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2006 Women's Summit

community partners

Key priorities of Summit

To look at:

- Key priorities for organisations in terms of the services they provide for women; and
- The *ACT Women's Plan*, including its implementation

Feedback from the survey included

- Knowledge of the *ACT Women's Plan*
- Areas for Action that are working well
- Do the Areas for Action in the *ACT Women's Plan* remain relevant?
- Gaps
- Identified new Areas for Actions

Knowledge of the Plan

- Feedback from surveys indicated a general awareness of the *ACT Women's Plan*.
- The *ACT Women's Plan* is used by organisations and agencies to assist in policy development.

Areas for Action that are working well

Representation and Recognition

- ACT Women Grants
- ACT Government Youth Participation Initiative (Youth InterACT)

Areas for Action that are working well

Good Health and Wellbeing

- Well and Able Program - for women with disabilities
- Calender Girls – community arts project celebrating women's wellness
- Pamper Evenings – promoting healthy lifestyle and social inclusion
- Provision and support of women's groups and networks
- Family Support Services Review and the Integrated Family Support Project

Areas for Action that are working Well

Responsive Housing

- ACT Homelessness Strategy
- Public housing priority for women escaping domestic violence
- Debt reduction initiative for women escaping domestic violence
- Pathways Group-for women experiencing homelessness
- Outreach services (recurrent funding for single women)

Areas for Action that are working well

Safe Inclusive Communities

- Family Violence Intervention Program
- Legislative reform for domestic violence and protection orders
- Domestic Violence Protection Council
- Restorative Justice



Areas for Action that are working Well

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Areas for Action that are working well

Economic Security

- Nil specified

Areas for Action that are working well

Flexible Education and Training

- Canberra Rape Crisis Centre – funding for education and training services

Gaps Identified

- Access to services – transport
- Representation -stronger engagement of women in decision making process
- Professional Development – increase women’s career opportunities
- Homelessness – greater support for women to build capabilities to break cycles of disadvantage

New Areas for Action

Representation and recognition

- Improve the status of migrant women – particularly those on temporary protection, student and dependent visas
- Further establish formal structures to support mentoring for ACT Women
- Increase participation of women on boards

New Areas for Action

Good Health and Wellbeing

- Counselling services for Culturally Linguistically Diverse Women
- Further programs to increase women's health and well-being
- Further targeted support programs for young mothers and children

New Areas for Action

Responsive Housing

- Increase gendered disaggregated housing data
- Outreach workers to address the housing needs of culturally and linguistically diverse women
- Mapping of pathways into homelessness to identify and address service gaps
- Early intervention response to youth homelessness

Responsive Housing Contd...

- Improve linkages between SAAP and Community Housing
- Integrated pathways for women and children experiencing homelessness
- Sustainable and expanded public housing system with security of tenure for women
- Continue to recognise the connections between gender and poverty
- Expand number of exist points in crisis accommodation

New Areas for Action

Safe, Inclusive Communities Contd...

- Develop a Family Violence Intervention Program type approach to sexual assault
- Improve responses to sexual assault
- Recruit more female custodial officer trainees
- Provide women prisoners with appropriate gender and culturally sensitive services

New Areas for Action

Safe, Inclusive Communities

- Legislation to formalise the specialised family violence jurisdiction
- Facilitate a partnership between ACT Corrective Services and Domestic Violence Crisis Service
- Further develop a model of restorative justice
- Further training on family violence for all ACT Corrective Service staff

New Areas for Action

Economic Security

- Improve participation rates of women in public sector senior management
- Promote sustained focus on women's workplace issues through improving gender specific aspects of organisational culture

New Areas for Action

Flexible Education and Training

- Provide education on inappropriate behaviour and sexual violence to students in all schools
- Provide professional development for teachers to assist them to respond to inappropriate behaviour and sexual violence
- Increase career guidance in schools
- Promote gender equity through government policy in action plans

Closing Comments from Survey

- *ACT Women's Plan – "seems too ambitious"*
- *ACT Women's Plan – "not targeted"*
- Annual review and updating process – *"too bureaucratic"*
- Suggest regular Summits to review and inform *ACT Women's Plan*