

## PRIMARY PREVENTION GRANTS SCHEME

*Statement by Minister for Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence*

**MS S.E. WINTON (Wanneroo — Minister for Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence)** [9.15 am]: I rise today to update the house on an important aspect of the Cook Labor government's commitment to preventing family and domestic violence. Three of my core priorities as Minister for Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence are supporting victim-survivors to escape violence and re-build their lives; holding perpetrators to account; and preventing violence before it starts to stop cycles of abuse. Primary prevention work challenges and changes attitudes of sexism, misogyny and gender stereotypes which are key to stopping violence before it starts.

On 25 March, I opened a new \$6 million primary prevention grants scheme for community-led initiatives to prevent family and domestic violence throughout Western Australia. Eligible groups, including not-for-profit community organisations and local government authorities, can apply for funding to deliver activities in their region, over a period of two years, that work towards the prevention of violence against women and their children. This can include primary prevention initiatives tailored for specific cohorts within the community, including Aboriginal communities, culturally and linguistically diverse communities, people with disability and the LGBTIQ+ community.

This announcement forms part of the \$72.6 million family and domestic violence package announced by the Premier in November 2023 as part of the 16 Days in WA campaign. Importantly, the scheme is informed by feedback from the Family and Domestic Violence Taskforce and key asks from the sector to invest more in primary prevention activities. This work builds on our 2021 election commitment to boost primary prevention activities, which saw the government deliver \$3 million to fund over 17 programs across the state. One of those activities included the Mid West Early Years Gender Equality Project delivered by Desert Blue Connect. This innovative project works with early childhood educators and parents to provide foundational learnings to children around gender and stereotypes. I have had the opportunity to meet with Desert Blue, which is doing fantastic work both in its crisis response through its refuge and also in its prevention work.

Other successful recipients delivered the following activities: Patricia Giles Centre for Non-Violence, the northern corridor primary prevention project; the Salvation Army, primary prevention in workplaces pilot; and Anglicare WA, family and domestic violence awareness training for Perth metro local councils.

Organisations that were previously successful can reapply. I strongly encourage eligible organisations to apply via the Tenders WA website. Applications close on 7 May. I look forward to continuing to update the house on this important initiative.