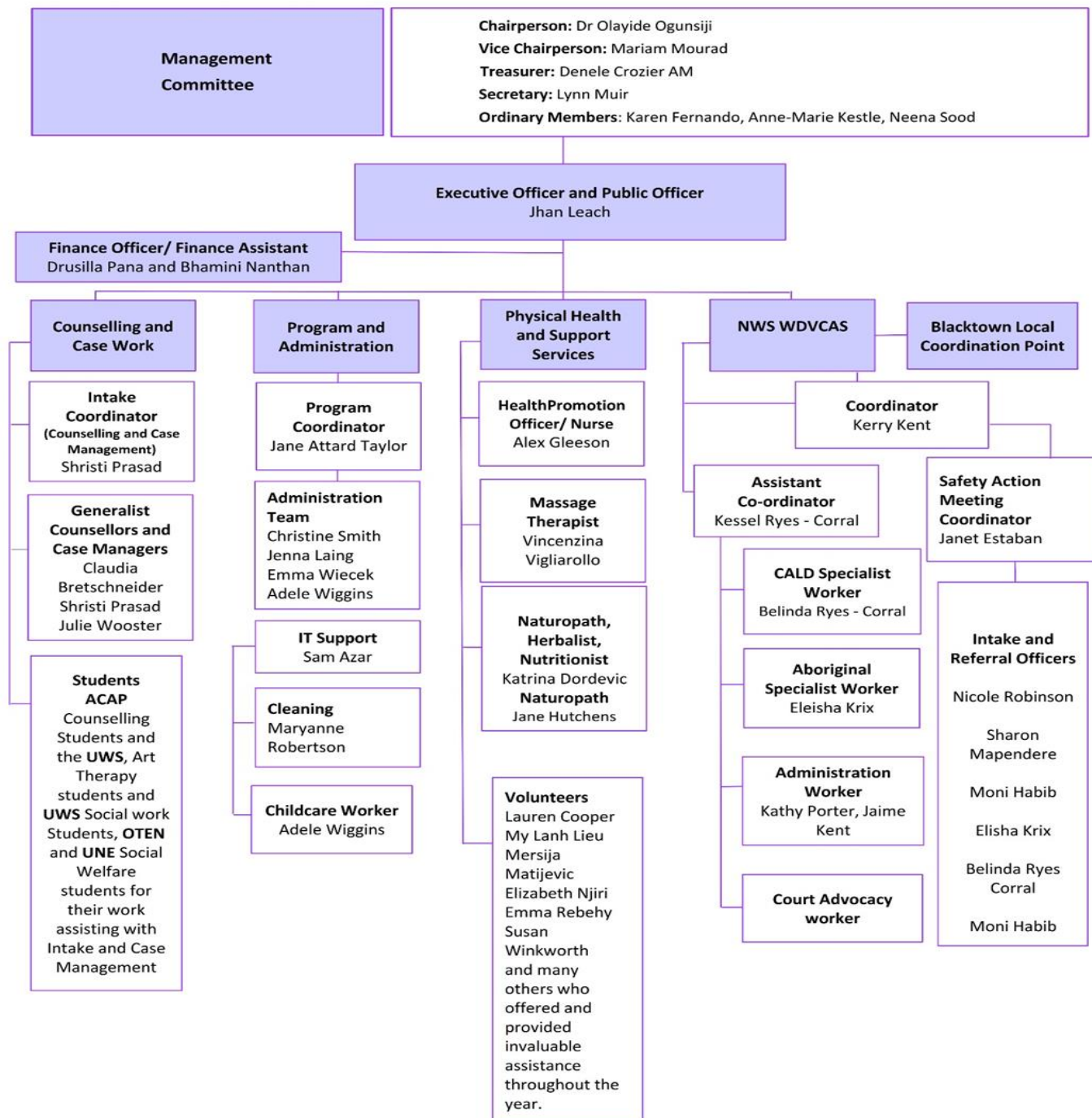
Funding

- NSW Department of Health, as administered by the Western Sydney Local Health District
- Legal Aid New South Wales.
- Additional sources of funding are sought, and provided via grant applications, community donations and strategic partnerships with other organisations.



Avril, Shristi, Adele, Karen, Kerry, John Robertson MP, Jhan, Mersija, Claudia, Vasilica, Sam and Jenna

Blacktown Women's and Girls' Health Centre Inc and North West Sydney Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service



BWGHC works in alignment with NSW Government Health Goals. The following is extracted from the NSW Health Framework for Women's Health:

Women's health priorities across the life stages

Goal

To deliver services and foster environments in NSW which help women to meet their physical, social and economic potential, by increasing opportunities for women to be healthy at every stage in their lives and preventing avoidable detrimental health outcomes such as chronic disease.

Purpose

To identify health needs particular to women (whether biological or social); to deliver appropriate healthcare and health-promoting services; and to monitor the impact of interventions on groups of women at most risk of poor health.

Approach

The framework focuses on issues where the detrimental health impact is disproportionately experienced by women, or where the response is different for women than for men. The framework places women at the centre of decision making for their own health and acknowledges women's health is impacted by many factors including housing, rural living, employment and access to services.

As health outcomes are influenced by the cumulative effect overtime of social determinants, a life stage approach is used to structure opportunities for enhanced delivery of services and programs.

Values

NSW Health's CORE values are the guiding principles for implementation of women's health strategies.

The CORE values are:

**Collaboration, Openness,
Respect and Empowerment.**

Priority populations

While the Women's Health Framework is for *all* women, it is recognised that there are certain population groups which experience poorer health and/or due to their circumstances may require focused attention to better address their health needs. Examples of priority populations in women's health include:

- **Aboriginal women**
- **Women from culturally and linguistically diverse communities, migrant and refugee women**
- **Women who are socio-economically disadvantaged**
- **Women with disability**
- **Women who are primary or secondary carers for other people**
- **Women who experience violence (sexual, domestic and family violence)**
- **Women living in rural and remote areas**
- **Lesbian, bisexual, trans-gender and inter-gender women.**

These priority populations are similarly identified by the National Women's Health Policy. Working to advance women's health also requires working with the communities in which women live.

Partnerships

Improving health outcomes for all women will require an across-government and multi-sectoral approach. NSW Health has funded a range of community-based services supporting women's health and arrangements for evidence-based service delivery will remain important into the future. As well, agencies will need to build strategic partnerships with other organisations which are not funded by the health system. This framework identifies the partnerships between NSW Government agencies which contribute to the infrastructure, services and programs supporting women's good health.

Source: NSW Health Framework for Women's Health, 2013

Quality, Innovation, Performance

BWGHC is accredited at Certificate Level of the Australian Service Excellence Standards (ASES). Since receiving accreditation, the Centre has continued to upgrade systems and processes, in order to meet ongoing improvement targets for internal processes and strengthening our operational policies and procedures, including recruitment, employment, financial and organisational management.



Meeting High Demand

BWGHC has undergone important changes during this financial year. We have improved our Centre's facilities, and continued to expand our capacity to meet high demand for services.

We have also employed additional staff to meet the continuing high demand for our counselling and case management services and for the North Western Sydney Domestic Violence Court Advocacy service.

Improving Effectiveness

BWGHC has taken an efficient and consistent approach to managing the continuing high level of demand by new clients for counselling and case management, including the growing demand for domestic violence and crisis response.

This year we were successful in our Tender with Legal Aid NSW for the North Western Sydney Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service. We've developed a good working relationship with the Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Program at Legal Aid NSW. We've achieved solid progress this year with staff recruitment and development, team building, strategic and business planning, enabling our strong service growth.

Providing child minding for our Doctor and Nurse clinics has enabled many women to comfortably attend appointments. Our health promotions and early intervention group program has brought the Centre into new partnerships with local organisations and agencies, and provided women and girls with useful ways to address issues such as physical health, mental health and social wellbeing, regardless of age or cultural background.

