

# DFSV Primary Prevention Community of Practice Communique 3 – March and May 2024

## The Community of Practice

This is the third Communique for the Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence (DFSV) Primary Prevention Community of Practice (CoP), an initiative of the Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities (TFHC), in partnership with Our Watch.

This communique covers meetings 10 and 11, held online on 20 March 2024 and 1 May 2024.

The CoP was established in 2023. It is an action of the [DFSV Reduction Framework](#) and the [DFSV Workforce and Sector Development Plan](#).

The purpose of the CoP is to facilitate peer learning and connection and enable participants to:

- reflect on current practice challenges, innovations and learnings;
- share successes and achievements - even minor ones;
- exchange skills, resources and knowledge and engage in skills development activities; and
- consolidate a shared understanding of good practice in primary prevention for the NT.

CoP members are organisations funded by TFHC for DFSV primary prevention projects delivered in the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 financial years. Further details can be found in the [Terms of Reference](#).

## Participation

Meeting 10, 20 March 2024: 8 participants from 6 member organisations

Meeting 11, 1 May 2024: 10 participants

## Topics

Both meetings were used as a space for reflective practice on general project implementation updates and challenges.

## Member reflections

Some of the key reflections shared:

- The breadth and diversity of work and the unique challenges arising from different regions across the NT.
- The importance of acting on lived experience feedback and voices. This includes making meaningful changes across whole of organisational operations, not just in discrete program areas. This requires leadership and whole of organization commitment for this to be valuable.

- Relationships remain critical across the projects, especially when working in a cross-cultural context where workers from different backgrounds complement each other.
- The importance of engaging with institutions and places that people already go to. This includes faith organisations, sporting teams and other community groups. It can be hard bringing people together but easier to meet them where they are already.
- The importance of safety for all, including for young men to talk about their experiences of oppression and racism and work through that in a safe way, with a focus on strengths and positive messaging.
- Seeking ways for members to collaborate more.

## Workshop insights – challenges

Members shared challenges experienced in recent months, including:

- The challenging impact of the youth curfew in Alice Springs on pre-existing pro-social programming. Young people have felt scared to go to sports commitments and programs, staff felt anxious about keeping young people safe within the restrictions. Members felt that there was unfair targeting and vilification of young people.
- Despite all the tragedy and difficult conditions, the primary prevention projects remain a source of positivity and motivation to work hard for change.

For further information please contact TFHC Domestic Violence Reduction [dfv@nt.gov.au](mailto:dfv@nt.gov.au) or 08 892 44170.