

**It's Time To Talk**  
**Canterbury Bankstown Domestic Violence Planning Summit**  
**6 April 2016**

Mapping and Future Planning

Outcomes and responses to the *It's Time To Talk* Canterbury Bankstown Domestic Violence Planning Summit are listed below. The format of the planning session was delivered through a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis. The *It's Time To Talk* Committee has then researched further information to provide responses to these issues, particularly in regards to what is already happening in the local community, where some Summit participants may not have been aware of.

Items in bold writing resembles common trends/issues discussed throughout the summit and information highlighted in green indicates the *It's Time To Talk* Committee's commitment to addressing over the next 2 years. From the information gathered at the Summit, the following projects are planned for the *It's Time To Talk* Committee:

- **Service mapping and updated directory**
  - Conduct a research project for service mapping local DV services.
  - Develop a new hardcopy directory, potentially create an online directory on existing ITTT website.
  - Launch the directory at a networking event, which will include a speed dating element to encourage more interaction and collaboration amongst local services.
  
- **Domestic Violence Conference for new workers in the DV industry**
  - Presentations will include very basic and practical information to enable workers to better navigate the system as well as recommended training for community/DV workers.

**STRENGTHS**

- **DV support in Canterbury Bankstown**
- **Experienced and skilled workforce in the area**
- **Strong partnerships and collaboration**
  - DV Committee meeting regularly
    - Sub committees proactively meet & plan
  - Safety Action Meetings – Collaboration and coordinated support service
  - Safety Action Meetings – were able to commence quickly due to the collaboration
  - Numerous Interagencies
    - Bankstown Child Protection Interest Group
    - Canterbury Child & Family Interagency
- **Passionate & interested workforce**
- **Topical issue – In the media, discussions at forums, etc**
- Improved responsive services
  - Court & Police
  - Safety Action Meetings & reform implementation
- Cultural competencies & Information available in different languages & culturally appropriate
- Holistic Community Approach
  - Engagement of different workers & sectors
- No. of services and access to workers in Canterbury-Bankstown
  - Knowledge and connections amongst services
  - Well established + reputable services that cater to all Family Services
- Awareness & participation of Men → e.g. White Ribbon
- School hubs as a resource for isolated Mums
- This area is 10 years ahead – i.e ITTT partnership
- Access to free legal advice – DV specific