The BWGHC **Women's Girls' and Children's Emergency Fund** was developed in response to the needs of women fleeing domestic violence, and has been supported with a NSW Clubs Grant from Blacktown Workers Club. During the next 12 months, this important fund will continue to provide practical assistance for women, girls and children in crisis and at risk of homelessness.

The BWGHC Reception team, the first 'point of call' for clients, received between 20 – 40 calls a day.

Over ten per cent of the calls were complex or crisis related, requiring sound knowledge of referral pathways and appropriate services, internal and external, for the woman or girl calling.

Meeting NSW Health Requirements

BWGHC continues effectively quantitatively recording and measure our performance in all areas through our Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), which were developed in consultation with NSW Health to meet their requirements and provide a consistent framework for monitoring and evaluating performance.

Blacktown Women and Girls Health Centre Inc. provides affordable, accessible and multi-disciplinary services to girls and women across their lifespan, particularly focusing on vulnerable population groups.

Our services target key health issues impacting women and girls, including sexual and reproductive health, mental health and wellbeing, domestic and family violence, and chronic illness and disease. As a community health organization, BWGHC aims to operate as a 'one-stop shop' delivering integrated care to women and girls with complex needs and those who do not readily engage with health services. Services are free or low-cost. No woman or girl is turned away due to inability to pay.

BWGHC Services

- **Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service:** North Western Sydney Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service (NWS WDVCA)
- **Counselling** (Counselling support for women and girls to assist in dealing with trauma, stress and personal issues both immediate and long-term)
- **Case Management** (Consistent co-ordinated support for women and girls with complex needs)
- **Women's Health Nurse Clinic** (Free education, information, breast checks and more)
- **Naturopathy and Nutrition**
- **Remedial Massage Therapy**
- **Art Therapy**
- **Health Promotion and Community Outreach**
- **Early Intervention and Health Promotion Group Program**



*Jane Attard Taylor,
Welcoming the Babies
Ceremony, 2017*

BWGHC Services: In-House Partnerships

Our strong partnerships with other organisations help us to provide relevant, appropriate and responsive services to women and girls in our local community. The following services are provided onsite at BWGHC through our community partnerships:

- **Sexual and Reproductive Health Doctor and Nurse Clinics:** Family Planning NSW
- **Domestic Violence Counselling:** specialist outreach counsellor from the WASH House provided by Gold Crest Security for the Outer West Domestic Violence Network (OWDVN)
- **Specialist Counsellor, Victims of Crime:** Ros Leahy, Specialist Counsellor Victims of Crime for the NSW Attorney General's Department
- **Early Childhood Health Clinic:** Early Childhood Nurses from the Western Sydney Local Health District
- **Legal Support:** Women's Legal Services NSW (WLSNSW) Solicitors
- **Indigenous Women's Legal Support:** Indigenous Women's Legal Program (WLSNSW)
- **Staying Home Leaving Violence:** Specialist outreach worker from the WASH House
- **African Women's Health And Support Organisation (AWHASO):** regular outreach, meetings and information forums hosted by BWGHC
- **Australian Breastfeeding Association:** regular information and support meetings held at BWGHC
- **Relationships Australia:** Women's Choice and Change Group Program

Early Intervention and Health Promotion Group Programs (2016/17 FY)

- Art Therapy – Anxiety & Stress Art Therapy
- Art Therapy – Brave Hearts Art Therapy
- Art Therapy – Warm Hearts Art Therapy
- Environmentally Friendly Card Making for Relaxation and Fun
- It's Ok To Be Angry But (Anger Management Group)
- Resilience Building for Women Group (with Relationships Australia)
- Self Esteem and Communication for Women
- Understanding and Challenging Bullying
- Your Self Esteem (with Relationships Australia)
- Art Therapy – Healing Art Therapy
- Art Therapy – Multicultural Festival Introduction to Art Therapy
- African Women's Health and Support Organisation (AWHASO) Forums
- CALD Women's Post Natal Group
- Glenwood Sikh Women's Group
- International Women's Day Paper Flower Making for CALD Women
- Sudanese Women's Group
- Financial Health for Women Group (with Hills Community Aid)
- Star Weave Jam Domestic Violence Awareness Group
- Women Choice and Change (with Relationships Australia)
- Australian Breastfeeding Association Group
- AWHASO Forums: Focus on Women's Health
- Basket Making Craft for Relaxation and Social Support (Women with Disabilities)
- Cervical Screening/Pap Tests health talk (with Family Planning NSW)
- CORE Tone & Trim
- Diabetes Awareness and Management
- Gentle Exercise with Music
- Health Talk – Alzheimer's & Dementia (with Alzheimer's Australia)
- Health Talk – At Risk Youth Group (Coreen School)
- Health Talk – Breast Health Awareness (with BreastCare NSW)
- Health Talk – Healthy Youth Group (with Blacktown Youth Support Association (BYSA))
- Health Talk – Continence
- Health Talk – Nutrition
- Meditation for Stress Relief
- Nutrition Support Group (with Oz Harvest)
- Talking Health: Breast Awareness
- Talking Health: Cardiovascular Health and Ageing
- Talking Health: Healthy Lifestyles (with NSW Cancer Council)
- Talking Health: Love Your Liver
- Talking Health: Menopause
- Talking Health: Mood Food
- Talking Health: Osteoporosis
- Talking Health: Save Your Own Skin (with NSW Cancer Council)
- Mind Body and Spirit Yoga
- Yoga for Stress Management



Alex Gleeson
Health Promotion Officer

*"The safe environment it provides.
The opportunity to meet and
communicate with people in similar
situations. The patience and caring
from facilitators/program leaders"*
*Rosanna

Accessible and Culturally Responsive Services

During the 2016-2017 Financial Period, BWGHC provided culturally responsive services to women and girls from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. Clients were provided with a free interpreter when needed, either onsite or via the Telephone Interpreter Service (TIS).

BWGHC continued to develop and strengthen interagency and community partnerships. These partnerships allow BWGHC to benefit from the expertise of organisations which work closely with culturally diverse community groups to provide culturally responsive services including referrals, events and resources.

Blacktown Women's and Girls' Health Centre hosted regular outreach meetings by the African Women's Health and Support Organisation (AWHASO). We partnered with SydWest Multicultural Services and other local agencies and organisations to deliver an International Women's Day Community Celebration. We worked with Brighter Futures and other agencies to deliver a Children's Week event and presented an art therapy group for women at the Glenwood Sikh Temple community rooms. We delivered outreach programs for Indigenous women and girls onsite at Ngallu Wal Aboriginal Child and Family Centre and other community organisations.



Women at Blacktown International Women's Day event 2017



AWHASO Health Awareness Workshop



Multicultural Food and Health Day, Blacktown Girls' High School performance group



