

WOMEN LIVING WELL: HEALTHY EMPOWERED EQUAL.

Annual Report 2022-2023



Acknowledgment of Country

Women's Health Victoria acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land we work on, the Wurundjeri peoples of the Kulin Nation. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present and acknowledge their continued custodianship of these lands and waters.

As a statewide organisation, we also acknowledge and pay our respects to the past and present Elders of Traditional Owners of the lands and waters across Victoria.

We recognise that sovereignty was never ceded and that we are the beneficiaries of stolen land and dispossession, which began over 230 years ago and continues today.



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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR & CEO

Welcome to the Women's Health Victoria 2022–23 Annual Report. It has been a challenging, exciting and transformative year for our organisation as we reach the end of our current five-year strategic plan and look ahead to the next chapter for our organisation.

Over the past year we have seen encouraging progress at national and state level in both the funding of women's health services and government focus on gender-related health issues, systems, services and social change.

The operating context for Women's Health Victoria (WHV) priority areas has been strong and active. In October 2022 the National Plan to End Violence Against Women and Children 2022-32 was launched, which WHV helped to shape through our submission to the draft plan. Victoria also embarked on Free from Violence: Second Action Plan 2022-25, which funds WHV's Training and Capacity Building program and is the second action plan under Ending Family Violence: Victoria's 10-year plan for change (2017-2027).

In December 2022 the federal government announced a National Women's Health Council, with a welcome focus on medical misogyny. The development of a National Strategy to Achieve Gender Equality is also underway, with WHV contributing a submission to this in April 2023.

In Victoria, the new Mental Health and Wellbeing Act was legislated in September 2022, and work progressed on the Mental Health and Wellbeing Plan. As the instigator and leader of the Women's Mental Health Alliance, WHV has played a key role in the consultations and participation in the Expert Advisory group.

In May, the final report was released from the six-month-long Federal Senate Inquiry into Universal Sexual and Reproductive Health Access, which explored barriers to sexual and reproductive health care access in Australia. The findings recommended 36 reforms to the healthcare system to ensure that Australian women and gender diverse people can access the services they need – including the establishment of a national telephone service that would leverage the experiences of existing initiatives, such as WHV's 1800 My Options service. Our contribution to the inquiry through a written submission and presentation of evidence at the Melbourne hearing was a valuable

investment in the outcomes, with our key recommendations relating to workforce capacity and sustainability, cost of service, health literacy, and health service cultural safety all considered in the inquiry's final recommendations.

In Victoria the 2022-23 State Budget provided \$19.4 million over two years to increase funding to women's health services, applied across the Victorian Women's Health Program (VWHP). This has enabled the Victorian Women's Health Services, including WHV, to deliver substantial impact and outcomes for women's health and gender equality across the state. For WHV, the funding uplift has allowed us to build the scale and impact of our work across multiple areas through employing additional specialist roles in prevention of violence against women, gender equity, mental health, training and capacity building, and communications. As we move into the second year of the funding uplift, we wish to convey our deep gratitude to the Victorian government for this vital investment; and our fervent hope that it will be continued at the current level to safeguard the advances we've been able to make in women's health and equality.

The theme of impact and growth is one that also carries through to the completion of our current 5-Year Strategic Plan. As we look back on our organisational goals for this period we can be proud of our progress and achievements, particularly in the context of the pandemic. As you'll read about on pages 9–11, during this period we established new services, launched new programs, expanded our workforce and systems and made significant contributions to government policy and strategies that directly impact and support women's health and gender equality. We intend to build on this momentum and reach even higher as we prepare to launch our new strategic plan in early 2024. The spirit of our new plan builds on our strong history and strives to elevate our impact into the future. It will see WHV build on our existing strengths in our focus areas of Sexual & Reproductive Health, Mental Health and Cancer.



Internally we have committed to continuous improvement and strengthening of our organisation through a range of important initiatives, including a governance review, recruitment of new Board members, and the development of gender diversity and inclusion working group and organisational statement. A particular highlight was the launch of our Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan – a significant piece of work led by our RAP Working Group. The Innovate RAP reflects our organisational values of respect and inclusion as well as our commitment to practising intersectional feminism. In June 2023, Women's Health Victoria also announced its support for a Voice to Parliament and reaffirmed its commitment to supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their right to self-determination.

Over this past year we also have marked significant milestones including the 20-year anniversary of Counterpart, the 5-year anniversary of 1800 My Options, and the 30-year anniversary of Women's Health Victoria, which we look forward to formally celebrating in FY23-24.

We are immensely appreciative of the partnerships and collaborations that have allowed us to strengthen our work, bring diverse perspectives to the table and amplify the voices of people who may struggle to be heard. This includes all the Victorian Women's Health Services, academics, researchers, advocacy and policy organisations, service and training providers, funders, and Victorian women and gender diverse people. Thank you to everyone involved for your vital contributions and support.

We'd also like to thank the Victorian Government and its Departments including the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing and the Department of Health for their continued support of our work.

Last but certainly not least, we pay special tribute to our wonderful board, staff and volunteers for their dedication. Thank you for everything you do to champion every Victorian woman's health and wellbeing.



Judy Hacker
Chair



Dianne Hill
CEO

WHO WE ARE

For 30 years, Women's Health Victoria has been driving better health outcomes for Victorian women by strengthening the women's health sector, delivering targeted services to women and gender diverse people, advocating for policy change, and delivering essential gender-informed research. With an intersectional feminist lens, and informed by the latest research and evidence, we are uniquely placed to lead significant, meaningful change at a systemic, cultural and individual level.

Our Commitment to Gender Diversity and Inclusion

Women's Health Victoria is a proud intersectional feminist organisation. We acknowledge that patriarchy and structural inequality cause real harms, especially to women, nonbinary, trans, intersex and gender-diverse people.

Our focus is women (cis and trans inclusive) and gender diverse people. We address feminist health issues and are committed to supporting all people impacted by gender inequity who can benefit from our work.

Until now, Women's Health Victoria has served non-binary, trans, intersex and gender diverse people in some ways. We are now intentionally transforming our organisational capability, workforce, engagement, service delivery and culture to build a more inclusive and safe environment for all program users and staff.

To find out more, please visit whv.org.au/about/our-commitment-to-gender-diversity-and-inclusion



OUR VISION

Women living well – healthy, empowered, equal.



OUR PURPOSE

We are champions for every Victorian woman's health and wellbeing.



OUR VALUES

Respect, inclusion, innovation, courage, excellence.

WHAT WE DO



KEY ACTIVITIES

Advocacy, Policy & Research Translation
Capacity Building
Health Promotion, Information & Support

PRIORITY AREAS

Sexual and Reproductive Health



Women's Mental Health and Body Image



Women's Equality



Women and Cancer



Primary Prevention of Violence Against Women



OUR 5-YEAR STRATEGY

This year, as we prepare to launch a new five year strategic plan, we look back on the significant impact and achievements our organisation has made over the past five years against the goals we set in our 2018–2023 Strategic Plan.

Improve women's health and wellbeing through strengthened voice and reach

Strengthen capacity of Women's Health Victoria (WHV) to respond pro-actively to statewide issues and priorities

Expand reach and impact of WHV's expertise and knowledge through collaboration and partnerships

Increase reputation and awareness of WHV as a leader in women's health using innovative communication strategies

- In 2019 we established the Women's Mental Health Alliance which now brings together 45 consumer and carer advocates, service providers, clinicians, women's health organisations, human rights bodies and researchers. Under WHV's leadership the Alliance has produced a range of submissions and position statements on both the Victorian and national mental health reforms, has written gender analyses of Royal Commission recommendations, and engaged in a diverse range of consultations. The work of the Alliance and WHV has influenced a systems level approach to incorporating a deeper gender lens into Victoria's mental health reform agenda. Leveraging partnerships across the Alliance, WHV and the Alliance have shaped policy dialogue with sectors that are critical for making changes to the service system, including membership of five Victorian Government and mental health service advisory groups.

