

Together For Equality and Respect Strategy 2025-2029

Preventing Gender-based Violence in Melbourne's East

- The Together For Equality and Respect (TFER) partnership is a cross-sector collaboration of organisations working together since 2012 to advance gender equality and prevent gender-based violence in Melbourne's East.
- TFER's 34 partners - local councils, community health services, specialist and community organisations – provide services and programs to diverse communities who live, work, play and learn in Melbourne's east.
- TFER has a long history of innovative primary prevention work and a strong reputation for guiding evidence-informed practice tailored to communities in Melbourne's east.
- Our strategy 2025-2029 is shaped by consultations with members of the partnership, the policy and environmental changes during the previous strategy, and evidence-based frameworks for the primary prevention of violence, systems change and partnerships.
- This strategy focuses on partnering as the foundation for the work we do in TFER. It increases attention on collaborative work on joint initiatives and collective efforts that enable us to do more together, supporting community-led prevention work in diverse communities.

Our vision:

Melbourne's east is equal, safe and respectful: a place where everyone can thrive, free from violence and discrimination. Everyone takes action to ensure women, girls and gender-diverse people have equal status, rights, opportunities and representation.

Our purpose:

We collaborate across Melbourne's east to influence and improve systems that advance gender equality and prevent gender-based violence where we live, work, learn and play.

Our partnership principles:



We are guided by and hold ourselves accountable to these five principles in both our partnership and our work.



Our strategic priorities

Making gender equality and preventing gender-based violence everyone's business

We will achieve this by:

- Increasing visibility and action on gaps in violence prevention (e.g. sexual assault, elder abuse, violence against trans women, in disaster preparedness and response) and seek opportunities to integrate primary prevention work in response and recovery activities.
- Meaningfully collaborate to create, plan and deliver joint initiatives and collective efforts.
- Embedding approaches to address intersectional discrimination and structural inequalities including racism.
- Ensuring that TFER member staff and communities understand that everyone has a role to play in preventing gender-based violence.
- Building momentum to keep our work moving forward, celebrating along the way and holding the long-term vision and timeframes needed.
- Uniting our efforts across the region to learn and innovate beyond usual ways of doing things.
- Reviewing and improving systems, structures, policies, programs and services to embed gender equality and the prevention of gender-based violence.

Investing in our partnership

We will achieve this by:

- Enhancing a visible, valued and fit-for-purpose partnership that is inclusive, responsive to change and enables and sustains the collective work we do.
- Ensuring that members are engaged and contribute in ways that reflect their diverse strengths, experience, capacities and resources.
- Delivering a transparent and inclusive governance structure that is fit-for-purpose and reflects our principles, including working groups and other shared decision-making mechanisms.
- Undertaking reflection and action to support the partnership's health, trust and accountability.

Learning & Innovation

We will achieve this by:

- Creating a culture of critical reflection, evidence-informed practice and shared learning that enables us to experiment, innovate and do things differently.



The full strategy document is available at www.whe.org.au/tfer



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