

Family Violence Regional Integration



Providing systems leadership to strengthen local family violence responses

Family Violence Regional Integration Committees

Family Violence Regional Integration Committees (FVRIC) are local governance structures that provide strategic leadership to drive effective responses to family violence and support Victoria's family violence reforms.

FVRICs bring together a wide range of agencies and sectors that respond to family violence - the major players in the family violence reform agenda of *Ending Family Violence: Victoria's Plan for Change*. They are the only local governance structures that exist across the state with a focus on a family violence lens to strengthen local service systems and build capacity across relevant workforces.

Committee membership spans a variety of sectors reflecting the cross-sector nature of the family violence service system. Members include representatives from the following:

- > specialist family violence agencies (working with victim survivors and perpetrators)
- > sexual assault services
- > community legal services
- > disability services
- > community and women's health services
- > Culturally and Linguistically Diverse services
- > Aboriginal Controlled Community Organisations
- > alcohol and other drug services
- > mental health services
- > homelessness services
- > integrated family services
- > primary prevention agencies.

Committees also include representatives from government agencies including Victoria Police, the Department of Health and Human Services (including Child Protection) and the Department of Justice and Regulation (including courts) and the Department of Education.

FVRICs strive to ensure mutually beneficial linkages with other local structures relevant to their system-focused function, including (but not limited to) Dhelk Dja Indigenous Regional Action Groups, Child and Family Services Alliances, Homelessness Networks, and primary prevention partnerships.

"FVRICs are the best way to access information, knowledge and data from local family violence service systems."

"Providing state-wide coverage, Victoria's FVRICs play a key strategic leadership role."

Strategic Priorities

FVRICs share the same four strategic priorities as a common platform to improve family violence responses at a local system level. These strategic priorities were informed by the *Family Violence Regional Integration Project: strengthening the case for the future of regional integration (2018)* and include:

Integration of reform initiatives

- > Identify systemic barriers to reform implementation
- > Support the adoption of the MARAM Framework and Information Sharing Schemes

- > Support the integration of The Orange Door with the local service system
- > Embed intersectionality in practice approaches

Workforce development

- > Support all workforce tiers
- > Promote effective practice models
- > Deliver MARAM Collaborative Practice Training
- > Local coordination of capacity building initiatives

Service data collection and local area profiling

- > Understand local needs
- > Analysis for system advocacy

Governance and system leadership

- > Maintain a system focus
- > Cross-sectoral
- > Links with other governance structures

Principal Strategic Advisors

Principal Strategic Advisors (PSAs) across the State provide expertise, leadership and oversight of the work of FVRICs, providing advice to, and acting as a conduit between, Committees, government and local services; coordinating capacity building initiatives and maintaining strategic relationships with key stakeholders.

Fourteen PSAs across Victoria provide a key strategic leadership role for local family violence systems providing:

- > Strategic leadership and advice
- > Coordination of capacity building and workforce development initiatives

- > Insight into local system issues and opportunities.
- > Links between the local family violence system and peak bodies and government.
- > Support for the local implementation of key family violence reforms
- > Service coordination and partnership brokerage
- > Governance and operational support to Family Violence Regional Integration Committees

“PSAs translate state-wide policy into local systems.”

Statewide Family Violence Integration Advisory Committee

The Statewide Family Violence Integration Advisory Committee (SFVIAC) is a conduit to Family Violence Regional Integration Committees, providing statewide access to cross-system networks, coordination and influence. PSAs make up the SFVIAC which plays a pivotal role in enabling vertical integration by representing regional experiences at a Statewide level.

Contact

Visit www.thelookout.org.au for PSA contact details, on the ‘Regional Integration’ page.