



MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, August 16, 2024

Report Findings Meaningless Without Immediate Investment

The recommendations made in the landmark report of the inquiry into murdered and missing Indigenous women and children must be actioned if there is to be any justice for First Nations communities and their families, says the national peak body for the Family Violence Prevention and Legal Services (FVPLS) sector.

“Let’s make this report count,” Chief Executive Officer of First Nations Advocates Against Family Violence (FNAAFV - formerly the National Family Violence Prevention & Legal Services Forum), Kerry Staines said.

“It is not good enough to have a report that doesn’t get backed and receive investment,” Ms Staines said.

“This report has laid bare the crisis of violence experienced by our First Nations women who are the unwitting victims of a system that has failed to protect them; a system designed historically for racialised and gendered violence, and which contemporary impacts are being seen in the disproportional rates of violence experienced by our First Nations women,” she said.

“We note the recommendations highlighted in the report and consider that these recommendations will be meaningless without concerted efforts by the government to invest and empower our communities and ACCOs to give effect to these recommendations. We call on Government to respond to these recommendations and deliver a plan of action.

“We are pleased to see that our consistent and long-standing calls for greater investment into the FVPLS sector is reflected in the recommendations of this report. We note that this is consistent with the recently released NLAP report. We reiterate that the government must fund FVPLSs to strengthen our geographical presence to ensure our First Nations women can be supported and violence against them and their children can be prevented.

“We thank those who have shared their stories and for giving a voice to those who have lost theirs. This is a serious matter and we have consistently advocated that our communities have the solutions and must be empowered to realise these.”

FVPLSs provide critical frontline legal and non-legal support to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander victims/survivors of family violence.

– ENDS –

For further information and media enquiries:

Lianne Brown, Senior Communications Officer - First Nations Advocates Against Family Violence

E. lbrown@fnaafv.org.au M. 0431 900 341



FIRST NATIONS
ADVOCATES AGAINST
FAMILY VIOLENCE



About First Nations Advocates Against Family Violence (FNAAFV)

First Nations Advocates Against Family Violence (FNAAFV), formerly 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. FNAAFV 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.

