



2026-27 Budget factsheet: Addressing domestic, family and sexual violence

Domestic, family and sexual violence (DFSV) is not, and will never be, acceptable in the ACT. The ACT Government is committed to preventing and responding to DFSV in the community.

On 27 May 2026, the ACT Government released the *ACT Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Strategy 2026-2036*¹ (the Strategy) alongside the *First Action Plan 2026-2028*² (First Action Plan). The Strategy brings together all of our work into one clear plan, which is evidence-based and tailored to the ACT community.

The Strategy sets out our vision of an ACT where every person lives free from DFSV and feels safe in their relationships, homes, workplaces, education settings and communities. It provides a long-term roadmap to prevent and respond to DFSV underpinned by phased action plans which turn the strategy's vision, outcomes, and principles into clear priorities and practical actions.

Through the **2026-27 Budget**, the ACT Government is investing an additional **\$47.8 million** over 4 years to deliver the Strategy and First Action Plan in partnership with the community sector, recognising sustained and significant funding is needed to achieve the Strategy's vision. Critically, **\$13.2 million** per year is indexed and ongoing from 2029-2030 – providing long term certainty to victim-survivors and the services that support them.

This brings the ACT's total investment to respond to DFSV to **\$151.4 million** over the next 4 years across new and continuing commitments.

On top of this, a further **\$37.9 million** over 4 years is being provided to new initiatives where funding is not directly allocated to address DFSV but which support overarching Strategy outcomes, including strengthening access to justice for victim-survivors, and certain sexual health and relationships and sexuality education in schools.

How the ACT Government funds responses to DFSV

- \$77.2 million (51%) is funded by ACT Government consolidated revenue.
- \$63.0 million (42%) is funded by the Safer Families Levy (Levy) – see dedicated section on Safer Families Levy below.
- \$11.0 million (7%) is funded by the Federation Funding Agreement on Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Responses 2021-30 (FDSV FFA) – see dedicated section on FDSV FFA below.
- \$225,000 (<1%) is funded by previous commitments that have been reprofiled to meet priorities.

¹ACT Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Strategy 2026-2036: <https://www.act.gov.au/open/the-act-domestic-family-and-sexual-violence-strategy>

²First Action Plan 2026-2028: https://www.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/3074007/DFSV-Strategy-Action-Plan-1.pdf

How to read this factsheet

This factsheet provides information on the ACT Government's investment to prevent and respond to DFSV, including new and continuing initiatives.

It can be read alongside 'Appendix H - Safer Families' in the 2026-27 ACT Budget Outlook Papers which are published on the ACT Government website. Throughout this factsheet this is referenced as 'Appendix H'.

Tables H.2 and H.3 in Appendix H provide detailed financial information for each initiative over the next 4 years. This factsheet explains what is funded by each initiative in these tables.

Initiatives partly funded by the Levy are reflected in Table H.2 and are referred to as the Safer Families package in this factsheet. Other initiatives that form part of the Government's response to DFSV but are not funded through the Levy are included in Table H.3 and referred to as complementary initiatives in this fact sheet.

New initiatives funded in this Budget are informed by the Strategy and support the initial delivery of the First Action Plan. Continuing initiatives have been funded in previous Budgets.

This factsheet also highlights investments in initiatives which are not directly allocated to address DFSV but contribute to Strategy outcomes. These initiatives are not included in Tables H.2 and H.3 but are included in this factsheet as Additional Activities which align with the Strategy outcomes.

Note: Where an organisation is listed more than once in this factsheet, it means they are receiving funding through multiple initiatives. Rounding differences may contribute to minor variations across Budget documents.

Safer Families Levy

The Safer Families Levy (the Levy) was introduced on 1 July 2016 to provide community support and to raise awareness of domestic and family violence in the ACT community. It provides a contribution to the ACT Government's broader investment to address DFSV.

The Levy is a funding stream unique to the ACT, with no equivalent scheme in existence nationally. The Levy is paid per household through annual rates. Importantly, it enables the Canberra community to directly contribute to collective efforts to end DFSV.

The Levy contribution per household is \$70 in 2026-27 and will increase by \$5 a year for 3 years from 2027-28. The Levy is now expected to raise around \$63.0 million over the next 4 years to 2029-30. This increase will allow the ACT Government to enhance responses to DFSV and expand funding for critical frontline service delivery.