Blacktown Streets Alive Festival and Parade

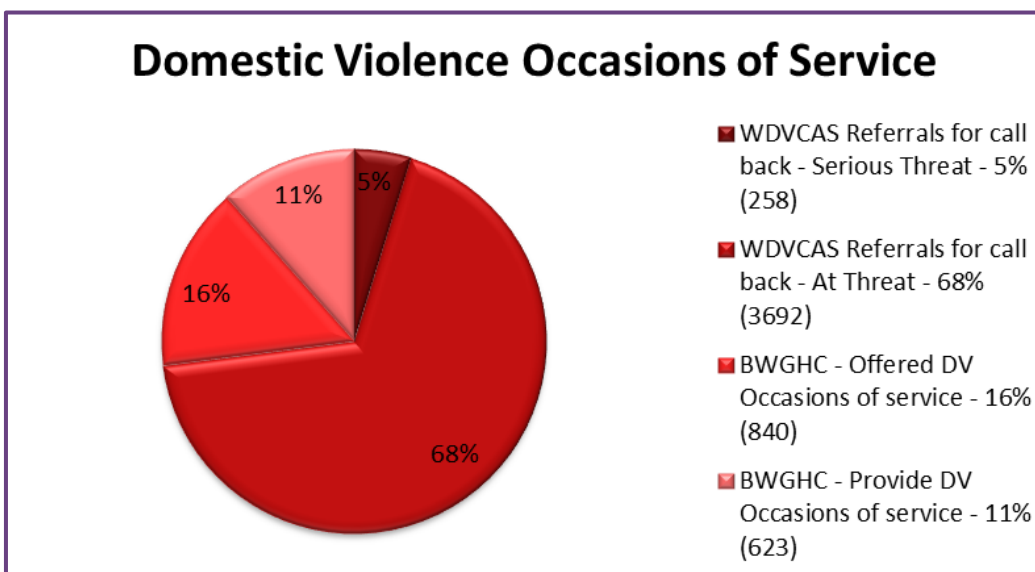
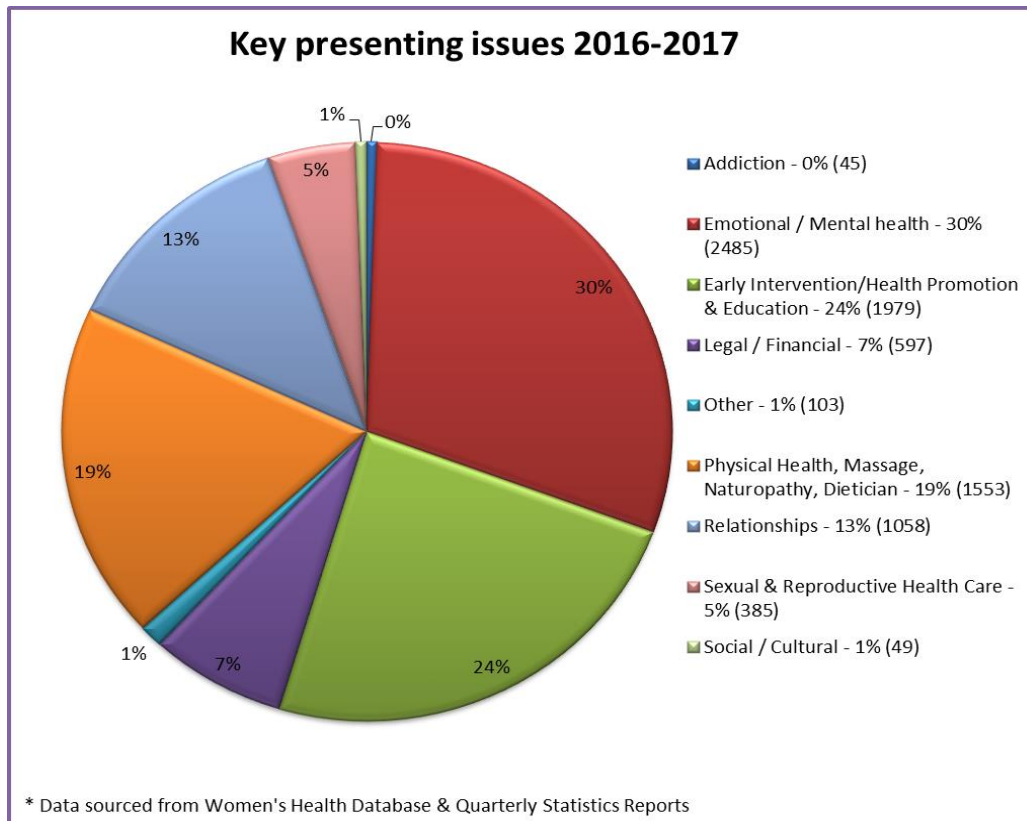
During the financial year **2016-2017**, we delivered **5197** client contacts.

A total of **3280** women and children attended appointments.

More than **1979** women and children attended workshops, classes, activities and programs.

We organised and delivered **319** planned health promotion activities.

A total of **5877** women contacted the centre for referral, information and crisis support.





About us

North West Sydney Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service (NWSWDVCAS) is one of the 28 services of the Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Program providing a holistic service to women across NSW experiencing domestic violence. We provide information, support, referrals and advocacy to women to obtain effective legal protection from NSW Courts through the application of Apprehended Domestic Violence Orders (ADVO's)

NWSWDVCAS provides assistance at both Blacktown and Windsor Courts.

In 2014 the NSW Government launched the 'It Stops Here Reforms'. The Reforms aim to improve the state-wide response to domestic violence, primarily through a new model of service delivery known as 'Safer Pathway'. WDVCSs were selected to host a key component of Safer Pathway – a network of Local Coordination Points (LCPs) for female victims of domestic violence across NSW. LCPs provide victims with threat assessment, case coordination and referral to a Safety Action Meeting (SAM) if necessary. LCPs also provide secretariat support to SAMs.

This appointment is an acknowledgement of WDVCSs specialist expertise in providing support and advocacy to women experiencing domestic violence.

North West Sydney WDVCS commenced undertaking these functions in the Blacktown area in November 2016.

Local Coordination Points (LCPs) - provide women experiencing domestic violence with threat assessment, case coordination and referral to a Safety Action Meeting (SAM) if necessary. LCPs also provide secretariat support for SAMs in each local area, in partnership with NSW Police Force.

Safety Action Meeting (SAM) - A SAM is a regular meeting of local service providers that aims to prevent or lessen the serious threat to the safety of domestic violence victims through targeted information sharing.

It Stops Here Safer Pathway

- WDVCSs are involved in 2 significant aspects of 'It Stops Here'
- 1. They host the Local Coordination Points and Safety Action Meetings.
- 2. They receive electronically via the Central Referral Point (CRP), referrals from NSW Police and local courts for women who are victims of domestic and family violence. This commenced state-wide on July 1 2015 under the DVJS.
- 3.

NWSWDVCAS & Blacktown LCP is funded by Legal Aid NSW



Our Team

The NWSWDVCAS team consists of:

Coordinator	Kerry Kent
Assistant Coordinator	Kessel Ryes-Corral
Multicultural Specialist Worker	Belinda Ryes-Corral
Aboriginal Specialist Worker	Eleisha Krix
Court Advocacy Worker	Moni Habib
Administration Assistant	Jaime Kent
Administration Assistant	Katherine Porter

The Local Coordination Point team consists of:

Safety Action Meeting Coordinator	Janet Esteban
Intake and Referral Officer	Nicole Robinson
Intake and Referral Officer	Sharon Mapendere
Intake and Referral Officer	Moni Habib
Intake and Referral Officer	Eleisha Krix
Intake and Referral Officer	Belinda Ryes-Corral



Jaime, Kerry, Sharon, Eleisha, Janet, Belinda, Kath, Kessel, Moni



Co-ordinator's Report | Kerry Kent

I am pleased to present North West Sydney Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Services (NWSWDVCAS) 2016-2017 Annual report. NWSWDVCAS assists women and their children who have experienced domestic and family violence to obtain effective legal protection through an ADVO from Windsor and Blacktown local courts.

It has been an exciting year for the NWSWDVCAS, with the rollout of the Blacktown Local Coordination Point in November 2016, as part of the NSW Governments Domestic and Family Violence Framework for Reform. This new approach aims to better support clients and secure their safety by using a common approach to identifying the level of threat, streamlining the referral pathway, providing consistent access to coordinated support and prioritised and integrated responses to clients at serious threat.

Despite the very busy year, I am delighted to report that we exceeded the expected level of performance in all areas. NWSWDVCAS continues to strive to provide excellence in our service delivery, with a strong focus on advocacy and support for our clients, while promoting collaborative relationships with our partners.

I would like to acknowledge and thank our dedicated and professional team for their commitment to deliver a consistent high quality service to all women and children who have or are experiencing domestic violence. I am particularly proud of the work that the team has done in attending to and addressing the issues of clients who are at serious risk of harm and supporting them through appropriate referral channels.