- In 2020 we established shEqual - a groundbreaking initiative working with the advertising industry to develop systems and structures supporting gender equality in the workplace and in the advertising content they develop. In 2020 shEqual launched a national strategic framework, Seeing is Believing: outlining a 'whole-of-system' approach to driving change, working across three priority areas: industry culture change; empowering community; and regulation and policy. shEqual builds the capacity of the advertising sector through research, resource development, training and events to motivate change towards gender equality in advertising workplaces and content produced. shEqual also works closely with a reference group of industry professionals to guide project activity and resource development to make sure it is relevant and useful in addressing the needs of the advertising industry.
- 2018 saw the establishment and launch of 1800 My Options – Victoria's phoneline and online service for contraception, pregnancy options including abortion and sexual health – delivered by WHV. Since launching with 30 providers on its service provider database, 1800 My Options has grown to work with over 650 contraception, abortion, counselling, imaging and other sexual and reproductive healthcare service providers, and has taken 26,910 calls. The service has increased visibility of abortion and contraception services, supported the healthcare system, and reduced stigma about this normal and common medical procedure. 1800 My Options supports the community to understand and access sexual and reproductive healthcare services. It works with healthcare professionals and the broader system to ensure that the system works well by managing supply and demand across the state.

Influence system capacity for women's equality through research, policy and advocacy, and training

Provide access to high quality research and evidence on women's health issues

Generate positive changes in the social determinants of women's health, using a clear priority-setting methodology to implement our policy and advocacy agenda

Design and deliver evidence-based training to build system capacity to achieve women's equality

Demonstrate the impact of WHV's policy and program activities

- Over the past five years, WHV has published 43 submissions, including 13 on state and federal mental health reform, 14 on gender equality, 5 on sexual and reproductive health, 5 on prevention of violence against women and 6 on health promotion.
- We have published 2 issues papers, 3 knowledge papers, and 8 spotlights on a diverse range health and gender equality topics from women's experiences of mental health and the mental health system to how gendered expectations shape early mothering experiences.
- shEqual has published and promoted 5 research papers regarding sexist advertising.
- We established our own online learning platform and now offer 21 short online courses and microcredentials. We've had 4041 training enrolments between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2023.
- shEqual has designed two online training modules: Gender Equality in Advertising and Gender Equality in Advertising Workplaces to build the capacity of the advertising industry to improve gender equality in advertising content and workplaces.
- We developed an accredited Course in Gender Equity available via Free TAFE, designed to build capacity of the emerging gender equity workforce.
- We expanded the Victorian Women's Health Atlas to include 70 indicators of health and wellbeing across 8 priority health areas, and Australian-first mapping of medication abortion by local area supply and demand. The Atlas has received the following Victorian Government endorsements:
 - Victorian Women's Health Program: specific deliverables.
 - Commission for Gender Equality in the Public Sector: trusted resource.
 - Victorian Municipal Health and Wellbeing Planning: recommended resource.



Influence the capacity and responsiveness of the health system to meet the needs of all women

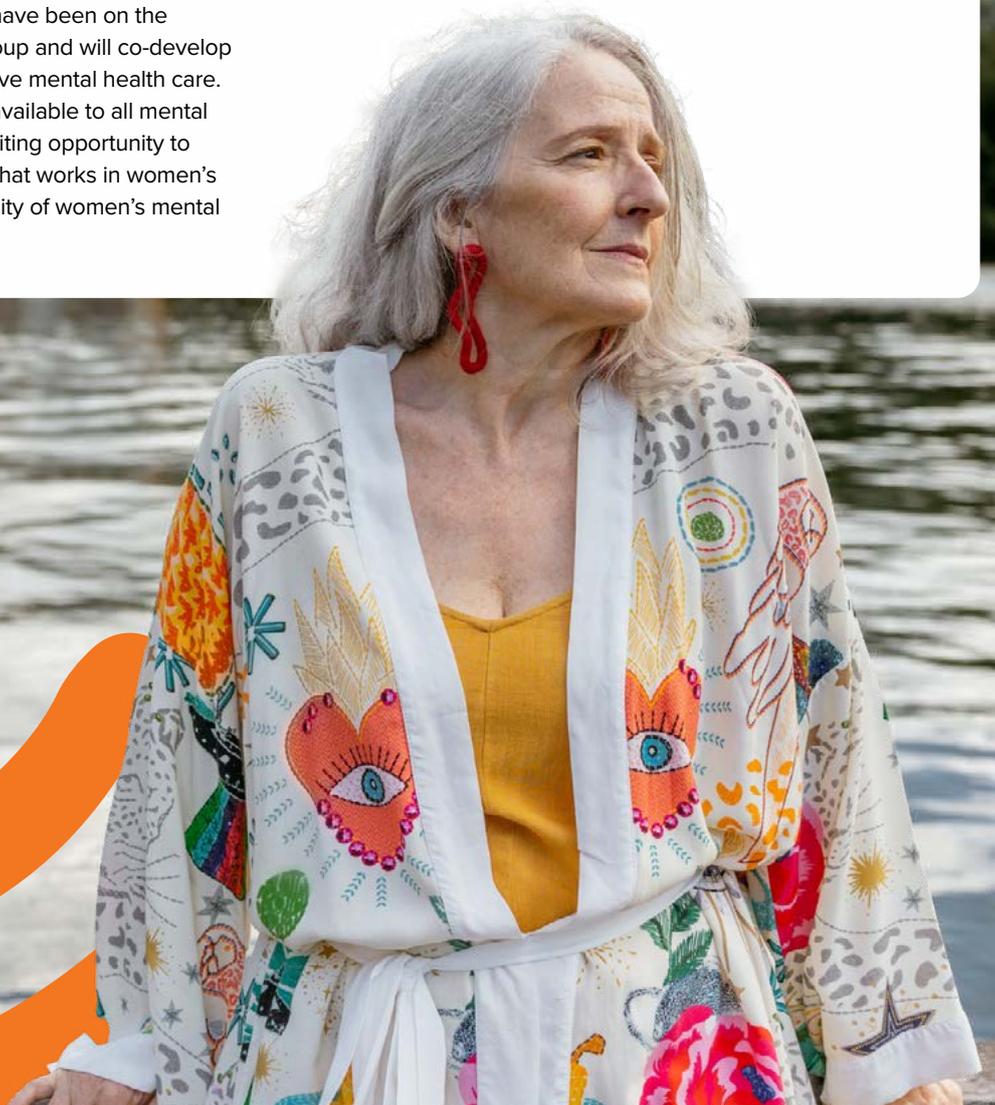
Advocate and collaborate to improve access to sexual and reproductive health services across Victoria

Work with the health sector on priority health issues to achieve improved outcomes for all women

Influence the health sector to be responsive to the diverse needs and experiences of all women

- As a direct response to the Women's Mental Health Alliance's advocacy in October 2020, Mental Health Reform Victoria announced the Victorian Government would establish a 35-bed specialist women's mental health service via a public-private partnership. The Statewide Women's Mental Health Service (SWMHS) was co-designed with consumers and will open in 2023. WHV have been on the SWMHS's project working group and will co-develop new training gender-responsive mental health care. We aim to make the training available to all mental health services. This is an exciting opportunity to build the evidence base on what works in women's mental health and drive visibility of women's mental health issues.

- WHV has become a member of Safer Care Victoria's Improving Sexual Safety in Mental Health Inpatient Units Faculty. In response to Recommendation 13 of the Royal Commission, the Faculty is developing and piloting with five mental health services a detailed Theory of Change to support the reduction of sexual harm incidents and promotion of sexual safety in mental health inpatient units across Victoria.
- WHV has supported key policy innovations for SRH both in Victoria and nationally. Through our advocacy and research, we were crucial in the development of the Victorian Women's Sexual and Reproductive Health Plan 2022-2030 – which for the first time sits amongst a suite of sexual health and blood borne virus plans for our state. We also led submissions to, and gave live evidence at, the Federal Senate Inquiry into Universal Access to Reproductive Healthcare, with one recommendation from the report from this inquiry calling for a national telephone service like WHV's own 1800 My Options.



