



ANROWS Perpetrator Interventions Research Priorities 2017-19

Summary December 2016

ANROWS

AUSTRALIA'S NATIONAL RESEARCH
ORGANISATION FOR WOMEN'S SAFETY
to Reduce Violence against Women & their Children

Introduction

On 20 December 2016, Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety (ANROWS) announced a program of research to improve the evidence base for stopping men's violence against women and holding perpetrators to account. ANROWS is an initiative of the Council of Australian Governments under the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-2022 (the National Plan).

This set of ANROWS's Perpetrator Interventions Research Priorities 2017-19 comprises 11 projects with a total value of almost \$1.8 million. It offers an innovative and comprehensive program of research to support the National Plan to achieve its goals. In particular, these research projects will support implementation of the Council of Australian Governments' (COAG) National Outcome Standards for Perpetrator Interventions.

Projects will be delivered over the next two years, each addressing a key gap in current evidence on perpetrator interventions. Research findings will inform interventions to reduce re-offending, to better understand the nature of perpetration against high risk groups, to evaluate existing program models, and to determine the characteristics of effective perpetrator intervention programs.

ANROWS expects to be announcing additional research in this area in early 2017.

More information is available at anrows.org.au/research-program/perpetrator-interventions-research-program.

Acknowledgement

Grant funds available for this research stream were made available to ANROWS by the Australian Government (Department of Social Services).

ANROWS Perpetrator Interventions Research Priorities 2017-19

Strategic Research Theme 1 System effectiveness

Research priority	Project title	Summary	Length and budget	Jurisdiction	Research Team
<p>1.1 Meta-evaluation of where perpetrator interventions are, and should be, situated within the overall response to violence against women and their children</p> <p>&</p> <p>2.4 Effectively engaging and retaining perpetrators in interventions</p>	<p>Meta-evaluation of perpetrator interventions for gendered violence</p> <p>&</p> <p>Improving safety through better engagement and retention of perpetrators across the systems of interventions</p>	<p>The research will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a comprehensive analysis of research on integrated systems and interventions for perpetrators, and undertake service mapping of current domestic and family violence (DFV) and sexual violence (SV) responses incorporating interventions across the continuum of responses from primary prevention to tertiary interventions (Component One); and • Examine how the tracking, engagement and retention of perpetrators within Systems of Perpetrator Interventions (SIPs) can be enhanced (Component Two). <p>The research project includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A meta-evaluation for Component One, comprising a number of evidence reviews ranging from the policy and system design through to the individual interventions; and • A mixed method approach for Component Two, including – analysis of legislation and policy underpinning the SIPs; a series of case studies examining current pathways, practices of specialist and mainstream agencies; and, the development and trial (30 sites) of a data collection and management framework. <p>The case studies for Component Two will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a NSW response to sexual violence and abuse by young offenders; • a pathways case study that will track perpetrators’ movement through the Southern Melbourne Integrated Family Violence Partnership; • a practice case study of four Men’s Behaviour Change Programs operating within the Bayside Peninsula Integrated Family Violence Partnership using an action research approach to explore strategies effective in engaging men; and • case studies in QLD, WA and Vic to compare different pathways to engagement and retention of perpetrators. 	<p>2 years</p> <p>\$441,513</p>	<p>Lead: WA</p> <p>Partners:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. VIC 2. NSW 3. QLD <p>Sites:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. National 2. NSW 3. VIC 4. WA 5. SA 6. QLD 	<p>Lead: Prof Donna Chung, Curtin University</p> <p>Research expertise</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr Damian Green, Curtin University 2. A/Professor Reinie Cordier, Curtin University 3. Ms Elena Campbell, RMIT 4. A/Professor Jan Breckenridge, UNSW 5. Michael Salter, University of Western Sydney 6. A/Professor Therese Jefferson, Curtin University 7. A/Professor Siobhan Austin, Curtin University 8. Professor Patrick O’Leary, Griffith University <p>Practitioner expertise</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr Rodney Vlasis <p>Research partners</p> <p>Research partners from across a number of jurisdictions and including specialist FDV services for perpetrators and victims, courts, health and human service agencies from the government and not for profit sectors.</p>