I would also like to thank and acknowledge our key partners, in particular NSW Police Force staff from Blacktown, Quakers Hill and Hawkesbury Local Area Commands and especially our Domestic Violence Liaison Officers (DVLO's) who we have a strong collaborative partnership with.

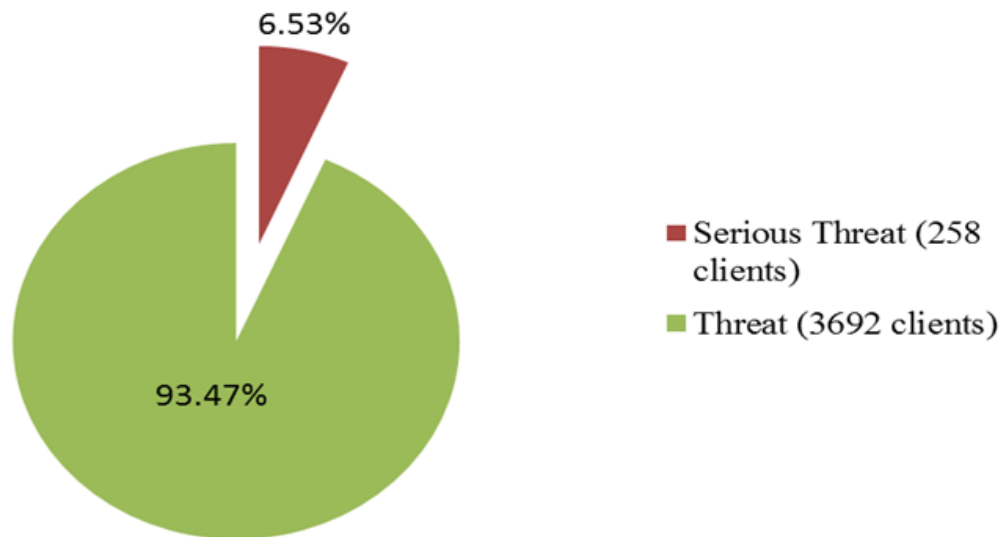
I would like to thank our Executive Officer Jhan Leach for her support and guidance over the last twelve months.

And a final thanks to the Management Committee for their governance and support.

Kerry Kent, Co-ordinator



NWSWDCAS & Blacktown LCP Total Referrals 2016/2017



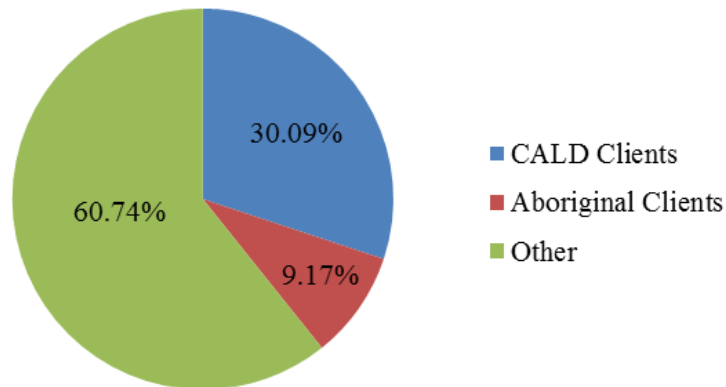
Priority Client Groups

NWSWDCAS assist women and children who have experienced or are experiencing domestic violence in the following circumstances:

- Women who are considering ADVO proceedings and require information, advice and referral
- Women in ADVO applications (Police and privately initiated) which are being heard on a mention basis on AVO list days (as an applicant, or as a defendant at the discretion of the WDVCS Co-ordinator)
- Women in ADVO applications (Police and privately initiated) which are being heard on a mention basis on other court days (as an applicant, or as a defendant at the discretion of the WDVCS Co-ordinator)
- Women in ADVO applications (Police and privately initiated) which are set down for a defended hearing (as an applicant, or as a defendant at the discretion of the WDVCS Co-ordinator)
- Women in APVO proceedings who have been subjected to stalking and intimidation, where there is no previous intimate relationship, subject to the discretion of the WDVCS Co-ordinator. E.g. by someone whose apparent intention is for the purpose of forming a relationship; or by a new partner of the client's ex-partner
- Women in criminal charge matters involving domestic violence which are being heard on a mention basis with or without an associated ADVO application (as a victim witness, or as a defendant at the discretion of the WDVCS Co-ordinator)
- Women in criminal charge matters involving domestic violence which are set down for a defended hearing with or without an associated ADVO application (as a victim, or as a defendant at the discretion of the WDVCS Co-ordinator)
- Women in ADVO applications (Police and privately initiated)



NWSWDVCAS Cultural Background of Clients 2016/2017



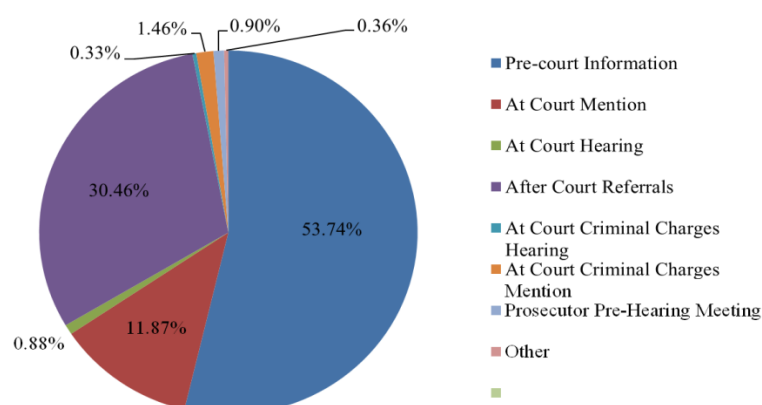
Our Services

NWSWDVCAS deliver the following services to women and children experiencing domestic violence:

- **Information** - Provide clients with legal information about the court process. Assist women and children to obtain Apprehended Domestic Violence Orders (ADVOs) that are appropriate to their individual needs and that they understand.
- **Assistance and referral** - Making referrals to a broad range of service providers including counselling, legal, financial, accommodation, health, family services and Victims Services according to the woman's needs.
- **Court advocacy** - Advocating on behalf of clients to support them in obtaining the best possible court outcome and support from other community and government agencies

WDVCAS can work with women before court proceeding, at court and after court.

Services Provided by NWSWDVCAS 2016/2017





NWSWDVCAS work in collaboration with their key partners to provide effective services and positive outcomes for our clients. NWSWDVCAS work with these agencies to develop effective strategies in delivering domestic violence services.

Our key partners include:

- NSW Police from Blacktown, Quakers Hill and Hawkesbury Local Area Commands (LAC's). Working closely with the Domestic Violence Liaison Officers (DVLO's) and Police Prosecutors
- Local court staff at Blacktown and Windsor Courts
- Legal Practitioners including solicitors on the Domestic Violence Practitioner Scheme.
- Other non-government and government organisations such as:

Blacktown Women's and Girls Health Centre (BWGHC)
CatholicCare Social Services
Centrelink (Blacktown)
Department of Housing, Blacktown & Mt Druitt
Domestic Violence Service Management (ROAR)
Hawkesbury District Health Service
Hawkesbury Community Outreach
Hills Community Aid and Information Service
Link2home
Mission Australia
Mt Druitt Washhouse
Mt Druitt Family Referral Service
Mt Druitt Family Violence Service
Nurreen Wentworth Housing
Relationships Australia
Swinson's Cottage
Syd West Multicultural Service
West Connect Domestic Violence Services
Women's Cottage (Richmond)
Western Sydney Community Legal Centre

These working relationships are important not only in ensuring NWSWDVCAS receive and are able to make effective client referrals but also ensuring the effective and efficient operation of the court process and positive client outcomes.