Inform, support and empower women

Increase the reach of Counterpart to improve access to support services for Victorian women with cancer

Embed and sustain 1800 My Options as a critical statewide sexual and reproductive health phonenumber and information service

Develop innovative approaches to meet the health literacy needs of Victorian women

Strengthen WHV's policies and programs so they are inclusive of the diversity of women including the implementation of Reconciliation Action Plan

- On 1 July 2022, Counterpart officially expanded services to support all Victorian women with cancer. Since then, over 8.5 percent of the people using our services have been diagnosed with a non-breast or gynaecological cancer. The most common of these cancers were those of the digestive organs, lung and respiratory, blood and lymphatic, and melanoma.
- In 2023 we marked the 5-year anniversary of 1800 My Options and the 25,000th call received to the service. 1800 My Options works with over 650 healthcare providers in the state, to support an average of 600 callers per month to access the sexual and reproductive health service they need, when they need them.
- In April 2023, WHV published our first Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). The Innovate RAP will run from 2023-2025 and reflects our organisational values of respect and inclusion, as well as our commitment to practising intersectional feminism.
- In June 2023, Women's Health Victoria announced its support for a Voice to Parliament and reaffirmed its commitment to supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their right to self-determination.

Build a flexible, sustainable and innovative organisation

Build a strong organisational culture and be an employer of choice

Sustain funding for WHV's priority programs and resources

Maintain best practice governance structures, systems and processes

Build WHV's capacity in marketing, communications and digital engagement to underpin strategic priorities

Build sustainable communications and information technology infrastructure to support long-term organisational capacity

- The 2022-23 State Budget provided \$19.4 million over two years to increase funding to women's health services, applied across the Victorian Women's Health Program (VWHP). WHV's share of this crucial funding uplift has allowed us to build the scale and impact of our work across multiple areas through additional specialist expertise in PVAW, GE, mental health, training, capacity building, communications and evaluation.

- In 2022, in light of organisational growth and changes in best practice for well performing Boards, we commissioned a Board Effectiveness review to ensure that the Board was able to meet the current and future needs of the organisation. Our aim was to make the Board future ready to embrace and deliver on the upcoming new five-year strategic plan. The review resulted in 26 governance recommendations which have been, or are currently being implemented.
- In 2022-23 structural changes were made to teams and roles. This included the creation of a new Brand & Marketing team to reflect the key role that marketing needed to play in building and strengthening the awareness of WHV and the enormous breadth of work and the impact that we have; and expanding the Business Services team to include Human Resources and Quality Assurance capabilities, in response to growth in the number of staff and breadth of work.
- Following significant work from home periods, the Board approved an ongoing hybrid working model for WHV, supported by software to facilitate remote working and team communications
- We have reviewed existing Enterprise Resource Planning and Reporting systems, with ongoing improvements adopted.

OUR IMPACT 2022-23

Advocacy, Policy and Research Translation



49,360

web page views
on the Victorian
Women's Health Atlas



27

policy submissions
and briefings across
our priority areas in
women's health



991

downloads of
shEqual research
and resources

Health Promotion, Information and Support



7,144

calls answered by
1800 My Options



1.5 million

visits to our Labia Library
website



1,550

interactions with women
using Counterpart peer
support service

Capacity Building



1,746

enrolments to workshops
and online interactive
training sessions



2

newly developed
training courses
added to our learning
management system



“

As professionals in the advertising industry, it is our responsibility to actively contribute to a more equitable and inclusive society. These courses provide a unique opportunity to deepen our understanding of the harms of gender inequality and equip us with the necessary tools to drive positive change.

- Gender Equality in Ads training participant, Lisa Gumbleton, Head of Creative Strategy at Think HQ

SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Our goal is for all Victorian women (cis and trans inclusive) and gender diverse people to experience and enjoy optimal sexual and reproductive health at every life stage.

This year, sexual and reproductive health (SRH) has been in the spotlight with increased attention on abortion access in Australia.

In September 2022, following the United States Supreme Court overturning of Roe vs. Wade, the Australian Federal Government announced a Senate Inquiry into Universal Access to Reproductive Healthcare.

The report from this inquiry was conclusive – although abortion is decriminalised in every state in Australia, access remains highly dependent on where people live and their own personal circumstances. Contraceptive access is hardly better.

Abortion care is essential healthcare, and access to legal, safe, timely affordable and culturally appropriate care is a human right.

We advocate for strong government policy and investment in sexual and reproductive health services for women and gender diverse people in collaboration with the other 11 women's health services, and work closely with SRH providers to help build the capacity of the health service system.



[1800 My Options](#) was launched in 2018, and this year we marked its 5-year anniversary and the 25,000th call received to the service. 1800 My Options provides information about and pathways to services for contraception, pregnancy options including abortion, and sexual health. It's free, confidential, non-judgemental, person-centred and pro-choice. It delivers health promotion information about SRH issues via social media and works with almost 700 service providers to increase access across the system.

We've played a critical role in supporting women and gender diverse people to access vital SRH services throughout the COVID pandemic recovery by working closely with providers to monitor supply and gaps in provision.

During this time, the Victorian Auditor General's Office reported on an audit into whether Victorian women can readily access SRH information and services – as a scoped-in service in this audit, the reach and impact of 1800 My Options was clearly demonstrated.



7,144
calls to 1800
My Options



26,910
calls since
launching in 2018



30%
increase in calls
from previous
financial year



222,203
page views on
1800 My Options
website



Our award-winning [Labia Library](#) is an online health promotion resource to show people that labia come in all shapes and sizes. Women's Health Victoria developed the Labia Library to bust a few common myths about what labia really look like. After doing some research into what was motivating increasing numbers of women to seek female genital cosmetic surgery, we identified that many women and girls weren't aware of how diverse women's genitals can be. Since launching nine years ago, we've had over 26.6 million page views.

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Provided evidence live to the Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs for the inquiry into universal access to reproductive healthcare
- Led advocacy and connections (knowledge sharing) in relation to abortion and contraception through the Abortion and Contraception Working Group
- Supported the sexual and reproductive health sector in Victoria through data, resource development, and support in training and professional development
- Provided extensive health education campaigns to the Victorian public around SRH including on consent, STIs, stigma, abortion and contraception
- Presented on abortion access in Victoria using data from the Victorian Women's Health Atlas at the Children By Choice Reproductive Rights and Abortion Conference

POLICY BRIEFS AND PUBLICATIONS

- Women's Health Victoria submission to the [Senate Inquiry into Universal Access to Reproductive Healthcare](#)
- Victorian Women's Health Service Network submission to the [Senate Inquiry into Universal Access to Reproductive Healthcare](#)
- [SEXtember Zine 2022](#) online magazine
- [Is this a turning point for sexual and reproductive health in Australia?](#) Article in Croakey Health Media
- [Systemic delays to abortion access undermined the health and rights of abortion seekers across Australia](#) Article in The Australian and New Zealand Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology

PARTNERSHIPS AND ADVISORY GROUPS

- Board member of: Australian Women's Health Network
- Members of:
 - Victorian Department of Health Departmental Advisory Committee (DAC) on Sexual and Reproductive Health
 - Partner Organisation Advisory Committee at the Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation to guide their women's health research program

There are not enough resources in the world like yours, and I am in deep admiration for what you do.

– Labia Library visitor



31%

of callers born overseas



21%

of callers from rural Victoria



255

people completed WHV's online SRH courses



1.5 million

page views on the Labia Library website

PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Our goal is a world free from gendered violence and discrimination.

Australian Bureau of Statistic's Personal Safety Survey from 2021-22 showed, since the age of 15:

- o 1 in 3 women experienced physical violence
- o 1 in 5 women experienced sexual violence
- o 1 in 4 women experienced violence by an intimate partner
- o 1 in 4 women experienced cohabiting partner emotional abuse

We are dedicated to primary prevention, and are focused on dismantling the societal norms, practices, and structures that perpetuate violence against women.

