



NATIONAL
FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION
AND LEGAL SERVICES
FORUM

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, April 26, 2024
For Immediate Release

Sector funding even more critical as more women die.

As instances of male violence against women continues to escalate across the country, the National Family Violence Prevention Legal Services Forum (NFVPLS Forum) once again calls on all levels of Government to make secure, long-term commitments to frontline family violence services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander victims/survivors.

The peak body's call extends to increased investment into the Family Violence Prevention and Legal Services (FVPLS) Program.

"We again call for the increase of funding to our sector because with no additional funding for FVPLS we have no ability to reach all families in need and as a result, a huge gap in support remains with devastating impacts for communities," NFVPLS Forum Chief Executive Officer Kerry Staines said.

"We request an immediate investment of \$100 million," Ms Staines said.

"It is time to see real change, particularly with the month of May dedicated to Domestic and Family Violence Prevention awareness and the Federal Budget announcement imminent," she said.

"The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare estimates that one woman dies every 4 days from domestic violence. This figure is more pronounced for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women, who are 34 times more likely to be hospitalised and 10 times more likely to die from violent assault than other women. It is vital that our sector is better funded to deliver critical and culturally appropriate support in community.

"Now is the time to get real about investing in community-controlled organisations that are already on the ground delivering services that have a proven track record in making a difference, specifically regarding early intervention, prevention, crisis response and recovery and healing. Our door is always open for conversations with government so we can share solutions to addressing these issues in our communities."

FVPLSs provide critical frontline legal and non-legal support to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander victims/survivors of family violence in areas including intervention orders, victims of crime assistance, child protection and family law.

– ENDS –

For further information and media enquiries:
Lianne Brown, Communications Officer - NFVPLS Forum
E. lbrown@qifvls.com.au M. 0431 900 341



NATIONAL FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND LEGAL SERVICES FORUM

About the NFVPLS Forum

The National Family Violence Prevention & Legal Services Forum (NFVPLS Forum) was established in May 2012 and is the National Peak Body for Family Violence Prevention Legal Services (FVPLS) around Australia that provide culturally safe and holistic services to First Nations people affected by family violence – predominantly women and children.

The NFVPLS Forum provides expert national policy advice in areas of policy, planning and law reform, and advocates for safety and justice for First Nations people affected by family violence.