Police

NWSWDVCAS has an excellent working relationship with the Domestic Violence Liaison Officers (DVLO's) at Blacktown, Quakers Hill and Hawkesbury Local Area Commands, these strong partnerships between the NWSWDVCAS and Police are essential and allows all concerned to achieve the best outcomes for our clients.

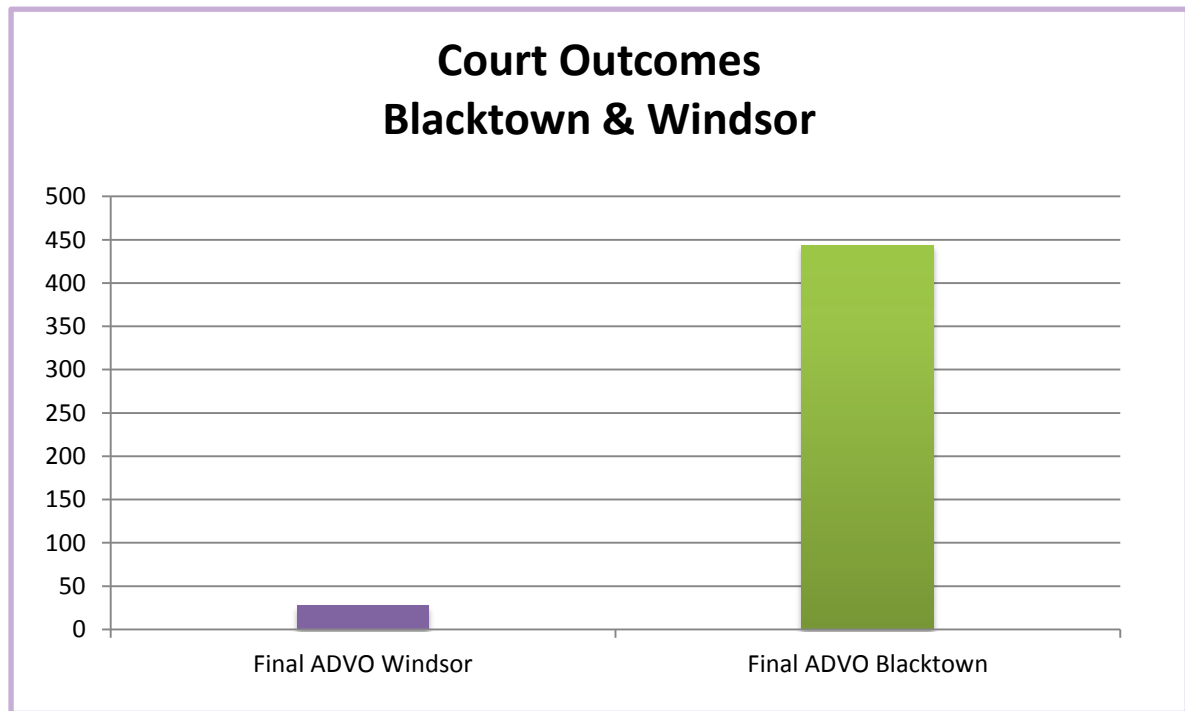
We wish to acknowledge and thank these DVLO's for their dedication and support



Local Courts Blacktown and Windsor

The partnerships developed between the Court staff both at Windsor and Blacktown Local Courts over the years continues to allow us to provide and maintain best practice and service provision for our clients thereby enabling NSWWDVCAS to obtain the best possible outcomes for our clients.

We would like to thank all Court Staff and Sheriffs at both Blacktown and Windsor Courts.



Seconded Workers

NWSWDVCAS have established a roster of trained social welfare professionals that are drawn from local Blacktown and Hawkesbury community agencies that commit to participate on a monthly roster at Blacktown and Windsor Courts. All seconded workers receive WDVCA training through Legal Aid. We wish to acknowledge and thank all the services and their workers, for their valuable support, as their presence in the safe room at court often allows for smoother referral pathways and assists clients directly and in an effective way.

Legal Aid NSW Domestic Violence Practitioner Scheme (DVPS)

The Domestic Violence Practitioner Scheme (DVPS) provides duty Solicitors to the NSWWDVCAS at both Blacktown and Windsor Local Courts on AVO list days to represent NSWWDVCAS clients in private AVO applications at mention and hearing. They also provide legal advice to clients regarding AVO's, family law, debt and victim's compensation.

The DVPS Solicitors also advocate and represent female clients who have become Defendants in an ADVO Application. This is an invaluable service for our clients and we would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication shown to the many women and children who pass through our safe rooms.



Police Prosecutors Clinic

NWSWDVCAS is involved in the Police Prosecutors Clinic at Blacktown Court in partnership with the Blacktown Police Prosecutor.

The Domestic Violence clinic is held once a month at Blacktown court for women victims who are attending hearings at Blacktown Court. The DV clinics assist clients to eliminate any concerns they may have by educating them in the court procedures and provide information necessary to prepare clients for giving evidence at their hearing court matters. **NWSWDVCAS** would like to thank the Blacktown & Quakers Hill Police Prosecutors for their dedication and support in assisting clients to have an improved understanding of the ADVO and criminal Justice process.

Community Development Engagement

NWSWDVCAS is involved in community education to raise awareness of the issues involved in domestic violence and its impacts on individuals and the wider community.

NWSWDVCAS has attended the following community and interagency events during this financial year:

Monthly meetings attended

- Outer West Domestic Violence Network (OWDVN)
- Hawkesbury Action Network Against Domestic Violence (HANADV)
- Blacktown Domestic Violence Forum (Chaired by NWSWDVCAS)
- DVLO Meetings
- Police Prosecutor Meetings (Blacktown)
- Koori Interagency Meeting Mt Druitt
- Syd West Interagency meeting
- Blacktown Combined Interagency – Multiculturalism and Social Cohesion – Blacktown Council

Court Users forum

- Blacktown and Windsor Court

Events

- Blacktown Women's and Girls Strategic Planning Day (Altura)
- SydWest Open Day
- Blacktown Women's and Girls Health Centre AGM
- The Launch of "Break the Cycle" Blacktown Workers Club
- Blacktown LCP and Mt Druitt LCP joint Presentation - Industry Breakfast Nirimba TAFE Community Services
- Candlelight Vigil commemorating the life of Mrs Harjit Kaur and other victims of domestic Violence.
- WDV CAS meeting & Coordinators Day
- Women's Health NSW State-wide Meeting & AGM – Mantra Hotel Parramatta
- Blacktown Safer Pathway Information Session
- Blacktown Safer Pathway Refresher Information Session
- Hawkesbury Show
- Sorry Day event Blacktown Hospital NAIDOC
- Sorry Day event at Blacktown Council
- Coordinators meeting (Legal Aid)
- Domestic Violence Information Market - Blacktown Hospital
- Team Building - Mountain Heritage Hotel and Spa Resort

During the financial year we worked in partnership with peer agencies and funders to deliver specialist services in alignment with NSW Health priorities. We also delivered a range of presentations and activities on priority health and wellbeing topics.

NSW Health Priority: Violence

Our trauma-informed case management and generalist counselling services worked primarily with local women whose health, wellbeing and safety was being negatively affected by issues associated with domestic and family violence.

Women were provided with support and practical assistance to ensure the safety and wellbeing of themselves and their children, and linked as relevant to our wellbeing activities and local services.

*"It's a valuable service offered to help women who don't necessarily have access to other sources of help with no judgment", *Pooneh Aoun*

NSW Health Priority: Lifestyle-related chronic disease

During the year the Centre worked with a Bilingual Community Educator from the Western Sydney Local Health District to run a popular Diabetes group for women from CALD communities.

Our registered women's health nurse and naturopath/nutritionist worked to support women with lifestyle related chronic disease, including issues associated with obesity.

Our exercise and movement groups, such as yoga, have also given women and girls the opportunity to address chronic illness through exercise, as well as become linked with other services offered by the Centre's multidisciplinary team.