Research priority	Project title	Summary	Length and budget	Jurisdiction	Research Team
1.2 Evaluation of specific system responses Perpetrator Interventions in Australia: A national study of judicial views and sentencing practice for domestic violence offenders	Perpetrator interventions in Australia: A national study of judicial views and sentencing practice for domestic violence offenders	<p>Despite increasing acknowledgement of the importance of perpetrator interventions in the delivery of integrated responses to DFV and promoting perpetrator accountability, there remains very little understanding of how magistrates and other judicial officers view, manage and use perpetrator interventions.</p> <p>This qualitative mixed method study will utilise case analysis of sentencing remarks (homicide and breach convictions), interviews with judicial officers, and documentary and policy analysis to examine the use, influence and management of perpetrator interventions in sentencing of recidivist and high risk DV offenders. It aims to document the extent to which histories of perpetrator interventions are present, and the influence of these on sentencing, including an exploration of the views of magistrates and judicial officers on their use.</p> <p>Research Phase 1: Case analysis An analysis of five years of sentencing judgments from two offence groups will be undertaken. The research will undertake a national and state based study of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remarks made about perpetrator interventions during the sentencing of domestic homicide offenders across Australia for a five-year period. • Remarks made during the sentencing of offenders convicted of breach of an intervention order in Victoria. <p>Data from a range of sources will be used.</p> <p>Research Phase 2: In-depth interviews These will be completed to examine judicial views on the use, management and extent of perpetrator interventions for domestic violence offenders. Interviews will be conducted in each state and territory with two levels of the judiciary – specialist family/domestic violence magistrates and criminal court judges. In each of the larger states (Victoria, NSW, Western Australia, Queensland) 10-12 interviews will be conducted. In each of the smaller jurisdictions (Tasmania, South Australia, Australian Capital Territory) five interviews will be conducted.</p> <p>Research Phase 3: Documentary and policy analysis Findings from the case analyses and in-depth interviews will be combined with a documentary analysis of current national and international best practice.</p>	1.5 years \$179,890	<p>Lead: VIC</p> <p>Partners: VIC</p> <p>Sites: 1. National 2. VIC 3. TAS</p>	<p>Lead: Dr Kate Fitz-Gibbon, Monash University</p> <p>Research expertise 1. A/Prof Jane Maree Maher, Monash University 2. Prof Jude McCulloch, Monash University 3. Prof Gregory Reinhardt, The Australasian Institute of Judicial Administration</p> <p>Policy expertise 1. Ms Cynthia Harwood, The Victorian Sentencing Advisory Council</p> <p>Research partners A national expert advisory group will be established.</p>

Strategic Research Theme 2 Effectiveness of interventions

Research priority	Project title	Summary	Length and budget	Jurisdiction	Research Team
2.1 Defining and measuring effectiveness & 2.2 Development of best practice in evaluating perpetrator interventions	Evaluation readiness, program quality and outcomes in Men's Behaviour Change Programs	<p>This combined project aims to develop the foundational knowledge needed to build the evidence base for Men's Behaviour Change Programs (MBCPs) through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the development of a program logic, identification of intermediate outcome tools and the development of practice guidelines, to support an informed approach to evaluation practice based on the application of empirical knowledge on behaviour change; and the development of a set of criteria to enable assessment of whether MBCPs have been designed, integrated and implemented in a manner consistent with its theoretical underpinnings as intended by providers and the integrated service system of which, they are a part. <p>The research will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake a review of existing evidence on outcomes for mandated referrals, development of logic models and a systematic evaluation of psychometric assessment tools and qualitative methods to assess change. Development of logic models will occur through consultation with Corrections (VIC, SA) and interviews with women, perpetrators, program managers and facilitators and other practitioners (e.g. child protection). Additional workshops with community based MBCPs will also be undertaken in Victoria and SA. Conduct a systematic review of existing literature including consideration of the current reviews into minimum practice standards and guidelines occurring in jurisdictions. Interviews and focus groups with Vic and SA Corrections and workshops with community based MBCP in Victoria and WA will be conducted to gain practice perspectives on the delivery of high integrity programs. Where feasible, the practice perspectives on program integrity will be augmented by observation of a MBCP session delivery. Findings from the qualitative component will be presented to the project reference group for feedback. 	1 year \$113,327	<p>Lead: QLD</p> <p>Partners:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> WA VIC SA <p>Sites:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> SA VIC 	<p>Lead: Professor Andrew Day, James Cook University</p> <p>Research expertise</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Prof Donna Chung, Curtin University of Technology <p>Practitioner expertise</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Rodney Vlasis <p>Policy expertise</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Dr Henry Pharo, Department for Correctional Services, SA Dr Shaymaa Elkadi, Corrections Victoria <p>Project partners</p> <p>A project reference group will be convened, with members including South Australia Central Domestic Violence Service, the Office for Women, and the Australian Children's Safety Alliance</p>

