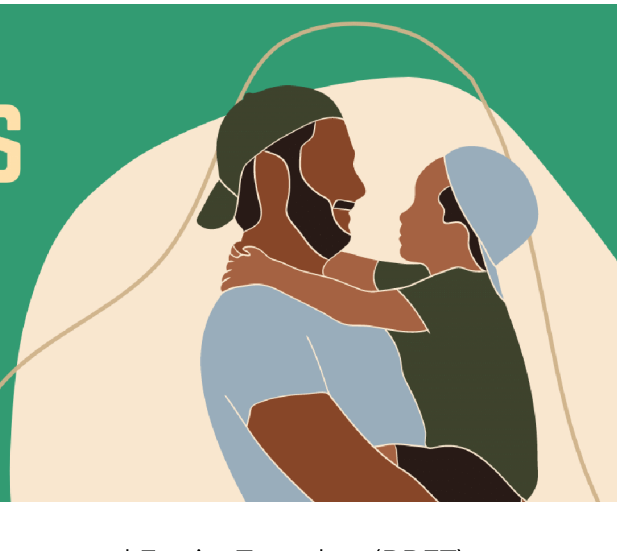


# MEN AND MASCULINITIES LEARNING FORUM



## EVALUATION SNAPSHOT

Women's Health in the South East (WHISE) and the Promoting Respect and Equity Together (PRET) partnership hosted the first post pandemic, in person forum on Thursday 15th September, 2022. We came together to share learnings and build workforce capacity across the region, in engaging men and boys in respectful relationships and gendered violence prevention.

Jesuit Social Services - The Men's Project presented the evidence-based from The Man Box study, and offered updates and useful anecdotes from their work out in the field, as well as their plans for the next stages of their research.

PRET partners Mornington Peninsula Shire Council in collaboration with Family Life shared learnings from their recent Mornington Peninsula Communities Creating Change Project (2020-2022), including the learnings and insights from a program participant.

A representative from Relationships Australia Victoria shared his extensive experiences in engaging men from culturally diverse backgrounds in work to promote equal and safe relationships.

### 01 WHO ATTENDED?

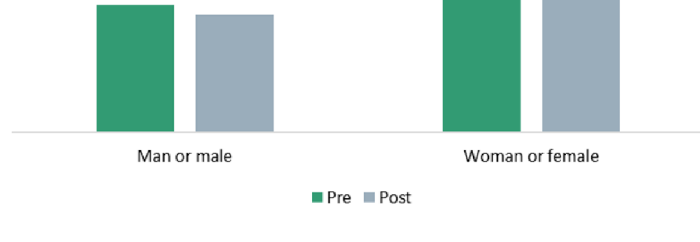
A total of 66 people registered for the forum and 49 people attended on the day, plus five guest speakers. Of the 49 attendees, 36 (73%) completed the survey following the learning forum.

Unfortunately, as the pre-event data is collected during the registration for the event, we are unable to separate the responses for only the people who attended the event. Therefore, analyses in this report will reflect the responses from all 66 people who registered for the forum as pre data and the post data will include the 36 people who completed the survey following the learning forum.

A broad range of workforce attended the event, including strong representation from **youth work, support work, health promotion, case work, social policy, equity and inclusion and community development roles.**

As can be seen in Figure 1, 39% of people who registered for the learning forum were men and 61% were women. Of the people who completed the post survey, 36% were men and 64% were women.

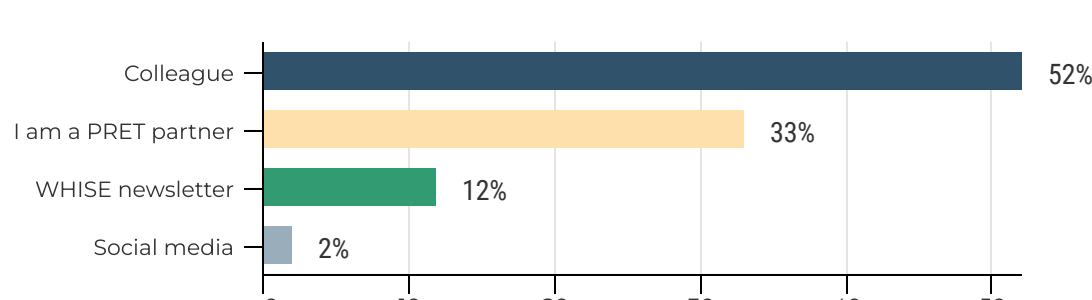
Figure 1: Gender identity of registrants and people who completed the post learning forum survey