With a long-standing presence in Victoria's women's health sector, we've been instrumental in delivering evidence-based training and capacity building programs rooted in the [Change the Story](#) framework.

Our focus is on enhancing workforce capabilities in primary prevention and gender equity. Through tailored training and capacity building support, we also support Victorian workplaces to achieve a safe, equal and respectful culture.

We lead the Action for Gender Equality Partnership, supporting organisations to meet their obligations under the Gender Equality Act, and we participate in a number of advisory and policy groups in prevention of violence.

GENDER

EQUITY

Knowledge • Skills • Solutions



2
new training courses made available through our learning management system



295
attendees in our training and Masterclass workshops



706
people completed our online e-learning modules



89%
participants experienced an increased in learning as a result of the training they attended

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Delivered 23 prevention of violence and gender equity training workshops to 295 people
- Acquired several new clients: Liberty Finance, Melbourne and Olympic Parks, Hobson's Bay City Council, Melton City Council, Connect Health and Community, Casterton Hospital, and worked with existing clients including Sodexo, Department of Health, Implementation Lead, Respect and Equality in TAFE (RET), Horsham City Council
- Worked collaboratively with the shEqual initiative to create two online training courses on Gender Equality in Ads and Ad Workplaces

POLICY BRIEFS AND PUBLICATIONS

- Time for Equal Access in Discrimination Claims – Joint Statement by the Power to Prevent Coalition, March 2023

PARTNERSHIPS AND ADVISORY GROUPS

- Founding member of: Power to Prevent Coalition
- Members of:
 - Respect Victoria Prevention Alliance
 - Family Safety Victoria Capability Frameworks Working Group
 - Project Steering Committee for Primary Prevention of Violence Accredited Courses
 - Baby Makes 3 Advisory Group
 - Preventing Violence Together West Australia
 - Centre for Workforce Excellence
 - Family Violence and Sexual Violence Prevention Aotearoa New Zealand
 - Safe and Equal Prevention Strategy Advisory Group



WOMEN'S EQUALITY

Our goal is for women (cis and trans inclusive) and gender diverse people to participate equally in all aspects of life.

Women experience specific forms of inequality, which can significantly impact their health and wellbeing. For example, women still experience sexual harassment, family violence, unequal pay and pregnancy discrimination at high rates. Additionally, there exists an unequal distribution of caregiving and domestic responsibilities within households, predominantly shouldered by women.

In the workforce, gender segregation continues, with caring professions undervalued and underpaid, and women remaining under-represented in leadership roles. The reinforcement of gender stereotypes further perpetuates inequality, particularly in public representation through media and advertising.

Women with diverse backgrounds and experiences are further discriminated and marginalised.

We aim to challenge and shift social norms, change laws and policies, and empower women, in order to produce more equal outcomes for everyone.

We focus on actively challenging and reshaping societal norms, advocating for legislative and policy reform, and empowering women. We do this through comprehensive training and capacity building, policy development, knowledge translation, and advocacy across various sectors—including health, housing, justice, economic participation, education, and violence prevention—to promote gender equity for all.



Sexist advertising contributes to a culture of violence against women. More realistic and respectful portrayals of women and girls can help bring that culture to an end.

[shEqual](#) is an Australian-first movement that promotes gender equality in the advertising industry. It's a credible, independent voice that drives action and creates connections with the growing movement for gender equality. Its key framework is '[Seeing is Believing](#)', a three-pronged approach covering industry, community and the regulatory environment.

shEqual collaborates with the advertising industry on research and resource development, events and communications, and delivers tailored training on gender equality in advertising content and within advertising workplaces. It also works to support the advertising industry to improve gender equality in workplaces by addressing structural and policy barriers and by supporting the development of genuine, authentic, and realistic advertising.



We deliver innovative projects such as the free, pioneering Victorian Women's Health Atlas to support statewide, regional and local area health promotion, policy analysis, service planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting. The Atlas website maps 70 indicators of health and wellbeing (disaggregated by sex) for every local government area in Victoria, with supporting text, charts and factsheets.



4,388
visits to new
shEqual webpages



991
downloads of
shEqual research
and resources



187%
increase in
shEqual social
media profile visits



364
new followers on
shEqual's social media

The [Atlas](#) is designed to communicate simply and effectively:

- what is the story for women?
(how is it different to the story for men?)
- what is the story by location?
(statewide / regions / local areas)
- what are the trends over time?
- what is this data and where does it come from?
- why is this issue important for women's wellbeing?
(gender analysis)

This year, we've added new statewide data visualisations, a new chronic disease section, and a series of national / statewide data summaries for 8 priority populations and 7 topic areas.

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Launched the [SHIFT video series](#) featuring a discussion panel of industry leaders sharing insights and challenges about the use of female stereotypes in Australian ads
- Platinum partners with Mavens (an independent platform to champion gender equality through communications) for their inaugural print magazine and event launch
- Released the [Behind the Ads: Advertising Professionals' Perspectives on Gender Equality in the Workplace](#) report that provides information from 598 advertising professionals on how gender equality plays out in the workplace
- Victorian Women's Health Atlas expansion from 6 to 8 priority health areas, with new Chronic Disease section
- Development of Women's Health Atlas Strategic Plan
- Groundwork for the first formal evaluation of the Atlas since launch in 2015

POLICY BRIEFS AND PUBLICATIONS

- [Women's Health Victoria Innovate RAP \(2023-2025\)](#)
- Women's Health Victoria's submission to the [National Strategy to Achieve Gender Equality](#)

PARTNERSHIPS AND ADVISORY GROUPS

- Founding member of: Women's Housing Alliance
- Partner on: Australian Research Council Linkage Project IMAGINE Project: Innovative Measurement of Gender (In)Equality (University of Melbourne)
- Members of:
 - Smart Justice for Women
 - Women's Health Services Network Evaluation Working Group



1,428

views of shEqual videos on Vimeo



49,360

Victorian Women's Health Atlas website page views



31,134

annual Atlas map views

WOMEN'S MENTAL HEALTH AND BODY IMAGE

Our goal is for women (cis and trans inclusive) and gender diverse people to experience optimal mental health and wellbeing including a positive relationship with their bodies.

Gender roles and the social context of girls' and women's lives influence their mental health and wellbeing, which makes their mental health needs different from boys' and men's. Intersecting forms of inequality and marginalisation (such as homophobia, transphobia and racism) also have an impact. Evidence also shows that the current mental health system does not meet the needs of women and gender diverse people, including responding to trauma resulting from gendered violence and other drivers of women's mental ill-health across the life course.

This year WHV deepened our gender and mental health advocacy across key parts of Victoria's new mental health system architecture and a range of consultation fora. We have seen the focus of our work pivot from making the case for a gender lens on mental health reform to having a seat at the table, cultivating stronger partnerships, and more nuanced conversations about how to operationalise gender-responsive mental health care. As a result of these diverse relationships and engagements, Women's Health Victoria is seeing a welcome increase in awareness about the importance of a gender-responsive approach to mental

health among key individuals and organisations driving the Victorian mental health reforms, and, importantly, increased appetite for the tools and knowledge to bring about change.

The [Women's Mental Health Alliance](#) (the Alliance), established by Women's Health Victoria in 2019, continues to meet regularly to maintain and strengthen our collective advocacy. It comprises 45 organisations and individuals who work together to ensure that the voices, experiences and needs of women are being heard and centred in mental health policy, and service delivery.



The Alliance is working to bring a gendered lens to every aspect of the reform of Victoria's mental health system following the 2021 Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System. From governance and leadership, to legislation, workforce development, operational design, research and knowledge translation and health promotion and prevention, this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to achieve real change.