<b><u>WEAKNESSES</u></b>	<b><u>What is already happening?</u></b>	<b><u>Suggestions to address issue</u></b>	<b><u>Further Comments</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Funding limitation + specifications</li> <li>- Funding partnerships may be auspiced, however often organisations still work individually</li> <li>- Uncertainty of funding beyond current period</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ClubGRANTS</li> <li>• Women NSW (FACS) \$1,000 for DVLCs</li> <li>• Linking hearts auspiced to other organisations in the Canterbury Bankstown area</li> <li>• Tenders applied for in collaboration i.e. Health/Women's Health Centres etc.</li> <li>• Council Community Grants Programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote, support and encourage relevant funding opportunity</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Refuges</li> <li>- Accommodation services</li> <li>- DV Services</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linking Hearts won tender and is the auspice body for other DV services such as BaptistCare, Metro Assist, Creating Links &amp; Southern Sydney Women's Therapy Centre.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linking Hearts promotion throughout the community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Original comment is inaccurate - funding has been given out to different organisations and also tendered out to DV services including men programs.</li> <li>• The funding pot has increased however as services are now offered for men, women, children the funding has been stretched to meet more clients not just women.</li> <li>• More money has been given to refugees through settlement services and also brokerage</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Long waiting lists</li> <li>- Lack of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Supported housing</li> <li>- Community Housing</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Alternative accommodation is not suitable – Motels don't take people in crisis</li> <li>- Expensive area for private rental <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hard to leave esp. large families</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Start safely is available for up to 36 months. Start safely clients also have case workers assisting them. Clients also need to be realistic re private rentals. Need to go into areas that are lower income.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better promotion of Start Safely</li> <li>• Be realistic with clients as to where they are going to live. People with no income can't be too selective. Clients also need to take some ownership in changing their situation re doing courses applying for jobs, etc.</li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of practical skills for working in Domestic Violence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Not all workers are DV trained</li> <li>- Organisations may not be trauma informed</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are free courses available such as DV Alert run by Lifeline &amp; Domestic Violence TAFE courses which include DV for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, people with disabilities, LGBTIQ and CALD communities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ITTT to better promote or provide the recommended training for DV /generalist workers</li> <li>• Orientation should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Child Protection</li> <li>- Housing/Centrelink applications</li> <li>- DV specific training</li> <li>- Trauma informed training</li> <li>- Training provided through local health districts and legal aid</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no excuse for this. Organisations need to be proactive in the training of staff. This is up to each organisation</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High rate of AVO's withdrawn prior to hearing Bankstown Court i.e. pressure on victims – cycle continues</li> <li>• High rates of reoffending/How perpetrators are dealt with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Magistrates lenient sentences</li> <li>- Resources towards repeat offenders</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DV Reforms</li> <li>• DV Safety Assessment Tool</li> <li>• Safety Action Meetings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police need more training and also need to keep victims up to date with what is happening at court. Victims feel that they have no options when it comes to police and are not educated about court process.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are still victims falling through the gaps due to their residential boundary and court selected to attend by Police.</li> <li>• There is still a need to workers to follow up on clients to ensure they are aware of court attendance, procedure, etc.</li> <li>• Lack of communication and transparency</li> <li>• Lack of resources to assist victim</li> <li>• Lack of knowledge of police to hand out info re victim services.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacity to place people in tertiary support services e.g. Accommodation &amp; Psych</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case workers expected to support and liaise with the relevant referral services i.e. counselling, education, etc</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direction of resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Women / victims</li> <li>- Perpetrators</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With the tender system this has been addressed. Need to wait for evaluation to see how things are going.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educate services of resource availability</li> <li>• Service mapping and promotion to local community services.</li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of culturally specific training / workers &amp; language barriers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relevant training is currently available: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legal Aid</li> <li>Family &amp; Community Services</li> <li>Housing NSW</li> <li>Women Speakout</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educate services about available training and interpreter services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training is available. It is up to organisations to train staff in relation to this. Interpreter service is available and should be used.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of collaboration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>From Health &amp; FACS</li> <li>Communication &amp; support for different services</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Works well in some areas, Canterbury works well with FACS and health. Workers need to build relationships and network to get best results.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Find out further information from services as to where they feel the gaps are, in order for these to be addressed.</li> <li>Opportunities for networking amongst local services</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of support for young people (16-24) and older people both experiencing DV &amp; perpetrating</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Older people have fallen through the net for a long time. No new initiatives except for the Elder Abuse hotline which is a referral service not case work service.</li> <li>See Community engagement section in opportunities for what is already happening for youth.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct research into Elder Abuse</li> <li>Create campaign for Elder Abuse prevention and promote at Senior related locations and events i.e Seniors Week</li> <li>Provide list of local services to the Elder Abuse hotline, to assist them with appropriate referrals.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Insufficient Men's Services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are men's services available but are not used. There is no wait list or groups that are booked out.</li> <li>Local accredited organisations for Men's Behaviour Change Program is BaptistCare Relationship Services</li> <li>Bankstown DVLC subcommittee delivering workshops about domestic violence and healthy families (July 2016).</li> <li>Probation and parole run sessions with men as well, however</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educate local service or community campaign about local men's services.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It could be risky for community organisations to start support groups for men and/or victims, if they are not accredited to run these types of programs.</li> <li>Programs are currently not mandated for men to attend</li> </ul>

	success of this project is unknown.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education in schools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Love Bites program is operating across Bankstown. Over 10 programs are delivered each year to local high schools. There are over 25 qualified facilitators in Bankstown.</li> <li>• See Community engagement section in opportunities for what is already happening around this.</li> <li>• This is starting to happen. PDHPE Curriculum has respectful relationships and DV is being taught. WRD campaigns have also been running in schools.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Train more LoveBites facilitators to deliver the program across more schools throughout Canterbury-Bankstown.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expectations that this sector will pick up</li> </ul>			