Research priority	Project title	Summary	Length and budget	Jurisdiction	Research Team
2.1 Defining and measuring effectiveness	Defining quality of life indicators for measuring perpetrator intervention effectiveness	<p>This project focusses on the development of quality of life (QOL) indicators and associated definitions to measure effectiveness of DFV MBCPs, including QOL indicators for women and children who have experienced domestic and family violence. The research will be completed in Victoria, South Australia and Queensland.</p> <p>It will include a literature review to identify QOL measures for DFV interventions that have been developed with the direct involvement of clients. Semi-structured interviews with women (80) and men (20) (a minimum of 25 women and 5 men from any one state) which will include the administration of a QOL instrument across the domain areas of wellbeing related to physical, psychological, social and environmental factors. Engagement of DFV partner services will also occur through the project advisory group and practitioner workshop to support development of evaluation mechanisms inclusive of QOL indicators.</p>	<p>1 year</p> <p>\$94,085</p>	<p>Lead: SA</p> <p>Partners: SA</p> <p>Sites:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SA 2. VIC 3. QLD 	<p>Lead: Dr Helen McLaren, Flinders University</p> <p>Research expertise</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Lana Zannettino, Flinders University 2. Dr Jane Fischer, Flinders University <p>Research partners</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Brisbane Domestic Violence Service, Micah Projects Inc., Brisbane, Queensland 2. Carinity Talera, Carinity Baptist Community Services, Brisbane, Queensland 3. Kornar Winmil Yunti Aboriginal Corporation, Adelaide, South Australia 4. No To Violence Men's Referral Service, Male Family Violence Prevention Association, Melbourne, Victoria 5. SANDBAG Community Centres and Services, Brisbane, Queensland 6. Women's Liberation Halfway House Domestic Violence Service, Melbourne, Victoria 7. Women's Safety Services SA, Adelaide, South Australia.

Strategic Research Theme 3 Models to address diversity of perpetrators

Research priority	Project title	Summary	Length and budget	Jurisdiction	Research Team
3.1 Best practice models for sexual assault perpetrators.	Evaluating community-based approaches to sexual offender reintegration	This project will evaluate two sex offender programs for high risk offenders exiting prison: SA's trial Circles of Support and Accountability program; and QLD's Uncle Alfred's Townsville program. The qualitative evaluations will involve interviews with offenders supported through the programs, program staff/elders, and victims/ survivors and other stakeholders (e.g. police and other service providers). This project will have outcomes for both of the programs being evaluated including an evaluation of the 'fitness' of each of the programs as well as supporting the two programs to build ongoing evaluation into their operations. More broadly, the evaluation will add to the evidence base about whether or how reintegration programs can work with other risk and offender management strategies.	1.5 years \$98,143	Lead: QLD Partners: 1. International 2. SA 3. QLD Sites: 1. SA 2. QLD	Lead: Dr Kelly Richards, Queensland University of Technology Research expertise 1. A/Prof Kieran McCartan, University of the West of England 2. Dr Jodi Death, Queensland University of Technology Policy expertise 1. Mr Leigh Garrett, Offenders' Aid and Rehabilitation Service of South Australia 2. Mr Mark Rallings, Queensland Corrective Services Practitioner expertise 1. Ms Carol Ronkin, Bravehearts Inc. Research partners 1. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner (or senior representative). 2. A senior rep of Townsville's Community Justice Group. 3. A senior rep of Bravehearts to ensure the research is sensitive to the needs of victim/survivors of sexual violence.
3.2 Best practice models for family and domestic violence perpetrators	Invisible Practices: Intervention with fathers who use violence	Utilising an action research framework, this project will establish Communities of Practice (CoP) (n=10-12) in each participating jurisdiction, bringing together child protection and family support service practitioners working with fathers who use domestic and family violence. The CoPs will both harness and build upon the expertise of practitioners through the mentoring of David Mandel and use of the Safe and Together training and resources. The CoP learnings and practice developments will be evaluated through: documentation of learnings gathered by state based researchers working ethnographically with the CoP; Time 1 and Time 2 questionnaires to practitioners and a comparison group; semi structured interviews with participants; and synthesis of analysis of videos and case reports submitted to David Mandel. Proposed outcomes include: • Increased workforce capacity for two key sectors responding to fathers who use DFV. • Supporting the development of evidence informed standards and guidelines for front- line practitioners in collaboration with No To Violence and the	1.5 years \$150,000	Lead: VIC Partners: 1. WA 2. NSW 3. VIC 4. Qld. Sites: 1. NSW 2. VIC 3. WA 4. QLD	Lead: Professor Cathy Humphreys, University of Melbourne. Research expertise 1. Professor Marie Connolly, University of Melbourne 2. Dr Lucy Healey, University of Melbourne 3. Professor Donna Chung, Curtin University 4. Mr Damian Green, Curtin University 5. Professor Patrick O'Leary, Griffith University 6. Dr Menka Tsantefski, Griffith University 7. Dr Lesley Laing, The University of Sydney 8. Dr Susan Heward-Bell, The University of Sydney Policy expertise / Govt partners 1. Ms Sherilee Mitchell, WA Department for Child Protection and Family Support 2. Ms Jan Snell, Department of Health & Human Services, VIC 3. Ms Deb Tsorbaris, The Centre for Excellence in Child & Family Welfare