256

retweets received on *Towards a gendered understanding of women's experiences of mental health and the mental health system campaign*



45

Women's Mental Health Alliance members



641

page views of our 2023 mental health publications

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Convened a roundtable on Gendered Violence, Trauma and Mental Health Reform with 35 participants from the mental health, family violence, sexual assault and justice systems, leading to ongoing cross-sectoral advocacy
- Presented on women's mental health and experiences of the mental health system to the Office for Women, Specialist Women's Mental Health Service, Family Violence Reform Advisory Group, and the Victoria Police Family Violence Command as well as at a public webinar hosted by Women's Health East
- Advised the Victorian Health Building Authority on their development/retrofit of 32 mental health inpatient units as gender-segregated wards
- Working with the Specialist Women's Mental Health Service to co-design training on gender and mental health for clinicians and staff working in inpatient settings
- Ongoing contribution of expertise and research and policy advice to the Interim Regional Boards, Collaborative Centre, Statewide Trauma Service, Mental Health Ministerial Advisory Committee, Mental Health and Wellbeing Expert Advisory Group and Safer Care Victoria's Improving Sexual Safety in Mental Health Inpatient Units Faculty
- Developed [In My Prime](#), a co-designed online health information and body positivity resource for women (cis and trans inclusive) and gender diverse people over 50 (launched September 2023)

POLICY BRIEFS AND PUBLICATIONS

- Issues Paper: [Towards a gendered understanding of women's experiences of mental health and the mental health system](#)
- Women's Mental Health Alliance Position Paper on diverse communities' mental health
- Submission on the [draft National Stigma and Discrimination Reduction Strategy](#)
- Media Release on the Victorian State Budget 2023: Women's Health Victoria welcomes important commitments to sexual and reproductive health, with further investment needed in women's mental health
- Briefing paper: At the Intersections: Gendered Violence, Trauma and Mental Health Reform
- Women's Mental Health Alliance Statewide Wellbeing Plan Community Toolkit response

PARTNERSHIPS AND ADVISORY GROUPS

- Founder and convenor of Women's Mental Health Alliance (Secretariat)
- Members of:
 - Mental Health Ministerial Advisory Committee
 - Mental Health Promotion Expert Advisory group
 - Safer Care Victoria's Improving Sexual Safety in Mental Health Inpatient Units Faculty
 - Statewide Trauma Service Advisory Group
 - Specialist Women's Mental Health Service Project Working Group
 - Mental Health Victoria's Victorian Mental Health Policy Network



WOMEN AND CANCER

Our goal is for more women (cis and trans inclusive) and gender diverse people with cancer to access services to help them live well.



We do this through Counterpart, our statewide peer support and information service for women with cancer.

Counterpart (then called BreaCan) was launched in 2003 by a group of women who had experienced breast cancer. They wanted to support other women diagnosed with breast cancer using a peer support model. They created a place where women could connect with other women, as well as access reliable information. In 2007, Counterpart grew to support women with gynaecological cancers, and since 1 July 2022 has supported all women affected by cancer, no matter what type.

Counterpart connects, supports, and informs women with cancer to live well. It does this through:

- providing peer support, over the phone and in-person, including at some metropolitan hospitals through our Bridge of Support program, to women affected by cancer in Victoria, including women with metastatic cancer
- connecting women with reliable information and services
- organising events to provide information, wellbeing, and creative opportunities to live well following a cancer diagnosis as well as support and connection for women affected by cancer
- recruiting, training, and providing ongoing support to Counterpart Peer Support Volunteers so that they can continue to support women with cancer.

Thank you for the support and for what you continue to give to women touched by cancer. Thank you for being there for all women who have any kind of cancer. Counterpart you really do make a wonderful difference in our lives.

– Woman with cancer, 2023



1,550

interactions with Counterpart service



41,000

interactions since service opened in 2003



674

people used our services



33

free events held

KEY ACTIVITIES

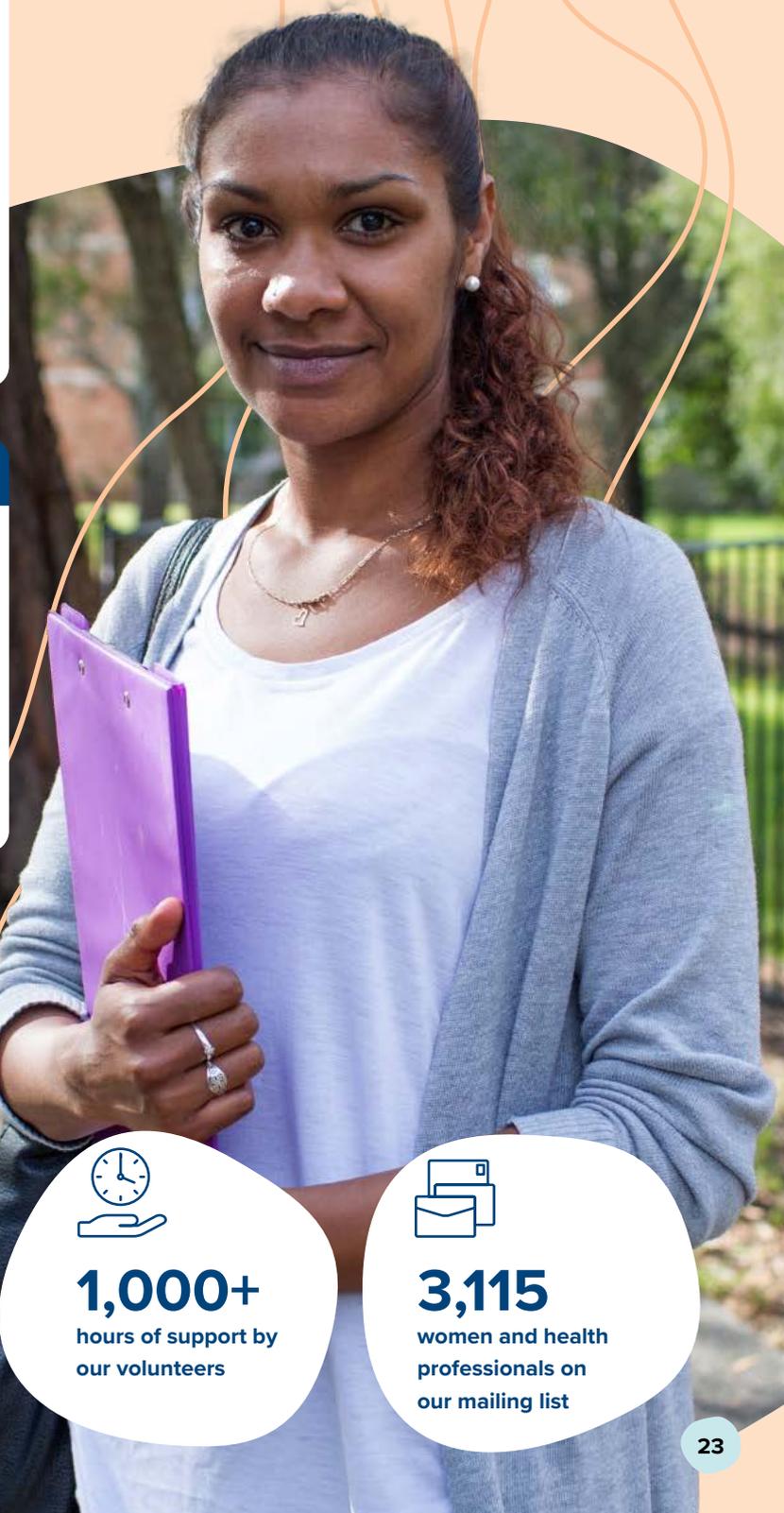
- Celebrated 20 years of supporting Victorian women living with cancer
- Provided peer support and information for women with cancer through the Resource Centre, in hospitals and over the phone
- Held 33 events for women living with cancer, including Wellbeing Days in Ballarat and Bendigo
- Released 10 new webinars
- Conducted in-service presentations to cancer treatment providers
- Released first video in the [You Are Not Alone](#) series, sharing stories of women with lived experience of cancer
- Held regular in-service training for our volunteers and acknowledged their work with a National Volunteer Week event.