Since 2025-2026, the ACT Government has used the Safer Families Principles³ (available on the [website](#) linked below) to guide decision-making and provide greater clarity and transparency on what initiatives are funded by the Levy.

Further detail on how the Levy is allocated over the next 4 years can be found in Table H.2 of Appendix H.

³ Safer Families Levy Principles:
https://www.act.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0007/2830480/Safer-Families-Levy-Principles.pdf

New initiatives in the 2026-27 Budget

Safer Family Levy funded initiatives

The funding in this section reflects new initiatives which are partly funded through the Safer Families Levy. This is represented in Table H.2 of Appendix H of the Budget Outlook under the line: *Building safer communities – Supporting DFSV frontline services*.

Supporting domestic, family and sexual violence frontline services

As part of the First Action Plan, the ACT Government is investing in sustainable and tailored support for people affected by DFSV. This investment will provide certainty to the sector and ensure the right supports are in place for the ACT community.

Over the next 4 years from 2026-27 a total of \$44.2 million will be provided to support frontline services. Importantly, \$12.8 million per year is ongoing and recurrent - to provide certainty to the sector and the community.

Critical services for victim survivors

\$21.4 million of funding will be provided over 4 years ongoing for the continuation of critical services that provide support for victim-survivors. Of the total funding, \$18.5 million is to maintain stable baseline funding for the Domestic Violence Crisis Service (DVCS), Canberra Rape Crisis Centre (CRCC) and YWCA Canberra, and \$2.9 million is allocated to DVCS and CRCC to increase their baseline funding to help keep up with growing demand.

Of the total funding over 4 years, currently:

- approximately \$9.9 million is allocated to the DVCS, made up of \$8.5 million to maintain baseline funding at 2025-2026 levels, as well as a \$1.5 million to increase baseline funding.⁴
- \$8.7 million to the CRCC, made up of \$7.2 million to maintain baseline funding, as

well as a \$1.5 million increase to baseline funding;⁵ and

- \$2.8 million to YWCA Canberra to maintain the Domestic Violence Support Service.⁶

This initiative is partly funded by the Safer Families Levy and aligns with Levy Principles 1-4. This aligns with **Strategy Outcome 1**, that victim-survivors have access to support at all stages of their journey through early intervention, crisis, justice and healing. It contributes to **Action 1.1** of the First Action Plan, to increase the capacity of specialist crisis domestic and family violence and sexual violence responses, so more victim survivors can get support when they need it.

Sustainable investment in DFSV programs for children and young people

This initiative provides \$4.1 million over 3 years to 2028-29 for the continuation of DFSV programs that support children and young people.

Over the 3 years, this includes:

- \$2.2 million for the Heartfelt program delivered by Australian Childhood Foundation which provides intensive, trauma-informed therapeutic support for children aged 5–12 and their non-violent caregivers including counselling, case management, psychoeducation and groups.
- \$1.2 million for the Beryl Kids & Young People Safe and Strong Van which delivers mobile, trauma-informed therapy to children aged 4–18 living in Beryl Refuge.
- \$504,000 for the Doris Women’s Refuge Specialist Children’s worker program which offers holistic, trauma-informed case management and developmental support to children aged 0–17 in refuge.

This supports **Strategy Outcome 1** by contributing to **Action 1.3** of the First Action Plan, to maintain effective specialist DFSV responses for children and young people as victim-survivors in their own right.

⁴ This includes \$350,000 in contributions under the FDSV FFA on 500 Workers 2026-2030, to support 0.6 FTE.

⁵ This includes \$2.3 million in contributions under the FDSV FFA on 500 Workers 2026-2030, to support 4 FTE.

⁶ This includes \$1.2 million in contributions under the FDSV FFA on 500 Workers 2026-2030, to support 2 FTE.

Embedding specialist DFV workers in HCSD Children, Youth and Families

This initiative provides \$1.5 million over 4 years ongoing for the HCSD Children, Youth and Families (CYF) co-location program. The CYF DFV partnership model has evolved alongside broader CYF reform efforts and aims to provide a more integrated approach to supporting children, young people and families impacted by domestic and family violence. The model supports increased collaboration between CYF and specialist DFV services through practice advice, shared risk assessment approaches, workforce capability uplift, training, and strengthened inter-agency relationships. It also provides broader policy and practice support to assist CYF practitioners in responding to complex DFV presentations in a consistent, informed and trauma-responsive way (See also - Safer Families - Safer Families Collaboration Program under continuing initiatives).