Research priority	Project title	Summary	Length and budget	Jurisdiction	Research Team
		<p>Australian Child Safety Alliance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening the Australian evidence base for of the Safe and Together approach. • Supporting the development of outcome measures for Child Protection and family support services that address women and children’s safety. 			<p>4. Ms Kate Alexander, NSW Department of Family and Community Services</p> <p>5. Professor Muriel Bamblett, VIC Aboriginal Child Care Agency</p> <p>6. Ms Kate Cherry, QLD Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services</p> <p>Research partners</p> <p>1. Australian Child Safety Alliance (ACSA)</p>
3.3 Models to address diversity	Good practice in delivering and evaluating interventions for young people with sexually abusive behaviours	<p>Young people account for a significant proportion of perpetrators of sex abuse against children and young people and many have a history of childhood trauma including exposure to domestic and family violence. Such knowledge has seen a shift in treatment approaches toward specialised therapeutic services. For a variety of reasons however, there has been significant disparity in the therapeutic models applied.</p> <p>This mixed methods study will utilise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • national mapping of service responses to young people with sexually abusive behaviours (SABs); • a comparative process evaluation of three services (including semi-structured interviews and focus groups with program managers and practitioners and interviews with clients and statutory and policy professionals. The fieldwork will also include interpretation of findings with practitioner participants); and • conclude with a research to policy/practice forum. The forum will test and refine insights from the three sites to inform future policy and service model design. <p>This project will utilise the knowledge of practitioners and other stakeholders to better understand the complex interplay between program design and outcomes and contextual factors that shape therapeutic responses in order to support a practice-informed understanding of good practice principles of specialised interventions, informing future therapeutic approaches.</p>	<p>2 years</p> <p>\$196,055</p>	<p>Lead: VIC</p> <p>Partners:</p> <p>1. VIC</p> <p>2. NSW</p> <p>Sites:</p> <p>1. NSW</p> <p>2. VIC</p> <p>3. QLD</p>	<p>Lead: Dr Antonia Quadara, Australian Institute of Family Studies</p> <p>Research expertise</p> <p>1. Dr Wendy O'Brien, Deakin University</p> <p>Practice expertise</p> <p>1. Mr Dale Tolliday, New Street Services</p> <p>2. Mr Howard Bath, Alambi Care</p> <p>3. Ms Carolyn Worth, South Eastern Centre Against Sexual Assault and Family Violence</p> <p>Research partners</p> <p>1. New Zealand Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abuse (ANZATSA)</p> <p>2. Mr Russell Pratt, Statewide Principal Practitioner in the Office of Professional Practice DHHS (who delivers SABTS programs in Victoria)</p> <p>3. Advisory Group with representatives from diverse sectors such as police, child and family welfare agencies, family support services, family violence services, child protection and education.</p>