PARTNERSHIPS AND ADVISORY GROUPS

- Survivorship and Supportive Care Community of Practice
- Survivorship in the Non-Government Organisation Sector group

POLICY BRIEFS AND PUBLICATIONS

- [‘Counterpart’s service expansion – lessons for peer support in a small cancer support organisation?’](#) poster presented at the 6th National Cancer Survivorship Conference, 2023
- [‘Recruiting and selecting cancer Peer Support Volunteers – what does success look like?’](#) poster presented at the 6th National Cancer Survivorship Conference, 2023



79,120

page views on
Counterpart website
and Navigator app



1,287

times our webinars
were viewed



1,000+

hours of support by
our volunteers



3,115

women and health
professionals on
our mailing list

OUR ENGAGEMENT

Throughout the year we have taken our impactful work out into the world, sharing our expertise and learnings, celebrating important milestones and engaging the sector and the public in our health promotion initiatives. Here are a few of the highlights.

SH!FT Event and Video Series

In June 2022, shEqual - WHV's Gender Equality in Advertising initiative, hosted a panel event focusing on the awareness of common yet harmful female stereotypes seen in advertising. This event was filmed and made into the SH!FT video series, which aims for the advertising industry to think deeper about stereotypes and give people the language to have these discussions in client briefs and team meetings.



Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan

The second stage of Women's Health Victoria's Reconciliation Action Plan was released in early 2023. Our Innovate RAP builds on our foundational Reflect RAP and sets out 15 key actions and associated deliverables under four main headings: Relationships, Respect, Opportunities, and Governance.

Our Innovate RAP has been formally endorsed by Reconciliation Australia and is available to read on the [WHV website](#).

Women's Mental Health Social Media Campaign

In January we published the issues paper, 'Towards a gendered understanding of women's experiences of mental health and the mental health system'. Drawing on mostly Australian research, data and women's lived experience of mental ill-health and the mental health system, the paper discusses the determinants of women's mental health and illness and their experiences accessing care. To promote its release, in March 2023 we shared key findings and highlights via a social media communications campaign aimed at health sector professionals and the wider public. Comprising a series of organic and paid social posts across Twitter and LinkedIn, the campaign achieved significant reach and engagement on both platforms.

5 years of 1800 My Options

In March 2023, our 1800 My Options service celebrated its 5-year anniversary.

While the team started small with less than 30 service providers in the database, that has grown to over 600 sexual and reproductive health providers registered with the service and more than 25,000 calls received over five years!

Sex Rurality Conference

Information and Data Officer Jenny Ward and 1800 My Options Manager Carolyn Mogharbel presented on the mapping of medication abortion by local demand and supply at the CERSH (Centre for Excellence in Rural Sexual health) biannual Sex Rurality Conference in May 2023, held by the University of Melbourne, in Creswick.

Over 150 people attended, and the team showcased WHV's services, including 1800 My Options, The Labia Library, Counterpart, and the Victorian Women's Health Atlas.

Women Deliver Conference

Staff from our Gender Equity and Capacity Building team attended the Women Deliver Oceanic Pacific conference in Melbourne in June 2023. This event is in lead up to Women Deliver 2023, one of the largest gender equality conferences in the world, which was held in Rwanda in July.

More than 380 attendees gathered to elevate the voice of women and girls and our team engaged in conversations to advance gender equality and sexual and reproductive health rights, while sharing all the resources and service WHV has to offer.

*Image above:
Women's Health
Victoria staff, Grace,
Asmait and Lauren*



Counterpart 20th Birthday

In May 2023 we celebrated Counterpart's 20th birthday at the Queen Victoria Women's Centre.

It was an opportunity to reflect on the past two decades; 20 years of connecting, supporting, and informing women with cancer to live well.

The event featured an address from the Victorian Minister for Health, the Hon. Mary-Anne Thomas, and included sharing women's stories and recognising the many people who have contributed to our service's success, especially our volunteers who continue to be the heart of Counterpart.

Image below: Long-standing Counterpart volunteers Nikki, Khim and Rhonda



OUR BOARD

Thank you to the dedicated women who volunteer their time to ensure WHV is working toward its vision of women living well – healthy, empowered, equal.



Judy Hacker

B.Ec, Dip.Ed, Certificate in Marketing

Chair

Elected to Board: Oct 2016

Meetings attended: 6/6



Emily Howie

BA/LLB(Hons), LLM (Columbia)

Deputy Chair

Elected to Board: Oct 2018

Meetings attended: 4/6



Julie Bignell

BA, Grad Dip (IR/HR), FAICD, FGIA

Treasurer

Elected to Board: Oct 2021

Meetings attended: 6/6



Kate Broun

BAppSc (Health Promotion) (Hons),
PGDipAppSci (Org Dynamics); GAICD

Elected to Board: Oct 2016

Meetings attended: 6/6



Shaymaa Elkadi

PhD (Neuropsychology), ExecMPA

Elected to Board: Oct 2021

Meetings attended: 5/6



Ashlea Gilmore

BA

Elected to Board: Oct 2021

Meetings attended: 5/6



Brigid Mahar

B. Comm B.PD

Elected to Board: Oct 2019

Meetings attended: 5/6



Johana Wicks

BA, PGDip (DevSt), GCert (IH)

Co-opted: Apr 2023

Meetings attended: 0/1



Lesley Ber

B.Comm, B Acc, CA(SA), MBA, ADIT, Dip.Gov FICDA

Co-opted: Apr 2023

Meeting attended: 1/1



Sofia Dedes

BA (Journalism)
M.I.R (Human Rights Law)

Elected to Board: Oct 2021

– retired Oct 2022

Meetings attended: 2/2



Elizabeth Dax

Associated Professor AM;
MB; BS; MD; PhD; GAIDC

Elected to Board: Oct 2016

– retired Dec 2022

Meetings attended: 1/2



Diana Quinn

BSC (Hons) Computational
Mathematics and Investment
Management Certificate (CFA UK)

Elected to Board: Oct 2020

– retired Apr 2023

Meetings attended: 4/4

Read our Board’s bios at www.whv.org.au/about/board

OUR MANAGEMENT TEAM

Our Management Team leads people and operations at WHV, working together with staff and the Board to ensure the successful implementation of our strategic plan.



Dianne Hill
CEO



Carolyn Mogharbel
Manager 1800 My Options



Kate Johnston-Ataata
Manager Policy, Health
Promotion and Advocacy



Mandy Macdonald
Special Projects Manager



Cindy Van Rooy
Manager Counterpart



Charlotte Strong
Manager Brand and Marketing



Lauren Zappa
Manager Gender Equity
and Capacity Building

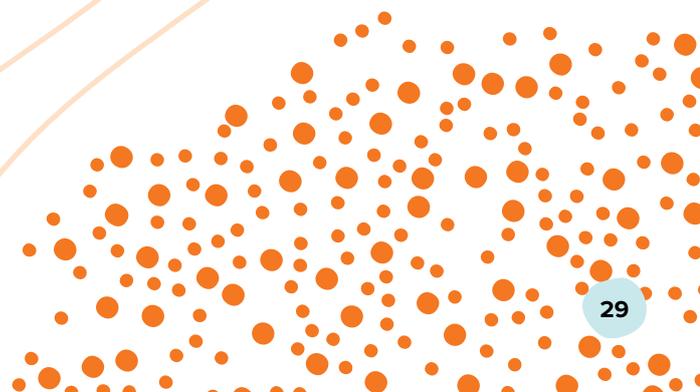


Norma Chidichimo
Business Manager



In the past year, we've navigated challenges, embraced opportunities, and grown together as a team. We look forward to working together to grow our impact in the coming year.

- WHV Management Team



OUR STAFF

Women's Health Victoria would like to acknowledge all the staff who worked with us during the 2022-23 financial year and we thank them for their contribution.

