

## From the ED



EDVOS has been very busy over the past month engaging with our partners to consider ways of making services increasingly accessible to women and children. EDVOS conducted a “Mystery Tour” which involved representatives from within the family violence and universal sector travelling to the outer east and tracing the steps of a woman who has recently experienced family violence. Experiencing firsthand the challenges and barriers women face was an eye-opening experience and has prompted much discussion between agencies on system improvements and we look forward to seeing some new initiatives put into place in the near future.

EDVOS is pleased to be the funds holder for the Family Violence Flexible Support funding again this year. Much work has been done on enhancing systems and communicating with the boarder sector to make this funding accessible to those who are eligible.

AGM season is with us once again which means it is annual report writing time. It’s always rewarding to reflect back over the past year and I’m so proud of all that EDVOS has achieved. The recommendations of the Royal Commission into Family Violence have driven immense change within the sector and EDVOS is very proud to be one of the agencies in Melbourne’s east contributing to improved outcomes for women and children experiencing family violence.

The Universal Services team is now fully operational and actively engaging with hospitals, maternal and child health, schools and other mainstream services. We’re looking forward to sharing more soon.

I am pleased to have recently joined the Outer East Children’s and Youth Area Partnership and am inspired by their work. Have a **look at this link** to a great resource tackling gender inequality through sporting clubs in the Outer East.



Jenny Jackson  
Executive Director

### Our Vision

A community free from family violence, where everyone feels safe.



## Universal Services Team

EDVOS has established a Universal Services Team (UST) in response to recommendations from the Royal Commission into Family Violence which strongly encourages specialist family violence agencies and universal services to collaborate. The aim of the collaboration is to bridge the gap in service response for women and children experiencing family violence and to increase understanding of family violence within the community.

Our UST are working in a range of settings across the eastern metropolitan region focussing initially on organisations that interact with children and primary health settings to offer an early entry point into the family violence service system. To date our team has engaged with 8 partners and are negotiating with another 7 which we hope to have finalised within the next couple of months. The UST has made 131 referrals, 38 presentations, provided 44 secondary consultations and provided 8 group sessions. For further information please don’t hesitate to contact us about how this specialist team works .

## Fun Ways To Play workshop

To celebrate Children’s Week, EDVOS is hosting a Fun Ways To Play workshop for the Yarra Ranges community.

All children love to play. Fun Ways To Play is a hands-on workshop that gives simple ideas on ways to play with babies, toddlers or pre-schoolers. At this workshop we will share tips and ideas for playing active games at home (both indoors and outdoors) and simple ideas to help children play in a more active way. At EDVOS we recognise the importance of play to reconnect and enhance the bond between mothers and children who have experienced family violence.

Please encourage families to come along and join in a range of activities including singing, dancing, throwing, balancing and much more! All families will receive a fun-filled Active Play Kit. The Active Play Kits includes more ideas and equipment for families to play together such as bean bags, a puppet and story book. After the workshop the participants will come together for a delicious morning tea and social connection. **Bookings required!**

This Children’s Week event is presented by EDVOS in partnership with the Victorian Government.

**Date:** Monday 23rd of October 2017  
**Time:** 10am – 11:30am  
**Location:** Millwarra Community Building,  
 18-20 Cavanagh Road, Millgrove VIC  
 (located behind Millwarra Primary School)  
**Contact:** Brianna Myers  
**Number:** 9259 4200  
**Email:** briannam@edvos.org.au



## Ian Potter International Learning & Development Grant

The Ian Potter Foundation provided an International Learning & Development grant to Youna Kim, Business Development Manager, to visit specialist family violence services in New York (USA), Montreal (Canada) and Toronto (Canada).

To build on current reforms and propose new ways of preventing family violence and supporting victims/survivors, the trip focused on exploring specific programs that are explicitly recommended by the Royal Commission into Family Violence including Safety Hub model, specialist family violence courts, specialist family violence services, legal response and cultural and linguistic diverse (CALD) services as well as supports for women with disabilities.

Those programs involve a continuum of interdependent and interlinked strategies, where prevention efforts are integrated with early intervention and response.



## Toy Appeal

EDVOS has established a Toy Appeal to help families impacted by family violence during times of celebration.