The One Million Stars to End Violence Project, 19th June 2017. Photo courtesy Fairfax Media.

NSW Health Priority: Nutrition and physical activity / healthy weight

This year the Centre has worked with qualified local fitness trainers to introduce two exercises classes during which clients can obtain personalised attention.

These classes are suitable for women of all ages and levels of fitness and ability, whether they have undertaken an exercise program previously or not. Our registered women's health nurse and naturopath have also instituted a series of free health talks, which include diet, and nutrition related topics, including healthy weight.

Through our new partnership with Oz Harvest, the Centre has also been able to provide clients with access to fresh fruit and vegetables on a weekly basis, assisting between 14 and 20 families each week with food support.

NSW Health Priority: Reproductive and sexual health

The Centre works with Family Planning NSW to run two clinics every Wednesday where women and girls can attend for a full range of reproductive health care, including pap tests, breast checks, hormonal treatment, contraceptive advice and prescription, and menopause care.

This year the Centre worked with WentWest (Medicare Local) and Pap Text to run a very successful "Paps for Pashminas" promotion, during which women who had a pap test at one of the regular Family Planning NSW Clinics.



Victoria, Maryanne, Lynn, Michelle

NSW Health Priority: Mental health and social wellbeing

Our generalist and specialist domestic violence counselling services worked collaboratively with caseworkers and other members of the interdisciplinary team within a biopsychosocial framework to support women, girls and children with experiences of domestic and family violence including childhood trauma, to heal and recover from loss, grief and interrelation trauma.

Our team visited Blacktown Hospital's Forensic Unit and worked with the Hospital's Crisis Mental Health and Maternity Unit teams to provide professional, effective support for clients and their families. The Centre accepted referrals from local medical practitioners, social workers within the health system and independent psychologists to support women, girls and children in crisis or with long term needs.

As part of our ongoing health promotion and early intervention groups program, members of the Centre's interdisciplinary team also developed groups, which focussed on using mindfulness as a tool for dealing with anxiety and for developing healthy and empowering behaviours. The Centre also hosted the innovative REACH program, a Black Dog Institute partner program, for women with mood disorders.

NSW Health Priority: Screening

Weekly women's health clinics were provided by our contracted clinicians, Family Planning NSW, to provide pap tests, breast screenings and checks for sexually transmitted diseases. With cervical cancer an issue for local women at a higher level than in other regions, our registered women's health nurse worked with WentWest (Medicare Local) and Pap Text to develop the popular Paps for Pashminas program, which offered incentives for women having a pap test at one of the Centre's Family Planning clinics.

NSW Health Priority: Tobacco, drugs and alcohol

Our registered women's health nurse and generalist counsellors worked with women and girls to identify addictive behaviours and associated issues such as anxiety, providing support and appropriate linking with specialist counsellors and agencies, after a thorough initial casework assessment. A counselling team member worked with ACAP post-graduate placement students to develop a group program supporting women with anxiety issues through acceptance based mindfulness techniques. Clients with addictive behaviours and associated issues were also able to receive support from our registered women's health nurse and through a group program which offered relaxation, stress management and mindfulness as core elements.



*Police Commander, Garry Merryweather
(Blacktown LAC), Harmony Day 2017*



Moni, Christine, Karen, Shristi



*Jacqueline, Nabila, Sherly, Sasha, Jane, Alex -
One Billion Rising 2017*

During the financial year the Centre has worked in partnership with peer agencies, local police and community services and funders to deliver specialist services in alignment with priorities identified within our community, including domestic violence.

Community Priority: Promoting empowerment and resilience in girls and children

Working with other local agencies including Brighter Futures, the Centre was involved in NAPCAN's Children's Week activities, promoting community awareness of our services and linking with agencies specialising in children's services.

Staff members and placement students have received in-service training from agencies such as the NSW Department of Community Services, the Family Referral Service and ACT for Kids to enable the development of solid referral pathways.

A multidisciplinary team from the Centre developed two programs for high school age girls which focussed in age appropriate ways on building healthy relationships, sexual and reproductive health issues, self-empowerment, protective behaviours, personal growth and development and the healthy expression of feelings. Girls attended these popular programs from a range of ages and cultural backgrounds.

Graduate placement students worked with members of our multi-disciplinary team to offer groups utilising creative expression therapy to students at primary and secondary school level, as well as younger post-school girls.

The Centre also offered a no appointment needed approach to encouraging students to visit the women's health clinics on Wednesdays or to see our registered women's health nurse.

The Centre hosts an Early Childhood Clinic every Monday, with nurses from the NSW Health Doonside Community Health Centre providing professional assessment and referral for children 0 – 5 years.

"Connecting with other women. Being reminded of my rights, learning to cope. Connectivity with women, inspiration to be working with women in crisis. Accepting other cultures",
*Georgina

The Australian Breastfeeding Association Blacktown group also meet at the Centre up to eight times per year, utilising the Children's Cottage and play area for their meetings.

Community Priority: Emotional wellbeing

Among our range of services, the Centre's Art Therapy program has long been an integral part of our community informed and responsive group program. This year, Art Therapists, including graduate placement students, have worked with women and young people to use creative expression as a therapeutic tool for developing safe and healthy emotional expression.

Art therapy has proven a popular and useful part of groups providing support and health promotion for primary and secondary students and post-school girls, women from the local Sikh community who completed two large murals expressing their therapeutic journey, which are now on display in the Centre, and Indigenous women who participated in outreach groups at Riverstone Neighbourhood Centre.

Counselling and case management team members have worked with art therapists to develop innovative approaches to working with young women and girls, and art therapy was an important part of a program run in conjunction with the Blacktown Youth Services Association (BYSA), which also involved participation by our registered women's health nurse.



Blacktown Women's and Girls' Health Centre officially opened in 1987 by Health Minister, Peter Anderson, in recognition of less affluent areas such as Blacktown.

The new centre in Blacktown was developed by Blacktown Area Women's Health Information Project and offered a variety of services such as individual counselling, group programs on menopause, health and fitness, smoking, parenting and weight control, primary medical care, massages, health education and outreach education activities.



In 1988, Blacktown Women's and Girls' Health Centre attended a local high school to educate students about domestic violence

In 1989, Blacktown Women's and Girls' Health Centre relocated to 6 Prince Street, Blacktown, where we continue helping and providing services for women.



In 1991, Blacktown Women's and Girls' Health Centre took part in raising awareness of domestic violence and women's rights through local street stalls.





On the 31st of August, 1993 Blacktown Women's and Girls' Health Centre participated in the Day of Action Against Sexual Violence, by planting trees at Plumpton Park.

In 1995 and 1997, Blacktown Women's and Girls' Health Centre participated in local International Women's Day Festivals



In 2004, Blacktown Women and Girls Health Centre had many long term clients, celebrated International Women's Day, developed Policy and Procedures manual, conducted a number of community events and upgraded the centre and telephone systems.



In 2008 – 2009, Centre programs created in partnership with SydWest targeted women from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds. In 2009 the Feminism is not an F word campaign supported gender equality.





In 2013, BWGHC implemented Best Practice electronic client records to enhance our record keeping system. The Centre incorporated Facebook to promote services. The Centre also introduced more workers and the Graduate Volunteer Program

In 2015 BWGHC underwent improvements and expanded the Centre. New Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) were introduced in collaboration with WSLHD. Through our partners at Family Planning NSW a Sexual and Reproductive Health Clinic opened on site, the Centre also included a free child minding service.



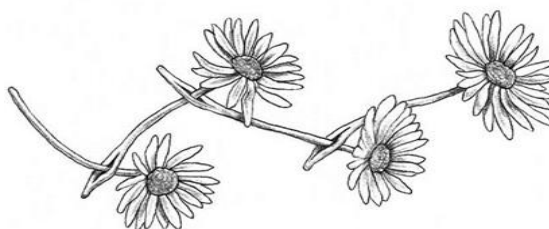
2016 was a rewarding year with Jhan Leach the Executive Officer being awarded the Women of the Year and Heart of the Community Award. The BWGHC Women's Girls' and Children's Emergency Fund was developed in response to the needs of women fleeing domestic violence, and has been supported with a NSW Clubs Grant from Blacktown Workers Club.