CEO's Office

Dianne Hill
CEO

Mandy Macdonald
Special Projects Manager

Kylie Inserra
Communications Coordinator
(until Oct 2022)

Georgina Siggers
Executive to CEO and Administrative
Coordinator (until May 2023)

Eva Dixon
Executive Assistant to CEO and
Administrative Coordinator

Brand & Marketing

Charlotte Strong
Manager Brand and Marketing

Colleen O'Sullivan
Senior Communications & Digital
Coordinator (until Jun 2023)

Policy and Health Promotion

Kate Johnston-Ataata
Manager Policy Health Promotion and
Advocacy

Asmait Ghebre
Health Promotion and Training Project
Support Officer

Bethany Knight
Health Promotion and Advocacy
Officer

Emily Hanscamp
Policy and Health Promotion and
Advocacy Manager (until Aug 2022)

Jenny Ward
Information & Data Officer

Renata Anderson
Policy and Health Promotion Officer

Sianan Healy
Senior Policy, Health Promotion and
Advocacy Officer

Tali Kalman
Senior Policy, Health Promotion &
Evaluation Officer

Olivia Ernikiolis
Master of Public Health Student
Placement

Business Services

Norma Chidichimo
Business Manager

Gaby Pagniello-Priolo
IT Project Coordinator
(until Oct 2022)

Azianni Mohd Mustapa
Human Resource and Quality
Assurance Coordinator
(until Apr 2023)

Lauren Mahar
Finance & Systems Coordinator
(until May 2023)

Michelle Hy
Accountant (until Dec 2022)

Carly Engel
Human Resources Coordinator

Trang Chung
Finance & Systems Coordinator

1800 My Options

Carolyn Mogharbel
1800 My Options Manager

Angie Giasli
Senior Information & Resource Officer

Emily Dang
Stakeholder Engagement Coordinator

Emma Luong
Senior Information & Resource Officer

Julie Keys
Senior Information & Resource Officer

Marti Kaiser
Senior Information & Resource Officer

Paulette D'Argent
Senior Information & Resource Officer
(until April 2023)

Rasha Tayeh
Senior Information & Resource Officer

Kylie Stephens
Special Projects Manager
- 1800 My Options

Trish Hayes
Senior Information and Resource
Officer

Nikki McGrath
Senior Information and Resource
Officer

Gender Equality and Capacity Building

Lauren Zappa
Manager Gender Equity and Capacity
Building

Linette Harriott
Senior Training and Capacity Building
Coordinator

Anne Johnston
shEqual Communications and Design
Officer

Rebecca Morgan
Senior Project Coordinator shEqual

Georgina Nix
Project Officer shEqual

Bianca Walsh
Health Promotion Officer & Training
Coordinator

Grace McArthur
Training and Capacity Building Officer

Linden Deathe
shEqual Project Manager
(until Nov 2022)

Counterpart

Cindy Van Rooy
Manager Counterpart

Ada Castle
Casual Resource Centre Coordinator

Eleni Panjari
Casual Resource Centre Coordinator

Fiona McRae
Counterpart Manager
(until Mar 2023)

Lieve De Clercq
Resource Centre Coordinator

Jan Savage
Service Expansion Project Coordinator

Julia Cernaz
Casual Resource Centre Coordinator
(until Mar 2023)

Katherine Bradstreet
Counterpart Communications
Coordinator

Kellie Holland
Team Leader Operations and
Volunteer Coordinator

Linda Rehill
Information and Resource Coordinator

Mary Macheras-Magias
Bridge of Support Coordinator/
Volunteer Training Coordinator

Rebecca Harraghy
Administration Coordinator

Wendy Pullan
Programs and Resource Centre
Coordinator

Sirui Rao
Student Placement

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The selected financial information reflects the operations of Women's Health Victoria and should be read in conjunction with the Women's Health Victoria Inc Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June 2023 together with the accompanying notes. Women's Health Victoria prepared the financial statements in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards.

For the 2022-2023 financial year Women's Health Victoria received funding from the Victorian State Government Department of Health for the *Women's Health Program, Counterpart* and *1800 My Options* services. An additional funding boost to Women's Health Services was received this financial year extending until June 2024. Funding of one-off support to deliver *In My Prime: Celebrating Older Women*, and to engage in promotional activity and regional outreach by Counterpart was also received.

The Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing provided funding for the Prevention of Violence Against Women (PVAW) Capacity Building, and the Gender Equality in Advertising programs, which extend until 2026 and 2024 respectively. An additional funding boost to Women's Health Services Capacity Building Program was received this financial year, extending until June 2024.

Not all funding received in the 2022-2023 financial year is reflected in the Statement of Comprehensive Income. Following AASB15 and ASSB1058, grant revenue is recognised as performance obligations until funding agreements are satisfied. Any funding which remains unearned is recognised in the Balance Sheet as an Income in Advance liability.

Total revenue increased in 2023 by 15.28%, which reflects the increased funding provided to the Women's Health Services sector by the Victorian Government in 2022-23. Overall expenditure increased by 18.6% from 2022 due to expansion arising from additional funding, which included increased employee numbers and the associated infrastructure requirements.

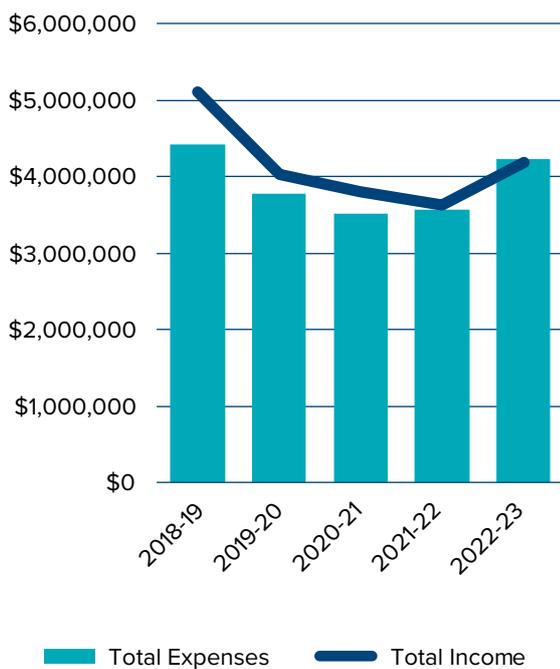
The ratio analysis, as highlighted in the table, is calculated to assist in determining the financial viability of WHV. The minimum current ratio is 1:1. Women's Health Victoria has a ratio of 1.34:1 in 2022-23 which is stable against the prior year.

Detailed information on results is contained in the Women's Health Victoria Inc. Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June 2023 and accompanying notes available on our website.

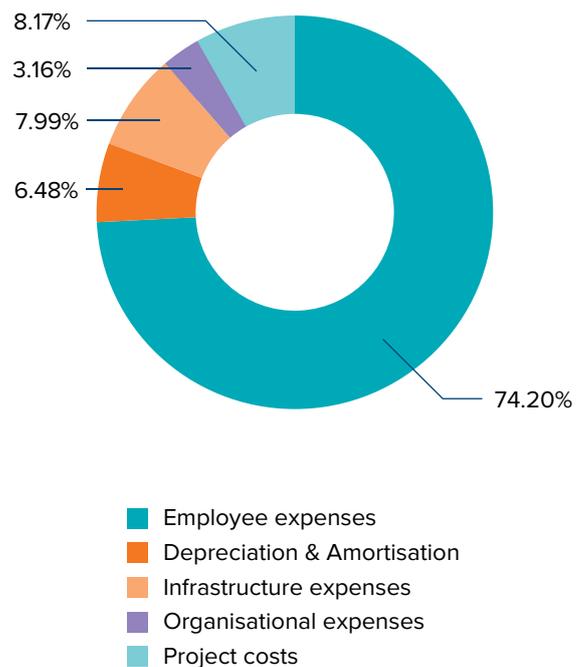
FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL STATISTICS

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Summary Income Statement					
Total Income	5,114,348	4,026,281	3,808,089	3,636,363	4,192,051
Total Expenses	4,426,721	3,776,288	3,517,842	3,558,578	4,220,620
Net Profit/(Loss)	687,627	249,993	290,247	77,785	-28,569
Summary Balance Sheet					
Cash	2,382,967	1,710,236	1,912,547	3,053,525	3,532,197
Receivables	21,334	141,352	48,532	80,087	83,769
Property, Plant & Equipment	160,071	393,998	503,078	168,112	1,161,755
Total Assets	2,564,372	2,245,586	2,464,157	3,301,724	4,777,721
Payables	248,492	1,109,208	1,099,869	1,906,486	3,342,979
Provisions	354,924	352,290	289,953	243,118	311,191
Total Liabilities	603,416	1,461,498	1,389,822	2,149,604	3,654,170
NET ASSETS	1,960,956	784,088	1,074,335	1,152,120	1,123,551
Current Ratio	4.29 : 1	1.54 : 1	1.73 : 1	1.47 : 1	1.34 : 1

FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL STATISTICS



2023 EXPENDITURE ANALYSIS



THANK YOU

Thank you to the individuals and organisations that contributed to our work this year through advisory groups, committees and partnerships or provided financial support.

Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group and Staff Engagement Subcommittee (SESC)

FIRST NATIONS REPRESENTATIVES

- Hillary Aldenhoven
- Madison Connors

WOMEN'S HEALTH VICTORIA

- Renata Anderson
- Katherine Bradstreet
- Norma Chidichomo
- Linette Harriott
- Sianan Healy (SESC)
- Dianne Hill
- Kate Johnston-Ataata
- Bethany Knight
- Brigid Mahar (Board representative)
- Carolyn Mogharbel
- Rebecca Morgan (SESC)
- Cindy Van Rooy (SESC)

In My Prime Partners

- Professor Martha Hickey, University of Melbourne and The Women's

In My Prime Clinical Reviewers

- Dr Lydia Brown
- Professor Cassandra Szoeki
- Dr Deborah Neesham
- Associate Professor Monique Watts

In My Prime Advisory Group

- Jill Exon, Eastern Community Legal Centre
- Mridula Bandyopadhyay, Melbourne University
- Maggie Kirkman, Monash University
- Beverly Baker, National Older Women's Network

LIVED EXPERIENCE PARTICIPANTS

- Desiree Sargent
- Florence Johnston
- Philippa Schapper
- Jenny Alford
- Michelle McNamara
- Leanne Thorpe
- Ann-Marie Harris
- Jane Wager
- Sally Goldner

In My Prime Focus Group

LIVED EXPERIENCE PARTICIPANTS

- Julie Ball
- Kylie Ellis
- Kay Johnston
- Michelle O'Sullivan
- Alison Richards
- Christobel Saunders
- Julie Sticca
- Mary Tehan
- Julie Walker

Abortion and Contraception Working Group

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

- Candy Broad
- Bethia Wilson

ORGANISATIONS

- Austin Hospital
- Centre for Excellence in Rural Sexual Health, University of Melbourne
- Department of Social Inquiry, La Trobe University
- Fertility Control Clinic
- Global and Women's Health, School of Public Health & Preventive Medicine, Monash University
- Human Rights Law Centre
- Judith Lumley Centre, School of Nursing and Midwifery, La Trobe University
- Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne
- MSIA
- RACGP Women's Special Interest Group
- Sexual Health Victoria
- SPHERE, Monash University
- The Women's
- Women's Health Grampians
- Women's Health Victoria

shEqual Reference Group

- Kate O'Loughlin, Initiative
- Lauren Gurrieri, RMIT
- Katarina Matic, Bullfrog Media
- Phoebe Sloane, Clemenger BBDO
- Lisa Gumbleton, think hq
- Kate Griffiths, Icon Agency
- Natasha Darrigan, Respect Victoria
- Catherine Rewha Rewha, OMD
- Fei Wang, The Shannon Company
- Annabel Green, Our Watch
- Bec Brideson, Venus Comms (outgoing)
- Nancy Pierorazio, City of Melbourne (outgoing)
- Penny Shell, OMD (outgoing)

Counterpart Advisory Group

- Christine Evely (Chair), consumer
- Alison Murphy, Cabrini Health
- Carmel McCarthy, consumer
- Danielle Carpenter, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre
- Helen Blennerhassett, Counterpart volunteer
- Trish Ferrier, Counterpart volunteer
- Monique Baldacchino, Royal Women's Hospital
- Simone Noelker, Ballarat Regional Integrated Cancer Centre
- Kylie Stephens, consumer
- Michelle Ainsworth, consumer
- Elizabeth Dax, WHV Board representative (until January 2023)
- Dianne Hill, WHV CEO
- Cindy Van Rooy, Manager Counterpart

Counterpart Volunteers

Ailsa, Barbara, Branka, Bridget, Danni, Diana, Emma, Evelyn, Glenda, Helen, Jo, Khim, Larissa, Lisa, Lyn, Marcia, Margaret, May, Meri, Nikki, Penny, Rachel, Rhonda, Robyn, Susan, Teresa, Trish F, Trish M, Wilma,

We remember Peer Support Volunteers Pam and Janice who died this year. They supported many women over the years. We are incredibly grateful for their contributions and remember them with great fondness.

Counterpart Donors

- Leo Connelly
- Georgia Dodds
- Kate Gibson
- Linda Ishchenko
- Nina Macgeorge
- Bradley Medcroft
- Roberta Munro
- Shu Yi Soong
- St Michael's Parish School Ashburton
- TWOOBS

There were also donors who wished to remain anonymous.

Counterpart In-kind donations

- Helen Eason
- Jenni
- Dr Ruwani Mendis
- Ian Millard
- My Jazzy Blooms
- Susan Parsons
- Suzanne Peyton
- Dr Sabine Rothmaier
- Ella Sexton
- Dorota Swiderski
- A/Prof Wendy Vanselow

We also thank the presenters that generously donated their time to Counterpart.

Women's Mental Health Alliance

ORGANISATIONS

- Women's Health Victoria (Convenor)
- Australian Services Union
- Australian Muslim Women's Centre for Human Rights
- Eating Disorders Victoria
- Gippsland Women's Health
- Good Shepherd Australia and New Zealand
- Jean Hailes for Women's Health
- Juno
- Lisa Thurin Women's Health Centre, Cabrini
- McAuley Community Services for Women
- Melbourne Alliance to End Violence against women and their children (MAEVe), University of Melbourne
- Mental Health Complaints Commission
- Mental Health Victoria
- Mercy Mental Health
- Mind Australia
- Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation
- Monash University School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine
- Multicultural Centre for Women's Health
- No To Violence
- Rainbow Health Australia

- Royal Women's Hospital
- Tandem
- Turning Point
- Safe + Equal
- Sexual Assault Services Victoria
- Victorian Mental Illness Awareness Council
- WIRE
- Women with Disabilities Victoria
- Women's Health East
- Women's Health Goulburn North East
- Women's Health Loddon Mallee
- Women's Health in the North
- Women's Health in the South East
- Women's Health and Wellbeing Barwon South West
- GenWest
- Youth Affairs Council of Victoria

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

- Sabin Fernbacher
- Jo Farmer
- Associate Members
- Mental Health Complaints Commission
- Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (Victorian Branch)
- Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission
- Victoria Legal Aid

Our supporters

OUR FUNDERS

VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT

- Office for Women
- Department of Health
- Department of Families, Fairness and Housing
- Department of Premier and Cabinet
- Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (Working for Victoria)
- Respect Victoria

OTHER

- Australian Communities Foundation

PROBONO SUPPORTERS

- Shayna Burns

A full list can be viewed in the [Counterpart Year in Review 2022-2023](#).

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

There are many ways to get involved with Women's Health Victoria, from attending events, connecting with us via social media, becoming a member, fundraising, sponsoring or partnering with us.

E whv@whv.org.au

W whv.org.au

T 03 9664 9300



Women's Health Victoria

Level 8, 255 Bourke Street Melbourne VIC Australia 3000

GPO Box 1160 Melbourne Vic Australia 3001

T (03) 9664 9300 | F (03) 9663 7955 | E whv@whv.org.au

whv.org.au

*Women's Health Victoria acknowledges
the support of the Victorian Government*

