

Aboriginal Self-determination: A safer future



In February, on behalf of the PVT Partnership, WHISE launched the first Communities of Practice (CoP) on intersectionality and diverse communities. A best-practice approach to intersectional work must commence with Australia's colonial history and the prevention of violence against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women.

Several participants commented on how wonderful it was to hold this event at the Frankston Aboriginal Gathering Place, Nairn Marr Djambana. The evaluation clearly demonstrated that participants found hearing from and talking to leaders of prevention work from Our Watch, Family Safety Victoria and Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), was a unique opportunity.



L-R: Karla McGrady & Deborah Walsh (OurWatch), Kiewa Lovett (Family Safety Victoria) and Roxy Mayer (DHHS)



Zoe Francis (WHISE) facilitates a panel discussion



Attendee's rated this event
4.3 stars out of 5 overall



The presentation from different services was really beneficial and so much to learn. It was also fantastic to hear the history of the land in the Welcome to Country in the morning



KEY LEARNING

Non-Indigenous organisations need to invest in building cultural safety into workplace practice, promote healing, prioritise strengthening culture and work as allies to be effective in efforts to prevent violence.

When asked what the key take home learnings from the day were, **three key themes** emerged:

1. That family violence is an everyone problem, not an Aboriginal problem
2. The importance of cultural safety in prevention
3. The importance of self-determination in prevention initiatives

This year WHISE, on behalf of the PVT partnership, will be running an ongoing Communities of Practice on intersectionality and diverse communities. For more information please contact Zoe Francis on 03 9794 8677 or zfrancis@whise.org.au