<b><u>OPPORTUNITIES</u></b>	<b><u>What is already happening?</u></b>	<b><u>Suggestions to address issue</u></b>	<b><u>Further Comments</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Community engagement, targeted education &amp; prevention programs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Targeting youth &amp; primary aged children</li> <li>- Programs on healthy relationships for parents – reflect on the impression their relationship may have on kids</li> <li>- Interfaith approach working with community leaders</li> <li>- Education on non-physical DV</li> <li>- DV for young people is sometimes ‘normalised’ as they don’t realise it’s DV</li> <li>- Education for migrants especially the Asian community over 60 years, needing legal advice – they often feel shame.</li> <li>- “Where do I go for help?”</li> <li>- Resources available at libraries in case they are asked for assistance</li> <li>- DV line needs to be promoted more/better</li> <li>- Workshops in schools to raise awareness</li> <li>- Men – it’s ok to report as victims, need for more discussion around this.</li> <li>- Increased education for school counsellors – Counselling, not teaching</li> <li>- Mandatory reporters need to report</li> <li>- Understanding roles and limitations amongst workers</li> <li>- Addressing the misinformation, particularly on social media</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• THRIVE program delivered in 2015 and 2016 by Canterbury Council and Oz Harvest. Designed for “at risk” young people and provided information on healthy relationships, drug/alcohol use, sexual health and consent. Increased understanding of what makes a positive and nurturing relationship, what is DV and how to prevent being in a violent relationship.</li> <li>• Kids Say No program – eight week program delivered by Canterbury Council, NSW Police and PCYC at Kingsgrove North High School and Canterbury Boys High School for year nine students. Raised awareness about DV, promoted health relationships, advice on how to take safe action against DV, identify myths and stereotypes about DV, drug use and alcohol use.</li> <li>• Canterbury Council ran Interfaith Talk – Positive parenting from Muslim and Christian faiths (indirect way of tackling DV – positive relationships/parenting)</li> <li>• Intergenerational conflict sessions run at the ECRC which included community leaders. One was run for islander group and another for African leaders.</li> <li>• Young Women of the World Program run by Canterbury Council, Canterbury Bankstown Youth service, NSW Police (Campsie) – Eight week learn to swim program for newly arrived women, followed by a camp. Camp workshops focused on What is DV, warning signs, what makes a positive and nurturing relationship, alcohol/drug issues.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include DV component in parenting programs in Children’s Centres</li> <li>• Roll out DV programs across all schools.</li> <li>• Include DV component in sexual education classes at school – focus on healthy/nurturing relationships.</li> <li>• Tailored courses designed specifically for young men and run in schools. Include component about nurturing relationships, male mentoring and positive leadership.</li> <li>• Focused programs for migrant men on positive relationships</li> <li>• Run White Ribbon Day Activities throughout the entire year.</li> <li>• Campaign which promotes “Where do I go for help? Including the DV line</li> <li>• DV training for school staff</li> <li>• <b>More networking events for local community organisations who work with DV clients (Speed Dating style).</b></li> <li>• Interfaith DV education (promote from a different angle).</li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Networking events like the DV Planning Summit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• White Ribbon Day March from Gilles Street to Parry Park run each year.</li> <li>• NSW Police run programs in schools targeting DV.</li> <li>• Canterbury DVLC White Ribbon and DV projects.</li> <li>• RESPECT Program run by BYDS in local Bankstown primary schools with male year 5 students. Program focuses on healthy relationship and urging the young men to stand up and say no to violence against women – delivered through song and dance.</li> <li>• White Ribbon Talks in local Bankstown high schools by White Ribbon Ambassadors.</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Men's services</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Staff who can do the work with men</li> <li>- Utilise increased funding to add services rather than re-direct funding e.g. Men's services</li> <li>- Understanding masculinity &amp; what it is to be a man</li> <li>- Continuing to engage &amp; raise awareness with Men</li> <li>- Increased male mentoring &amp; male leadership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Effects all families</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bankstown DVLC subcommittee delivering workshops about domestic violence and healthy families (July 2016).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As above male mentoring and positive leadership (Tackle masculinity and what it is to be a man) – Run through schools.</li> <li>• Training for community leaders of organisations who can filter the message to workers.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Court process</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Research</li> <li>- How can we make it work better for clients?</li> <li>- Improving client journey when referral pathway is effective</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Coordination Point at Bankstown.</li> <li>• South West Sydney WDVCS</li> <li>• Inner West WDVCS</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Advocacy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Effective changes Support &amp; services</li> <li>- Culturally Specific</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DVLC's writing submissions to Government re: recent DV Reforms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DVLCs to continue to advocate for local issues.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Cultural awareness &amp; education</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Research the drivers e.g. Dowry</li> <li>- Relationships</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As above programs have been run for CALD communities.</li> </ul>		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clarity between culture &amp; “culture”</li> <li>- Maintaining work with CALD Communities and Religious groups</li> <li>- Develop the supply of specific skilled workers in all cultures</li> <li>- Research the drivers e.g. Dowry</li> <li>- Relationships</li> </ul>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Enhancing Partnerships</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Coordination &amp; collaboration amongst services rather than competition</li> <li>- Some networks are better than others</li> <li>- Inter-agencies need to interact better, possibly online?</li> <li>- Consent forms online</li> <li>- Waiting times for accommodation on the phone are too long, resulting in person wanting to return – how could that process be quickened</li> <li>- Centralised database</li> <li>- Best endeavours approach</li> <li>- Understand crisis doesn't stop around business hours</li> <li>- Conversations across regions</li> <li>- Maintaining access to &amp; response rate of DV officers</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It's Time To Talk and DVLCs allow for capacity development and coordination amongst services.</li> <li>• Funding provided by Council to DVLC to run collaborative programs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update directory of local services across Canterbury-Bankstown.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Due to DV Information Sharing Protocol (Chapter 16A – Information exchange re: child protection and Part 13A – Information Sharing re: DV victim at risk), consent is no longer required for any DV related information.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Service mapping + opportunities to fill gaps for prevention</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assess and review what is available</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek funding for a research project to map local DV services and create directory for Canterbury Bankstown.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local support groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Involve women who can share their experience</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women's Health Services usually have these, however currently not happening in Canterbury or Bankstown.</li> <li>• Linking Hearts currently looking into setting up a group</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It could be risky for community organisations to start support groups for victims, if they are not</li> </ul>