This initiative supports **Strategy Outcome 1** by contributing to **Action 1.3**. It also contributes to **Strategy Outcome 5** - that the ACT has a coordinated, sustainable, integrated, and capable DFSV system - by improving integration across systems.

A further \$225,000 over 3 years is allocated to the Youth Coalition 'Talk to them' program, to build workforce capability across the youth sector, including those working in education, health, out-of-home care and youth justice settings to recognise and respond to DFSV using a trauma-informed approach. This supports **Strategy Outcome 6** - that the ACT's systems, communities, organisations and institutions play a direct and active role in addressing, responding to and preventing DFSV - by strengthening workforce capability.

Addressing DFSV service gaps for marginalised groups

This initiative will provide \$7.5 million in funding over 4 years to 2029-30 to provide DFSV programs that are tailored to priority communities in the ACT. Of this total, \$1.6 million per year is ongoing and recurrent. This initiative is partly funded by the Safer Families Levy and aligns with Levy Principles 1-6.

This initiative also supports **Strategy Outcome 1** (see below the relevant Action of the First Action Plan for each service). The following services and programs will be funded under this initiative:

Recovery Following Financial Abuse Program: \$699,000 in funding is currently allocated to Care Inc over 3 years to ensure financial counselling and education is available for people experiencing financial abuse, including for women in prison and post-release. This initiative supports **Action 1.7** of the First Action Plan as it supports victim-survivors of DFSV to meet immediate and long-term housing, relocation, and financial recovery needs.

Safer Families Assistance Program: The Safer Families Assistance Grants program will receive an additional \$1.6 million over 3 years to 2028-29. These grants provide financial assistance to people affected by domestic and family violence. Eligible applicants are provided with \$2,000 to assist with costs associated with maintaining or establishing a home in the ACT. This funding will ensure funding for the grants can meet demand throughout the year. This boost in funding brings the total funding over 3 years to \$2.8 million. (See H.2 Safer Families – Support for women and children to leave violence, and Safer Families – Further Investment into frontline DFSV services under continuing initiatives).

This initiative is partly funded by the Safer Families Levy and aligns with Levy Principles 1-4. This funding supports **Action 1.7** of the First Action Plan, as it supports victim-survivors of DFSV to meet immediate and long-term housing, relocation and financial recovery needs.

Multicultural Hub Canberra Domestic and Family Violence Support service: \$2.1 million in funding over 4 years is currently allocated to Multicultural Hub to continue delivering their domestic and family violence service for multicultural women, children and young people.⁷ This funding supports **Action 1.5** of the First Action Plan as it is a dedicated program for women from culturally and linguistically diverse, migrant and refugee backgrounds experiencing DFSV.

LGBTIQ+ DFSV program: \$1.0 million in funding is currently allocated over 4 years to establish a new

⁷ This includes \$583,000 in contributions under the DFSV FFA on 500 Workers 2026-2030, to support 1 FTE.

LGBTIQA+ DFSV program. This contributes to **Action 1.4** of the First Action Plan to establish a new LGBTIQA+ DFSV program to provide specialist support to LGBTIQA+ people and address a significant gap in services in the ACT. The ACT Government will work with community organisations to design and deliver the program.

Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs): \$2.1 million in funding over 4 years is allocated to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander victims of sexual violence via direct funding to ACCOs, supporting **Action 1.2** of the First Action Plan.

Continuation of sexual violence programs

\$3.0 million in funding will be provided over 4 years ongoing to support the continuation of 2 key sexual violence programs established in response to recommendations from the *Listen. Take Action to Prevent, Believe and Heal* report.

CRCC is currently allocated \$1.3 million in funding over 4 years ongoing for the continuation of the Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVAs) program to provide support for victim-survivors navigating the service system.

Victim Support ACT (VSACT) is currently allocated \$1.6 million in funding over 4 years ongoing to continue the Wraparound program. Wraparound provides a multi-agency, integrated response for sexual violence victim-survivors, including children.

This initiative is partly funded by the Safer Families Levy and aligns with Levy Principles 1-4. The continuation of these sexual violence programs supports **Strategy Outcome 1** by contributing to **Action 1.6** of the First Action Plan.

Building a sustainable ACT men's behaviour change sector

Over the next 4 years, \$6.7 million will be invested into men's behaviour change programs in the ACT to help build a sustainable sector.