Research priority	Project title	Summary	Length and budget	Jurisdiction	Research Team
3.3 Models to address diversity	The PIPA Project - Positive Interventions for Perpetrators of Adolescent Violence in the Home (AVITH).	<p>The PIPA project aims to improve evidence on the prevalence of adolescent violence in the home (AVITH) as it presents in different justice and service contexts; its co-occurrence with other issues and juvenile offending; and current responses and gaps in service delivery. This project has two separate but complimentary research approaches.</p> <p>The first will use: a literature review; quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis, including interviews and focus groups with practitioners from courts, family violence services, ChildFirst, family services, legal services, youth and education services; court observations as well as a mapping of the legislative, regulatory frameworks along with policy and service responses across the three jurisdictions; to examine the prevalence of AVITH and current responses to it across Victoria, Tasmania and WA.</p> <p>Secondly, an Innovation Case Study is proposed using action research approach to track changes in legislation, policy and practice during the implementation of the Victorian Royal Commission into Family Violence recommendations. The Victorian case study will provide learnings to support the development of integrated responses and practice in other jurisdictions whilst supporting local implementation through its action research based framework.</p> <p>The research team will be supported by a project steering group enabling information exchange between, with and across sectors and to senior government officials. Changes in practice and ongoing gaps in service delivery identified through surveys of practitioners and by steering group members will support ongoing implementation and provide learnings for other jurisdictions.</p>	2 years \$168,221	<p>Lead: VIC</p> <p>Partners:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. VIC 2. TAS 3. WA <p>Sites:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. TAS 2. VIC 3. WA 	<p>Lead: Associate Professor Rob Hulls, RMIT University</p> <p>Researcher expertise</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms Elena Campbell, RMIT University 2. Dr Helen Cockburn, University of Tasmania <p>Practitioner expertise</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms Jo Howard, Kildonan UnitingCare 2. Ms Rosy Jolic, Victoria Legal Aid 3. Ms Be Westbrook, Peel Youth Services 4. Ms Maureen Kavanagh Legal Aid, Western Australia <p>Research partners</p> <p>Establishment of a Steering Group including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. President of the Children’s Court of Victoria 2. Commissioner for Children and Young People 3. Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People 4. Assistant Commissioner, Victoria Police, Family Violence Command 5. Family Violence Program Manager, Victoria Legal Aid 6. Executive Director, Jesuit Social Service 7. Chair, Victorian Association for Restorative Justice 8. Family Violence Program Manager, Good Shepherd 9. Sexual Assault and Family Violence Program Manager, Department of Justice & Regulation 10. Youth Justice Manager, Department of Health and Human Services 11. Family Violence Program Manager, YouthLaw 12. CEO, Women’s Legal Service 13. Executive Director or Policy Officer, Domestic Violence Victoria 14. CEO or Policy Officer, No To Violence

Research priority	Project title	Summary	Length and budget	Jurisdiction	Research Team
3.3 Models to address diversity	Developing and testing LGBTIQ programs for perpetrators and survivors of domestic and family violence	<p>This study will tailor and trial the Relationships Australia Family Safety Program with perpetrators and victims of DFV who are part of the LGBTIQ community. The research will focus on effective responses to violence against women within LGBTI communities. In order to examine interventions with women in these communities, the project proposes to trial group programs for 3 cohorts of perpetrators and victims/survivors including: women who identify as lesbian, bisexual, and queer; men who identify as gay, bisexual and queer; and a mixed LGBTIQ group.</p> <p>The project aims to provide new knowledge and practice principles for working with members of LGBTIQ communities who perpetrate DFV.</p> <p>The quasi-experimental mixed method design will use a literature review, pre and post intervention surveys and qualitative interviews with clients and professionals. It aims to generate information about the nature of violence in LGBTIQ relationships including the role that gender plays in characterising DFV and the extent to which gender based interventions are required for LGBTIQ victims and perpetrators.</p> <p>Proposed outcomes for the project include an increased understanding of the nature of DFV within LGBTIQ communities, information to guide screening and intake of LGBTIQ clients into programs and the role of behaviour change groups in increasing safety for women and children in these communities.</p>	2 years \$158,113	<p>Lead: NSW</p> <p>Partner: NSW</p> <p>Sites: NSW</p>	<p>Lead: Mr Johann Kolstee, ACON</p> <p>Research expertise (service based)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Rebecca Gray, Relationships Australia (NSW) 2. Dr Tim Broady, Relationships Australia (NSW) <p>Practice expertise</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms Elizabeth Shaw, Relationships Australia (NSW) 2. Mr Andrew King, Relationships Australian (NSW) 3. Ms Claudia Stephenson, Relationships Australia (NSW) 4. Mrs Shannon Wright, ACON 5. Ms Kai Noonan, ACON <p>Research partners</p> <p>Reference group, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Philomena Horsley, La Trobe University 2. Emeritus Professor Thea Brown, Monash University 3. Dr Christy Newman, UNSW 4. Dr Sarah Wendt, Flinders University 5. Dr Jemima Petch, Relationships Australia Queensland and Queensland University of Technology 6. Chris Pye, Relationships Australia Queensland
3.3 Models to address diversity	Best practice principles for interventions with domestic and family violence perpetrators from refugee backgrounds	<p>This project intends to provide evidence to inform interventions for perpetrators of refugee backgrounds that are responsive to refugees' experiences of torture and trauma. This sequential exploratory mixed methods study will utilise an integrative literature review; qualitative interviews (n=40) with community members of Burmese, Afghan, Sudanese, Iraqi and Iranian backgrounds and focus groups with CALD & refugee services, DFV services and mainstream services (n= 16-20); followed by a two round Delphi method approach with informed community members from dominant refugee regions. The project aims to develop consensus around underpinning principles for culturally appropriate and effective perpetrator interventions in order to support the development and delivery of culturally appropriate trauma informed DFV interventions with perpetrators from refugee communities. Deliverables from this project will include the development of best practice principles and guidelines.</p>	2 years \$193,095	<p>Lead: WA</p> <p>Partner: WA</p> <p>Sites: WA</p>	<p>Lead: Professor Colleen Fisher, University of Western Australia</p> <p>Research Expertise</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Professor Lisa Wood, University of Western Australia 2. Dr Karen Martin, University of Western Australia <p>Practitioner Expertise</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms Amanda Gillett, Association for Services to Torture & Trauma Survivors (ASeTTS) 2. Ms April Pearlman, ASeTTS