Christmas is fast approaching and we are collecting toys so women experiencing family violence can put a smile on the faces of their children.

We would be very grateful if you could promote our Toy Appeal to your staff and stakeholders. Please consider placing a box in your staff room to collect toys (new only).

We can arrange for a staff member to collect your donations.

**Please contact:** Tori on **9259 4200** or [torij@edvos.org.au](mailto:torij@edvos.org.au) for more information.



## AGM

EDVOS is holding our Annual General Meeting on **Thursday 26th October at 5pm**.

Our special guest speaker is Jenny Yates, author of "The Vine Bleeds". If you'd like to join us for this event please RSVP by 19th October by [clicking here](#).



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EDVOS member.

## Interested in volunteering?

**Volunteers significantly boost the capacity of EDVOS to deliver much-needed services,**  
so if you or someone you know has time to spare, why not consider volunteering?

Please email us at [edvos@edvos.org.au](mailto:edvos@edvos.org.au) or call **03 9259 4200** for more information.



## Family Violence Training

EDVOS Education and Training is currently providing free CRAF (Common Risk Assessment Framework) training in the eastern region till the end of December 2017. CRAF Level 1 is a basic family violence training intended for use by professionals and community members in mainstream settings, who have little experience of family violence and wish to increase their understanding and ability to recognise, respond and refer.

Please find attached flyer with registration details.

### CRAF RISK ASSESSMENT TRAINING: IDENTIFYING FAMILY VIOLENCE (PRACTICE GUIDE 1)

#### FREE SESSIONS

#### WHAT IS CRAF?

The Common Risk Assessment Framework (CRAF) aims to help practitioners and professionals identify and respond to risk factors associated with family violence.

CRAF Level 1 is a **basic family violence training** intended for use by professionals in mainstream settings, if they are concerned a client may be a victim-survivor of family violence.

The target audience for this level is general community workers with little experience of family violence who wish to increase their understanding and ability to identify and refer.

Workers in the below fields are encouraged to attend:

- Maternal and Child Health Nurses
- General practitioners and other health care providers
- Teachers and education professionals
- Administration staff working in welfare services
- Professionals who are working for a telephone helpline
- HACC workers
- Aged care workers
- Disability service workers
- Centrelink staff
- Victoria Police members
- Professionals working in mediation centres, court settings, community legal centres, or housing and homelessness services

If your professional role includes working directly with victim-survivors of family violence, you may need to enroll in CRAF Level 2 or 3.

#### THE TRAINING:

The EMR Regional Family Violence Partnership will be providing funded CRAF Level 1 Training through Eastern Domestic Violence Service (EDVOS) Education and Training.

EDVOS (Eastern Domestic Violence Service) is the specialist family violence service in Melbourne's Eastern Metropolitan region (EMR). EDVOS provides a broad range of integrated services to support women and children who are responding to family violence. EDVOS supports women and children to make informed choices through programs and services that are individual, sensitive and evidence-based.

EDVOS Education and Training aims to increase understanding of the gendered nature of family violence and build participants' confidence and capacity to recognise, respond and refer appropriately to disclosures of family violence. Each training module utilizes and incorporates evidence-based information and data released by international and national bodies to improve early intervention.

#### HOW DO I REGISTER?

CRAF Level 1 Training Sessions will be offered to workers across the second half of 2017. Sessions run for 2.5 hours, and are spread across mornings, afternoons and evenings.

Registration is via Eventbrite. Please note sessions are open to workers in the **Eastern Metropolitan Region only**.

For a list of dates and to register, please [click here](#).

For more information, please contact [melanie.rfvp@edvos.org.au](mailto:melanie.rfvp@edvos.org.au).



[www.easternfamilyviolencepartnership.org.au](http://www.easternfamilyviolencepartnership.org.au)



- ✧ EDVOS acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of this land and we pay our respect to Elders past, present and future.
- ✧ EDVOS respect the many women and children and their pets and animals who respond to acts of violence in their lives.
- ✧ EDVOS is a child-focused and child safe organisation.
- ✧ EDVOS is a not-for-profit organisation, primarily funded by the State Government of Victoria. EDVOS also receives grants and donations from other sources.
- ✧ EDVOS celebrates diversity