EveryMan will receive \$3.5 million in funding over 4 years ongoing to continue and enhance behaviour change programs such as 'Working With the Man' and 'Invitation to Responsibility'. This funding will improve long term sustainability of the services.

DVCS will receive \$3.2 million in funding over 2 years to support the continued delivery of the Room4Change program. This is a release of provisioned funding from previous budget cycles.

This initiative is partly funded by the Safer Families Levy and aligns with Levy Principles 1-4. Investing in these men's behaviour change programs supports **Strategy Outcome 3**, that people using violence are held accountable, recognised early and supported to change their behaviour before violence occurs or escalates. It contributes to **Action 3.1** of the First Action Plan to increase capacity of behaviour change interventions.

New complementary initiatives

The funding in this section represents new initiatives that directly address DFSV but are not funded through the Safer Families Levy.

This is represented in Table H.3 of Appendix H in the Budget Outlook in the line: *Building safer communities – Strengthening DFSV system foundations*.

Strengthening domestic, family and sexual violence system foundations

A total of \$3.6 million in funding, including \$1.7 million in ongoing funding, has been allocated over the next 4 years to implement existing reforms and foundational measures under the First Action Plan. This funding will embed foundational reforms to support an integrated, capable and responsive system which improves victim-survivor safety and in the longer term prevents violence from occurring.

Integrated DFSV system

\$939,000 in funding over 3 years to 2028-29 has been allocated to establish a DFSV sector network to support advocacy, coordination and workforce development for DFSV services. This supports **Strategy Outcome 5** – that the ACT has a coordinated, sustainable, integrated, and capable DFSV system – by contributing to **Action 5.2** of the First Action Plan, to establish a mechanism for coordinated sector advice. The ACT Government will work closely with the DFSV sector to design the network.

The total funding includes \$124,000 to support an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander advisory group with DFSV expertise to directly advise the Minister.

This builds on existing funding under the *Safer Families - Implementing community-led family violence responses for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities initiative* in Table H.2 of Appendix H. This initiative supports **Strategy Outcome 2** – that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are empowered to determine and deliver the best responses and are a core part of governance and decision-making – by contributing toward **Action 2.1** of the First Action Plan.

Information Sharing Scheme

\$1.7 million in funding over 4 years ongoing will be used to establish the Information Sharing Coordinator function under the Domestic, Family Violence Information Sharing Scheme (the Scheme). The Information Sharing Coordinator will provide important oversight and guidance to agencies using the Scheme when it commences in November 2026.

The implementation of the Scheme supports **Strategy Outcome 5** by contributing toward **Action 5.5** of the First Action Plan.

Bolstering prevention in the ACT

\$248,000 in funding will be provided in 2026-27 to fund Women's Health Matters to scope an ACT primary prevention infrastructure model to support sustained primary prevention work across multiple settings and sectors.

Supporting Women's Health Matters to scope an ACT primary prevention model supports **Strategy Outcome 6**, by contributing to **Action 6.1** of the First Action Plan.

ACT Risk Assessment and Management Framework Training

\$684,000 over 2 years to 2027-28 will support training on the Risk Assessment Management Framework (RAMF). This funding will support a local provider to deliver training on the RAMF, to embed consistent risk assessment practice across government and non-government workforces.

Strengthening the capability of workforces that interact with people impacted by DFSV through dedicated RAMF training supports **Strategy Outcome 6**, by contributing to **Action 6.3** of the First Action Plan.

Additional activities

This section reflects new initiatives where funding is not directly allocated to address DFSV but which support broader system responses and improved safety for victim-survivors, contributing to overarching Strategy outcomes.

Strengthening access to justice

A total of \$37.8 million will be allocated over the next 4 years to strengthen access to justice by providing funding to the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), community legal centres and Legal Aid.

These initiatives support **Strategy Outcome 1** by improving access to justice for victim-survivors of DFSV.

Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions

\$18.9 million has been allocated to the DPP to fund additional prosecutors and witness assistance officers. It will support the DPP to bring DFSV matters before the courts and prosecute matters fairly and effectively, in a way that respects and supports victims, witnesses and complainants throughout the process. This funding will support 24 positions to boost the DPP's capacity to manage increasing volume and complexity of DFSV cases, helping to deliver timely prosecutions.