Strategic Research Theme 4 Interventions developed by, with and for Indigenous communities

Research priority	Project title	Summary	Length and budget	Jurisdiction	Research Team
4.1 Determine best practice principles for program delivery for Indigenous perpetrators.	Addressing family violence in Indigenous communities: principles, practice and evaluation.	<p>This project will utilise the best practice principles for Indigenous family violence (FV) interventions identified in the ANROWS State of Knowledge paper (Lovett & Olsen, 2016) and a mixed method approach. The best practice principles for FV interventions identified in the SOK and highlighted in the application included: rebuilding of community, family and kinship ties as central; the need for Indigenous people and communities significant involvement in shaping service system and program responses; local community and cultural based leadership and governance of programs; use of holistic, multi-faceted approaches; and lastly, use of evaluation design appropriate to setting.</p> <p>The evaluation of the Family Wellbeing program (FWB) will employ a stepped wedge evaluation at three new intervention sites (Mildura/Griffith/ Lake Cargelligo) to assess the impact of the FWB utilising: quantitative outcome measures of participants and family members; semi structured interviews in three sites (n=40); and a descriptive case study will include in-depth interviews with elders, community leaders and FWB facilitators and participants (total n= 10-15) in a community with a long history of implementing the FWB.</p> <p>The Indigenous led FWB is operating at approximately 56 sites across Australia and is designed to build the capacity of individuals and communities to improve wellbeing in a manner that is culturally appropriate and sustainable. In line with the principles of the FWB this project will be participatory in its engagement Indigenous community partners and research participants to support and build the capacity of participants and community organisations.</p> <p>The project aims to develop a best practice evaluative model for Indigenous led interventions that include individual, family and community outcomes contributing to the ongoing development and evaluation of holistic Indigenous led family violence interventions. The project will include delivery and evaluation of the new FWB interventions in communities and the development of new evidence and evaluation tools for other Indigenous family violence programs.</p>	1.5 -2 years \$148,656	<p>Lead: ACT</p> <p>Partners:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. QLD 2. NSW 3. VIC <p>Sites:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NSW 2. VIC 3. QLD 	<p>Lead: Dr Raymond Lovett, ANU</p> <p>Research expertise</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Anna Olsen, ANU 2. Dr Marisa Fogarty, ANU 3. Dr Bianca Calabria, ANU 4. Professor Komla Tsey, James Cook University 5. Professor Yvonne Cadet-James, James Cook University 6. Dr Mary Whiteside, LaTrobe University 7. Dr Sarah MacLean, LaTrobe University 8. Professor Anthony Shakeshaft, UNSW <p>Practitioner expertise</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms Raelene Stephens, Mallee District Aboriginal Services, VIC 2. Mr Sid Barone, Griffith Aboriginal Medical Service, NSW 3. Ms Jamie O'Neill, Lower Lachlan Community Services, NSW