			<p>accredited to run these types of programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This would require someone specialised to run. Possibly could come out of a DVLC.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase capacity of generalist services to intervene e.g. mental health first aid</li> </ul>		<p>Generalist services to seek training, such as training listed above in Weaknesses section.</p>	
<b><u>THREATS</u></b>	<b><u>What is already happening?</u></b>	<b><u>Suggestions to address issue</u></b>	<b><u>Further Comments</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Funding</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Canterbury Councils Financial Assistance Program for local organisations to run capacity building programs. Program is widely promoted.</li> <li>• Bankstown Council Community Grants Program</li> <li>• ClubGRANTS funding – Both Canterbury and Bankstown.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make representations to MP – explore issues. Is it under threat? Not increasing? Not evenly distributed?</li> <li>• Develop a listing of all available funding sources/program available in the LGA including how to apply, who to</li> </ul>	

	<a href="http://www.clubsnsw.com.au/community/clubgrants/about-clubgrants">http://www.clubsnsw.com.au/community/clubgrants/about-clubgrants</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Canterbury Community Safety Committee previously provided \$5000 funding to DVLC each year for DV related programs.</li> </ul>	contact. Distribute amongst networks.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Court process</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As listed above in Opportunities section</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government not sustaining the profile of domestic violence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Topic has been on Government agenda</li> <li>• DV Reforms shows Government interest</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change in Government which will impact on the Government's commitment</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Valid point, however out of control</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Closure of Refuges</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linking Hearts currently have numerous properties available. Funding currently until 2017, with potential recurrent funding every 3 years.</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Places for 15 -18 year old girls which are culturally and religiously appropriate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As above Young Women of the Wold learn to swim program provided a place for 15-18 year old girls that is culturally and religiously appropriate.</li> <li>• Local youth groups operating in local religious organisations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand program to run each term.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poor legal responses &amp; weak bail rulings</li> </ul>			