Community Legal Centres

The 2026-27 Budget includes funding of \$16.7 million over 4 years to continue community sector legal assistance services and access to justice for people experiencing vulnerability or disadvantage. This includes ongoing funding for the Women's Legal Centre Mulleun Mura Access to Justice program which provides family law advice and representation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women experiencing domestic and family violence, and the Women's Legal Centre Family and Employment Law Practices. The funding will support the Aboriginal Legal Service, DVCS and Victim Support ACT to embed disability liaison functions.

This also includes ongoing funding for interpreting services to support culturally and linguistically diverse community members accused of offences to engage with the ACT Supreme Court; and those experiencing domestic, family and sexual violence to seek legal assistance and engage with DPP as a witness in a proceeding.

Legal Aid

Legal Aid ACT will receive \$2.2 million over 4 years. This will enable the Commission to continue to provide legal assistance for people who are experiencing a range of legal matters including those relating to DFSV.

Sexual health and relationships education and services

Sexual Health and Family Planning ACT (SHFPACT) will receive a one-off funding boost of \$100,000 in 2026-27, to support the delivery of essential sexual and reproductive health services. This funding will support SHFPACT to continue services such as relationships and sexuality education in schools, workforce development programs, and pregnancy options counselling.

This is in addition to existing SHFPACT funding for continuing initiatives that deliver age-appropriate relationships and sexuality education in schools.

Continuing funding

Safer Families Levy funded initiatives

The initiatives listed below continue to receive funding allocated in previous budgets and are partly funded by the Safer Families Levy. A year-by-year breakdown of this funding is in Table H.2 of Appendix H.

[Safer Families - Additional resources for the Canberra Rape Crisis Centre](#)

This initiative contributes a total of \$544,000 over 4 years to CRCC's core funding to support victim-survivors of sexual violence.

[Safer Families - Additional resources for the Domestic Violence Crisis Service](#)

This initiative contributes a total of \$1.1 million over 4 years to DVCS's core funding to support victim-survivors experiencing domestic and family violence.

[Safer Families - Support for women and children to leave violence](#)

This initiative supports the Safer Families Assistance Program which provides \$2,000 grants to people who require financial assistance to leave a violent relationship.

This initiative provides a total of \$1.1 million over 4 years. In addition, further time-limited funding was provided for the grants over 4 years in 2023-24 (see H.2 Safer Families – Further Investment into frontline DFSV services).

The funding top up provided in the 2026-27 Budget for the Safer Families Assistance program is in addition to both the annual recurrent funding and the existing time-limited funding.

[Safer Families - Critical domestic and family violence support in health and community settings](#)

This initiative partially funds the Health Justice Partnerships (see also Safer Families – Health Justice Partnership) which provides free legal support for families and new parents at risk of or experiencing family violence.

This initiative provides a total of \$4.6 million over 4 years to Legal Aid and Women's Legal Centre.

[Safer Families - Safer Families Collaboration Program](#)

This initiative includes a total of \$1.5 million over 4 years for the CYF Co-location Program (see new initiatives in the 2026-27 Budget above).

[Safer Families - Frontline domestic violence and rape crisis services](#)

This initiative contributes a total of approximately \$2.2 million over 4 years to CRCC and DVCS core funding. Of this, \$1.3 million is allocated to CRCC and \$815,000 to DVCS.

[Safer Families - Implementing community-led family violence responses for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities](#)

This initiative provides a total of \$332,000 over 4 years to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-led initiatives through the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Group. This funding is allocated to support the reference group and its work including remuneration. This funding is in addition to the new funding to expand the role of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Group under the 'Integrated DFSV system' initiative.

[Safer Families - Health Justice Partnership](#)

This initiative provides the Health Justice Partnership program with an additional \$2.3 million over the 4 years. This includes \$1.089 million for DVCS and additional funding for legal services

outlined under the 'Critical domestic and family violence support in health and community settings' initiative.

[Safer Families - Continuing the delivery of the Room4Change Program](#)

This initiative provides DVCS a total of \$3.2 million for the Room4Change Program over 2 years to 2027-28. This funding will enable DVCS to continue to deliver the Men's Behaviour Change Program, Room4Change, which supports men to reduce their use of violence and improves victim-survivor safety. Funding from 2028-29 is provisioned and subject to future Budget decisions.