During 2017 BWGHC worked in partnership with peer agencies and funders to deliver specialist services in alignment with NSW Health priorities. We also attended Candlelight Vigils, Break the Cycle Launch, Sorry Day, Domestic Violence Information March's, Blacktown Women's and Girls' Strategic Planning Day (Atura) are just to name a few.



Daisy

Art Therapy for Connection



By: **Sasha Ferguson and Jacqueline Olivetti**

During our time this year at the centre we facilitated our '*Daisy – Art Therapy for Connection*' program with a group of students at Mitchell High School during Term 3, 2017. This 9 week art therapy program was designed to support the social and emotional needs of young women in the Blacktown community. In particular, art therapeutic techniques were used in conjunction with creative expression to explore relationships of connection and disconnection.

Daisy is an art therapy program about connectivity and care – to self, others and community. The program was inspired by the tender, hand-woven connectivity of a 'daisy chain', resonating with the fragility and beauty of human experience. The program involved a series of creative, engaging experiences to safely explore the nature of connection and disconnection in relation to self and community. The creative process lies at the heart of the program. *Daisy* acknowledges the realities of hardship while encompasses a strengths-based framework to build resilience and improve confidence.

Throughout the term, girls explored a range of expressive forms including painting, drawing, clay sculpture and collage. The girls also worked together to create a large collaborative artwork on canvas which was proudly presented to the community in an exhibition opening and celebration at Max Webber library in October. We would like to give a warm thank you and congratulations to the girls who travelled the *Daisy* journey throughout the term. We extend this appreciation to Barbara Hillman and Blacktown City Council and the staff and executive at Mitchell High School for their support of art therapy at BWGHC.

It has been a vibrant year for art therapy at Blacktown Women's and Girls' Health Centre, with stalls at community events including One Billion Rising, the Multicultural Festival, International Women's Day and the Open Day 2017. We also worked alongside Karen Fernando and we are thankful for her support and encouragement.

Art Therapy group programs and individual art therapy occurred onsite throughout the year. We have also collaborated with the 'Veil of Wishes project' (Dandelion Projects) in partnership with artists in residence, Shirley Daborn and Naomi McCarthy. These handmade dandelions will be exhibited at Blacktown Arts Centre late 2017.

Sasha Ferguson (Trainee Art Therapist, WSU Master of Art Therapy) &

Jacqueline Olivetti (Trainee Art Therapist, WSU Master of Art Therapy)

We would like to thank our following key partners:

- MOU with **Women's Health NSW** to manage the Women's Health Database.
- MOU with the **Western Women's Health Consortium** including sister centres **Penrith Women's Health Centre**, **Bathurst Women's Health Centre**, **Blue Mountains Women's Health and Resource Centre**, **Cumberland Women's Health Centre** and **Liverpool Women's Health Centre**.
- MOU with the **WASH House** providing specialist Domestic Violence counselling in negotiation with the **Outer Western Domestic Violence Network** and donated by **Gold Crest Security Services**, a **White Ribbon Ambassador for the Blacktown LGA**.
- MOU with **Family Planning NSW** to provide Doctor and Nurses clinics in- centre.
- A Service Agreement to provide access to our services and cross referral of clients by the **WASH House Staying Home Leaving Violence** workers at BWGHC.
- MOU with **Women's Legal Services NSW** who provide a Legal clinic for women and girls', focusing on family court matters specifically including domestic family and intimate partner violence.
- Service Agreement with the **Indigenous Women's Legal program** to provide an outreach worker to specifically service Indigenous women from the local area needing legal advice and referral.
- MOU with **Relationships Australia** who provide groups at our Centre for women who have or are experiencing Domestic Violence and other abuses.
- Service Agreement with the **Western Sydney Local Health District Early Childhood Nurses (Doonside Community Health Centre)** who provide an Early Childhood Clinic.
- Service Agreement with **Ros Leahy, Specialist Counsellor Victims of Crime funded by the Attorney General's Department** who works with victims accessing services at our Centre.
- Service Agreement with the **Australian Breastfeeding Association Blacktown Branch**, which meets at the Centre.



- A relationship with the **National Share the Dignity Organisation** providing, a collection of donated sanitary and continence products for distribution to women and girls who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.
- A MOU with **Riverstone Neighbourhood Centre** to provide education, support and training to women and girls who have or who are experiencing Domestic Violence at their Centre and hosting of the NWS WDVCS servicing Windsor court.
- Agreement with **Oz Harvest** to provide fresh fruit, vegetables and other items as they become available, for collection by our disadvantaged clients.
- A relationship with **Leichhardt Women's Community Health Centre** to provide Specialist Outreach Counselling as part of the **Women Partners of Bisexual Men Service**.
- A Service Agreement with the **African Women's Health and Support Organisation (AWHASO)** who meet at our Centre to hold regular health promotion forums for women.
- A relationship with **Nova Disability Employment** providing a transition to work traineeship at the Centre to provide employment to women and girls.

Connecting with our Community

Events

Community events provide a valuable opportunity for BWGHC to educate and raise public awareness of health issues, and advocate for women's interests in the community.

Participating in local community events also helps BWGHC gain insight into local issues, respond to local needs and develop and strengthen our interagency partnerships.

The following is a list of some of the community and interagency events which BWGHC participated in during this financial year:

- Blacktown NAIDOC week event
- Riverstone NAIDOC week event
- Blacktown Conference
- 'Next Step' forum (Hills Shire Council)
- Blacktown City Social Profile Meeting
- Female Genital Mutilation Conference (NSW Health)
- Forensic Unit Tour
- Coreen school community connections expo day
- Technology facilitated Abuse OWDVN Conference'
- Break the cycle video launch
- Sustainable Communities Conference 2016
- The Movement Fundraising Garage Sale
- Children's Week Family Fun Day
- Ngallu Wal (Doonside) NAIDOC week event
- WestPoint information stall Blacktown Community Expo
- BACC AGM
- BWGHC+NWSWDCAS AGM
- Parenting & Wellness Program
- Bankstown Women's Health Centre Pink Ribbon Breast Awareness Day event
- Schools Industry Partnership Melbourne Cup Day event

"At the moment I just attended yoga class, of depression & anxiety. This has changed my life",
*Zarqa

- Welcoming the Babies
- White Ribbon Breakfast
- Blacktown Hospital Clinical School Presentation
- BYSA AGM
- One Billion Rising
- Blacktown IWD Breakfast
- Blacktown IWD Event, Bowman Hall
- Candlelight Vigil for DV Victims in Blacktown LGA
- Multicultural Food and Health Festival
- IWD March
- Providing culturally appropriate care for women & girls
- Harmony Day Event
- Healthy Women's Group
- Blacktown Homelessness Hub
- Moving Forward
- Community Expo
- Centrelink Families Week Event
- IDAHOT Flag Raising
- National Sorry Day Event
- Blacktown City Streets Alive Festival and Parade "Say No To Domestic Violence" Charity Race Day



*Blacktown Festival Streets Alive Parade
- Maryanne, Michelle and Victoria*

Our Donors and Sponsors



2016/2017 - Donations from Individuals and Organisations

We are thankfully indebted to our Major Donors and Sponsors:

- Blacktown Police Local Area Command
- Blacktown RSL Club
- Blacktown Workers Club
- Gold Crest Security
- Hawkesbury Race Club
- Lander Toyota Blacktown
- Storage King Blacktown

Grateful thanks to our generous donors, including those who have made private and anonymous donations of goods and services:

