

Communique

April 2015

TOGETHER FOR EQUALITY & RESPECT

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Together for Equality & Respect – March Regional Forum

The March TFER Forum was held on Thursday 26th at Manningham Function Centre, with a focus on social marketing evaluation in the morning and organisational change for gender equity in the afternoon session. Guest presenter Blythe Chidgey from Knox City Council gave an engaging presentation on social marketing evaluation, and members from the TFER Evaluation Working Group shared some of the [evaluation tools that are available for partners](#) to use in evaluating their PVAW initiatives. Inspiro and Eastern Health gave an overview of the YOU&I initiative including evaluation and social marketing strategies that were used in the project.

Women's Health East CEO Kristine Olaris started the afternoon session with a presentation on the [key success factors for implementing organisational change](#) and Scott Holmes from YMCA Victoria then shared his experience of the Y Respect Gender Project in his presentation on [organisational change for gender equity in practice](#). Forum participants were able to glean ideas from a panel which included Kristine and Scott, Jane Torney and Bronwyn Upston from Generating Equality and Respect. The day concluded with Belinda Crockett providing an overview of the regional evaluation resources.

It was great to see so much enthusiasm from the region! Thank you to those who have already provided their evaluation of the day. If you have not already done so, we would appreciate your feedback on the day by completing this [short questionnaire](#) by this Friday 17th April.

A special thanks to Manningham City Council for generously organising the venue for us. Resources from the Forum, including presentations can be found on the [Forum Resources](#) area of the TFER website.

"The resources and handouts I collected were excellent background resources and will enable our organisation to take the next step... I will feed this info back to management who will be making decisions about contributing to the regional evaluation framework and undertaking the equity audit."

March 2015 Forum attendee



TFER partner evaluation findings

In May 2014, a 'Partnership Report' was prepared by Kate Vrljic of the Inner East PCP detailing the outcomes of consultations with nine members of the TFER partnership. In 2015, Women's Health East engaged Belinda Haydon to expand the consultations to include a further twelve members of the partnership. The following provides a snapshot of key findings from this evaluation.

Partners identified the prioritising of PVAW across the region, the endorsement of the Action Plan and development of regional evaluation tools as key achievements of the TFER partnership. Successful factors included collaboration within the PVAW space and the goodwill and trust that has developed through working together towards a shared vision. Feeling part of something bigger and sharing, understanding and learning from the work others are doing were key outcomes for partner organisations. Improvements that partners identified included increased clarity around the purpose of the Leadership Group, in implementation and the future the links between the Leadership Group and Evaluation Working Group, and being mindful that changes in group representation can result in lost momentum, knowledge and continuity. Partners saw the future of TFER as leading-edge work that has the potential to create evidence currently unavailable and sustainability of PVAW work within organisations. There was also a strong hope for commitment from partners beyond the four year action plan.

The evaluation findings were reported back to the TFER Leadership Group at their March meeting and action was determined to address the identified improvements and help the partnership to move forward in a positive way. A more detailed report of the finding can be found on the [TFER website](#), or for further information, please contact [Rebecca Morgan](#) at the Inner East PCP, 8822 8516.

Responding to the Royal Commission into Family Violence

The Royal Commission into Family Violence has invited written submissions on how Victoria's response to family violence can be improved and how family violence can, ultimately, be prevented. This is a great opportunity for TFER partners to advocate for prevention and the importance of a coordinated, long term approach to preventing family violence, and more broadly, violence against women. To help you in this process, Women's Health East has developed a few tips on key messages that you may wish to include in your submission. Key messages that are recommended for inclusion are listed below - the full Tip Sheet will be available on the TFER website next week.

1. Increase funding and policy emphasis on prevention to reflect a core focus on gender equity through evidence informed practice.
2. Strong leadership to support collaborative evidence informed efforts across Victoria (*A TFER case study will be given as an example of this*).
3. Increase funds to:
 - a. Support local action
 - b. Coordinating bodies to lead and evaluate social action
4. Importance of women's voices.
5. A clearer focus on intersectionality - recognising the intersection of different forms of discrimination faced by women.

Regional Forum Attendees

TOGETHER FOR EQUALITY & RESPECT

Organisation	Representative
Manningham City Council	Anissa Gracie
Knox S&CH (A service of EACH)	Belinda Crockett
Knox City Council	Blythe Chidgey
Manningham Community Health Service	Brianna Myers
Monashlink	Bronwyn Upston
City of Boroondara	Cara Busst
Department of Health	Christine Farnan
Inner East Melbourne Medicare Local	David Johnstone
Inner East Melbourne Medicare Local	Debbie Neil
Yarra Ranges Council	Isha Scott
Outer East Primary Care Partnership	Jacky Close
Eastern Community Legal Centre	Jacqui D'Sylva
Manningham City Council	Jan Loughman
Monash City Council	Jane Torney
Regional Family Violence Partnership	Jelena Djurdjevic
Women's Health East (Student)	Jess Elsworth
Inner East Melbourne Medicare Local	Jess Pendlebury
Manningham Community Health Service	Jo Van Dort
Carrington Health	Joan Kennedy
Eastern Health	Julia Blackburn
Inner East Community Health Service	Kaitlyn Yeomans
Manningham City Council	Kasey McCulloch
Women's Health East	Kate Gibson
Manningham City Council	Kate Williams
Outer East Primary Care Partnership	Kelly Naughton
Women's Health East	Kristine Olaris
Monash City Council	Laura Wood
EACH	Maggie Palmer
Regional Family Violence Partnership	Melanie Scammell
Inspiro	Rachel Messer
Inner East Primary Care Partnership	Rebecca Morgan
YMCA Victoria	Scott Holmes
Doncare	Sue Orr
Women's Health East	Sue Rosenhain
Women's Health East	Sue Sharrock
Women's Health East	Vanessa Czerniawski
Carrington Health	Vivian Yin