[Safer Families - Further Investment into frontline domestic, family and sexual violence services](#)

This initiative provides a one-year funding top up of \$139,000 in 2026-27 for the Safer Families Assistance Program in addition to existing funding.

[Safer Families - Investing in frontline domestic and family violence services](#)

This initiative was funded in the 2024–25 Budget as 3-year funding to support delivery of critical support for victim-survivors and to expand capacity to work directly with perpetrators. The final year of this initiative will provide \$2.6 million in 2026-27.

In 2026-27 this investment includes:

- \$659,000 for DVCS to continue the Case Management Program
- \$164,000 for DVCS as a continuation of base funding
- \$496,000 for the Court Navigator program including \$312,000 for Legal Aid and \$184,000 for a DVCS support worker
- \$372,000 for the YWCA Domestic Violence Support Service
- \$253,000 for Beryl Women Inc. to continue the Specialist Case Management Program
- \$621,000 for EveryMan to expand their Violence Prevention programs.

[Safer Families - Supporting frontline family, domestic and sexual violence services](#)

This initiative was funded in the 2025-26 Budget as 4-year funding to enable frontline services to support victim-survivors in critical need of support and protection. This initiative provides a total of \$20.1 million over 3 years to 2028-29 for a number of organisations and programs including:

- \$5.4 million in funding to CRCC, to expand their critical service capacity to respond to high levels of demand and significant case complexity.⁸
- \$3.7 million in funding for DVCS, to help meet demand and continue to serve the community.⁹
- \$1.1 million in funding for DVCS workers to support the Family Violence Safety Action Program (FVSAP) to continue this critical, lifesaving initiative.
- \$1.6 million in funding for the Canberra PCYC to continue and build upon the success of the Solid Ground Program.¹⁰
- \$961,000 in funding for YWCA Canberra to engage 2 specialist children's workers within the YWCA's Canberra's Domestic Violence Support Service.¹¹
- \$439,000 in funding for Women's Health Matters in 2026-27 for the Victim Survivor Voices Pilot. This will enable the further embedding of victim-survivor perspectives in priority reforms.

It also includes \$6.9 million over 4 years (\$1.759 million per year, ongoing) for staff within Victim Support ACT for the FVSAP.

The initiative is partly funded by the FDSV FFA Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Responses 2025-30. Further information is provided under the heading 'FDSV Responses 2025-30'.

⁸ This includes \$1.6 million in Commonwealth contributions and \$2.2 million in ACT Government Contributions under the FDSV FFA Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Responses 2025-30.

⁹ This includes \$517,000 in Commonwealth contributions and \$1.9 million in ACT Government Contributions under the FDSV FFA Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Responses 2025-30.

¹⁰ This includes \$1.6 million in Commonwealth contributions under the FDSV FFA Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Responses 2025-30.

¹¹ This includes \$309,000 million in ACT Government contributions under the FDSV FFA Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Responses 2025-30.

[Safer Families - Implementing Recommendations from the Long Yarn Report](#)

This initiative was funded in the 2025-26 Budget to provide \$6.0 million over 3 years to 2028-29 to implement recommendations from The Long Yarn report, a community-led report authorised by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Expert Reference Group. This funding will be directed to the following organisations:

- \$1.9 million to Yhurwun Bullan, to provide intensive, holistic case management services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children impacted by DFSV.
- \$1.6 million to Sisters in Spirit, to continue to provide individual and systemic advocacy services to empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children impacted by DFSV.
- \$183,000 for WhISPers Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Softball Corporation, to engage in the community and deliver healing activities through sports and cultural events to support improved awareness and healing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people impacted by DFSV.
- \$1.7 million to Yerrabi Yurwang Child and Family Aboriginal Corporation to continue to deliver the NaraGanaWali Strengthening Families Program which provides specialist crisis and intensive case management to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and their children impacted by DFSV.
- \$600,000 to the 'Violence is not our Way' education program to develop and implement a community and professional education program, to be designed and led by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

[Safer Families – Commonwealth funding FDSV Responses future priorities provision](#)

This funding represents the final year of funding under the FDSV FFA Responses 2025-2030, providing

\$1.3 million in 2029-30. This funding will be directed toward DFSV frontline services.

[Safer Families – Commonwealth Funding in-agency provision](#)

This initiative provides \$145,000 in funding over 4 years as a one-off, non-recurrent payment from the Commonwealth under the 500 Workers initiative. Allocation of this funding is subject to future funding decisions.