- Rosanna Armitage
- Sam Azar
- Blacktown Boys' High School
- Blacktown North Public School
- Blacktown RSL Club
- Anna Breust
- Bunnings Blacktown Superstore
- Coca Cola Amatil
- Dastyar Family
- EPGR
- Fox Valley seventh Day Adventist Church
- Hair Health and Beauty Kings Langley
- Integria Healthcare
- Isbister family
- KIDS Blacktown City Council Child Care Centre
- Lalor Park Waratah Slimmers
- Alexandra Lawton
- Ros Leahy and Geoffrey Judd
- McPhersons Health and Beauty
- Mantra Chatswood
- Mardon Meats Kings Langley
- Lynn Muir
- Nestle Australia (Blacktown)
- Outback Steakhouse Parklea

- Bianca Pomponio
- Posh Hair Kings Langley
- Jani and Paul Said
- Second Life Stationery
- Share The Dignity NSW/ACT
- SydWest Outreach Group
- Two Good Co
- Urban Fringe Kings Langley
- Universal Pictures International Australasia
- Wet 'N' Wild Sydney
- Zonta Club of Cumberland West

... and many others who have given donations large and small to assist the clients of the Centre

BWGHC would like to thank **Blacktown Worker's Club, the Blacktown RSL** and other clubs participating in the **Blacktown City ClubGRANTS** for awarding BWGHC with a 2016 ClubGRANT.

BWGHC would also like to thank our sister services **Richmond Women's Cottage** and the **WASH House** for their support throughout the year.

These services have partnered with BWGHC to deliver important services and to engage in joint fundraising activities to benefit local women and girls.



Funders and Other Partners



Thank you to all our partners and funders for your collaboration and support during the financial year 2016-2017

Blacktown Women's and Girls' Health Centre is a member of Women's Health NSW. We are primarily funded by NSW Ministry of Health and Legal Aid NSW.



LANDER TOYOTA



LALOR PARK WARATAH

SLIMMERS CLUB



WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY



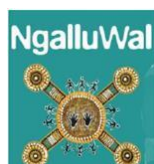
ZONTA CLUB OF CUMBERLAND WEST INC
MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY



BLACKTOWN GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL



Learning For Life



Acknowledging Our Community



BWGHHC loves to work co-operatively with individuals, other organisations and agencies to improve the services we offer our clients. Together, we make a community of support! With thanks:

- ACT For Kids
- Acute Care Mental Health Team (Blacktown Hospital)
- Aftercare Mental Health Services
- Alice's Cottages
- Blacktown Area Community Centres
- Blacktown City Council
- Blacktown Boys' High School
- Blacktown Girls' High School
- Blacktown Hospital Forensics Unit
- Blacktown Hospital Midwifery Department
- Blacktown Hospital Women's Health Clinics
- Blacktown Hospital Social Work Dep't
- Blacktown Lesbian Information and Support Service (BLISS)
- Blacktown North Public School
- Blacktown Police LAC and DVLOs
- Blacktown Pride In Diversity Network
- Bridges Alcohol and Drug Counselling Service
- Brighter Futures Blacktown/Baulkham Hills
- CALD Women's Health Groups (NSW Department of Health)
- CatholicCare Social Services
- Charmian Clift Cottages
- Community Resource Network (CRN) Inc
- Domestic Violence Services NSW (women's refuges)
- Doonside Community Health team
- Family Planning NSW
- Family Referral Service
- Harman Foundation
- Hawkesbury Race Club - Say No to Violence Against Women Race Day Event
- Headspace
- Hon John Robertson MP
- Hon Michelle Rowland MP
- Immigrant Women's Speakout
- Indigenous Women's Legal Program
- Junaya Family Development Services
- Karabi Youth Services
- Lalor Park Public School
- LGBTI Health Alliance
- Mackillop Family Services
- Marist Youth Services
- Mission Australia
- Mr Steven Bali the Mayor of Blacktown
- Multicultural HIV and Hepatitis Service (NSW Health)
- Ngallu Wal Aboriginal Child & Family Centre
- Nova Employment
- NSW Department of FACS
- NSW Department of Health
- NSW Department of Juvenile Justice
- NSW Refugee Health
- Outer Western Domestic Violence Network
- PACS Blacktown Adolescent and Family Counselling
- Pecky's Disability Services (Blacktown)
- Police Citizens Youth Clubs
- Quakers Hill Police LAC and DVLOs
- Richmond Partners In Recovery
- Riverstone Neighbourhood Centre
- Rosie's Place (women's refuge)
- Share The Dignity (NSW/ACT)
- STARTTS Refugee Services
- Staying Home Leaving Violence (the WASH House)
- SydWest Multicultural Services
- The Australian College of Applied Psychology
- The Coreen School Blacktown
- The University of Sydney
- The Western Sydney University
- Transcultural Mental Health team
- Tri-Community Exchange
- Wesley Mission
- West Connect Domestic Violence Services (women's refuges)
- White Ribbon Australia
- Women's Assistance and Self Help (WASH) House
- Women's Legal Services NSW
- Women Partners of Bisexual Men Service
- Zonta Club of Cumberland West

Secondary School Work

Experience Students 2016/2017:

- Kelsey Laval (Seven Hills High School, via SIP)
- Donna Vyas (Blacktown Girls' High School)

Community Services:

- Tania Sheehan (MU)
- Lucelly Gaviria Garces (Navitas College)
- Victoria Proudfoot (OTEN TAFE)
- Carly Shipley (WSI TAFE)



Art Therapy:

- Sasha Ferguson (WSU)
- Jacqueline Olivetti (WSU)

Counselling:

- Razia Batool (ACAP)
- Charlotte Day (ACAP)
- Sophie De Vries (ACAP)
- Myriam Drury (JNI)
- Bernadette Gillespie (ACAP)
- Susanna Lee (ACAP)
- Fariba Mim (ACAP)
- Avril McRae (ACAP)
- Denise Smith (ACAP)
- Vasilica Vlad (ACAP)
- Michelle Williams

Midwifery:

- Priyanshi Sood (WSU)

Social Work

- Christina Adolphus (WSU)
- Sherly Badham (WSU)
- Nabila Najibullah (WSU)
- Casey Simpson (WSU)

KEY

- ACAP: The Australian College of Applied Psychology
- JNI: Jensen Newman Institute
- MU: Murdoch University, WA
- OTEN TAFE: Open Training Education Network
- SIP: The Schools Industry Partnership
- TAFE WSI: TAFE Western Sydney Institute
- WSU: Western Sydney University
- USyd: The University of Sydney

Blacktown Women's and Girls' Health Centre Inc

PLEASE INSERT FINACIAL STATEMENTS
ATTACHMENT.PDF

NOTES

^{1&3}Keynan, M., Hossain, M., & Hughes, R. 2013, *Blacktown LGA Community Health Needs Assessment Project Report*, Western Sydney Local Health District, Sydney.

².id, the population experts, 2011, 'Community Profile: Blacktown City', compiled from 2006 and 2011 Census Data, accessed via: <http://profile.id.com.au/blacktown/>

*Names changed to protect client privacy. Client comments from BWGHC Client Surveys 2016/17

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Blacktown Women's and Girls' Health Centre Inc. Annual Report for the 2016/17 Financial Year

Blacktown Women's and Girls' Health Centre Inc. (BWGHC) is a Public Benevolent Institution with DGR Status. Donations of \$2 and above are tax deductible

BWGHC is funded by NSW Health, administered by Western Sydney Local Health District and Legal Aid NSW.

Our Peak Body is Women's Health NSW.

BWGHC is accredited at Certificate Level of the Australian Service Excellence Standards (ASES)

We are accountable to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission (ACNC) and NSW Fair Trading. The Centre holds NSW Authority to fundraise: CFN/23808.

Contact Us:

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E: info@womensandgirls.org.au

W: www.womensandgirls.org.au



Blacktown Women's and Girls' Health Centre
is on Facebook