Complementary initiatives

The complementary initiatives listed below continue to receive funding from previous budgets to support frontline service delivery. A year-by-year breakdown of funding is available in Table H.3 of Appendix H.

Initiatives from Table H.3 related to government staffing costs have been excluded below to focus on frontline service delivery.

[More support for families and inclusion – More frontline homelessness services](#)

This initiative provides \$9.8 million over 4 years for frontline community services to help reduce homelessness, including transitional accommodation for older women and housing supports for people with uncertain immigration status.

[ACT Policing Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Team](#)

A total of \$4.5 million over 4 years will be provided to ACT Policing to fund the ACT Policing Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Team.

[Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Responses Agreement – Innovative perpetrator responses](#)

This Commonwealth funded initiative provides funding over 2022-2027 to identify and trial innovative perpetrator responses. Final year funding in 2026-2027 is \$1.4 million, including \$0.7 million reprofiled 2025-26. Funding in 2026-2027 provides:

- \$414,502 to continue the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Men's Non-Violence Behaviour Program. This program is run by Multicultural Hub Canberra and works with men from culturally and linguistically diverse communities to change and address violence behaviours through individual support over a 24-week period.

- \$497,709 to continue the Caring Dads trial for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander fathers. The trial is an evidence-based group intervention run by Yeddung Mura for fathers that have used or are at risk of using family violence, specifically adapted for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander fathers in the ACT.
- \$475,766 for the Alcohol and Other Drugs Caring Dads trial. This is a trial of a perpetrator intervention run by Directions Health Services for people at risk of or are using DFV who are currently accessing supports for Alcohol and Other Drug use.

Further information on the Innovative perpetrator responses funding is provided in the Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Responses 2021-30 Federation Funding Agreement section below

Supporting frontline responses to sexual violence

This was a 3-year initiative funded in the 2024-25 Budget. The remaining funding of \$896,000 in 2026-27 will support CRCC's capacity to deliver support and therapeutic counselling for victim-survivors.

Core funding for key specialist services

This includes annual indexed and ongoing funding of \$4.9 million for specialist services CRCC, DVCS and EveryMan Australia to deliver a range of core programs. \$20.7 million is allocated over the next 4 years across the 3 services. This funding is in addition to other funding amounts outlined above in other initiatives.

Government Response to the Sexual Assault (Police) Review Report

This initiative provides \$1.5 million in 2026-27 to continue implementing the Government Response to the Sexual Assault (Police) Review, including Policing and DPP Staff.

Justice reform – Implementing the Sexual Assault (Police) Review Report

This initiative provides \$3.8 million over 2 years to 2027-28 for establishing and piloting a new role of Sexual Assault Advocates (SA Advocates). The pilot is run by Victim Support ACT and is co-located with ACT Policing's Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Teams. This initiative also includes a Witness

Assistance Scheme Officer in DPP and an internal redirection of ACT Policing staff to support victim-survivors at the reporting, investigation and prosecution stages. Advocates act as a central point of contact for victim-survivors, provide access to specialist supports and services surrounding the reporting and investigation of a sexual offence.

Continuation of the Domestic and Family Violence Review

This initiative plays a vital role in preventing future deaths by examining domestic and family violence related fatalities and identifying patterns to inform systemic improvements. A total of \$180,000 over 3 years to 2028-29 has been allocated to continue the ACT Family Violence Death Review. The continued investment supports the maintenance of the review database, essential licensing arrangements, and the statutory review scheduled for 2026–27.

Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Responses 2021-30 Federation Funding Agreement

The *Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Responses 2021-30 Federation Funding Agreement* (FDSV FFA) is the main instrument through which the Commonwealth Government provides funding to States and Territories to deliver frontline FDSV services. The latest FDSV FFA schedule can be accessed at the [Federal Financial Relations website](#). It supports the delivery of shared commitments under the *National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022-2032*.

Between 2021-2030, the ACT has been allocated \$23.5 million in funding from the Commonwealth under the schedule across a number of funding streams. Currently active streams are:

- FDSV Responses 2025-30
- 500 Workers 2026-30
- Innovative Perpetrator Responses 2022-2027

This section provides detailed information on how the ACT has allocated funding from these streams.

FDSV Responses 2025-30

The FDSV FFA Responses 2025-30 stream supports frontline services. Over the 5 years, it invests \$12.3 million in the ACT through a matched funding arrangement between the Commonwealth and ACT Governments.

The ACT has allocated \$10.1 million over 2025-2029, with allocation for the 2029-30 financial year subject to further allocation.

The FDSV Responses 2025-30 investment has been used to support 5 programs including:

- \$2.1 million for PCYC's Solid Ground Program to support young people aged 11-18 years who are affected by DFSV or at risk of using DFSV. The total amount comes from Commonwealth funding contributions from 2025-2029.
- \$610,000 for YWCA to engage 2 specialist children's workers within the YWCA Canberra's Domestic Violence Support Service. The total amount comes from ACT Government contributions from 2025-2029. Additional funding from the ACT Government outside of the FDSV FFA also supports this program.
- \$4.9 million for CRCC to expand core frontline service delivery providing sexual violence crisis services from 2025-2029. This includes \$2.1 million in Commonwealth contributions and \$2.8 million in ACT Government contributions.
- \$1.9 million for DVCS to increase capacity of the Hotel Brokerage program providing immediate crisis hotel accommodation responses to victims of DFSV and their children from 2025-2029. The total amount comes from ACT Government contributions.
- \$680,000 for the DVCS Criminal Justice Advocate program to support clients who are victims of family violence offences and progressing matters through the criminal justice program from 2025-2026.

This funding contributes to 'Safer families – Supporting frontline family, domestic and sexual violence services', with unallocated amounts captured under 'Safer Families – Commonwealth funding FDSV Responses 2025–30 allocation' in Appendix H, Table H.2. Funding for 2026–29 is reflected in this factsheet in Complementary Initiatives – Supporting frontline family, domestic and sexual violence services,

including additional ACT funding outside the FDSV Responses 2025–30. Further detail is also available in the Project Plan¹²

500 Workers 2026-30

The 500 Workers 2026-30 funding stream is intended to support the continuation of frontline DFSV workers recruited through the previous 500 workers 2022-2026 arrangement.

The Commonwealth will contribute \$4.6 million over the next 4 years from 2026-30. The total includes an additional one-off payment of \$0.145 million split across the 4 years.

Over the life of the schedule, \$4.434 million of funding will be used to fund 7.6 FTE in the ACT:

- \$2.3 million is allocated to CRCC for 4 FTE.
- \$1.2 million is allocated to YWCA Canberra for 2 FTE.
- \$584,000 is allocated to Multicultural Hub for 1 FTE.
- \$350,000 is allocated to DVCS for 0.6 FTE.

The additional funding of \$0.145 million, including \$36,000 in 2026-27, is yet to be allocated. This funding stream contributes to the initiative titled 'Building safer communities – Supporting DFSV frontline services' in Table H.2 of Appendix H, with the one-off allocation in the same table under the initiative titled 'Safer families – Commonwealth funding 500 workers additional allocation'.

Innovative Perpetrator Responses 2022-27

The Innovative Perpetrator Response funding stream assists states and territories to deliver innovative approaches to address perpetrator behaviour. This funding runs from 2022 to 2027 and is funding several pilot innovative perpetrator response programs. Total allocation to the ACT over the life of the schedule is \$3.4 million.

In the ACT, the Innovative Perpetrator Responses funding has been allocated as below:

- \$397,000 to develop a phased approach, including funding to SEQUIRE Consulting to complete the Innovative Perpetrator Responses in the ACT Scoping Study and a temporary Senior Officer Grade C for 2 years from 2024-2026 to support the scoping study and operationalise findings into trials.
- \$962,000 allocated to Multicultural Hub Canberra between 2024-27 to support the trial of the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Men's Non-Violence Behaviour Program.
- \$1.1 million allocated to Yeddung Mura (Good Pathways) Aboriginal Corporation between 2024-27 to support the trial of the Caring Dads trial for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander fathers.
- \$872,000 allocated to Directions Health Services between 2025-27 for the trial and evaluation of the Alcohol and Other Drugs Caring Dads Trial program.

This funding stream is captured in Table H.3 of Appendix H under the initiative titled Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Responses Agreement – Innovative perpetrator responses. Funding allocated for the delivery of these trials in the 2026-2027 financial year is also outlined above in the Continuing Complementary Initiatives – Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Responses Agreement Innovative perpetrator responses section.

¹²Project Plan:

<https://www.dss.gov.au/partnering-states-and-territories/resource/australian-capital-territory-government-project-plan-summary-2025-26>