### 02 THE REACH

A long-term outcome of the PRET strategy, is to engage a wider range of sectors, settings and organisations in the region in violence prevention work. The data below is a testament to the people who engage with the PRET partnership, who actively invited their colleagues to join them at this forum. This data suggests that as a collective, we are effectively working together to increase the diversity of the workforce who are building their capability in violence prevention / are interested to include it in their work/ remit.

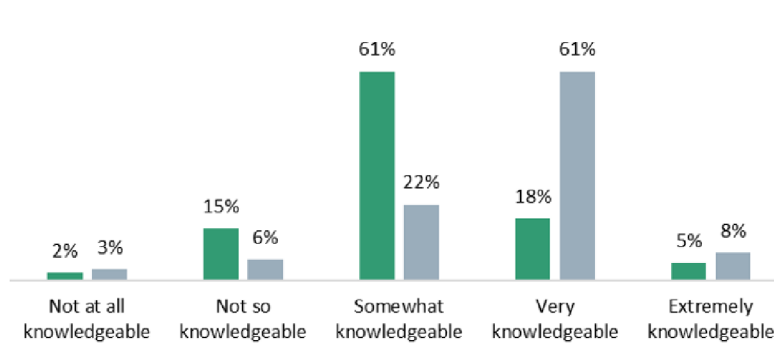
Figure 2: How people heard about the forum



### 03 OVERALL RATINGS OF KNOWLEDGE

Figure 3 shows the pre and post learning forum ratings of knowledge about engaging men and boys in healthier masculinities for the prevention of violence against women. As can be seen, knowledge very clearly increased following attendance. What's notable is the increase from 18% to 61% for very knowledgeable. Note that while it looks as though there was an increase in people who felt they were not at all knowledgeable pre and post the learning forum, only one person endorsed this rating each time.

Figure 3: Pre and post learning forum ratings of knowledge about engaging men and boys in healthier masculinities for the prevention of violence against women

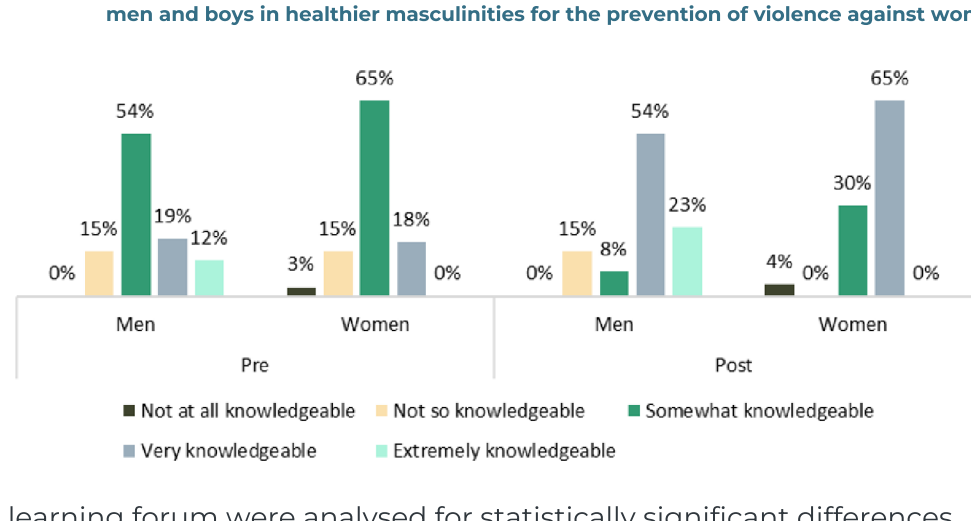
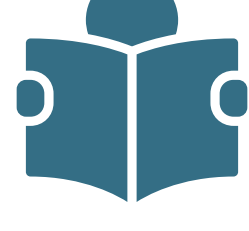


Analysis of the mean ratings of knowledge before and after the learning forum are significantly different and the effect size demonstrates that the increase in knowledge is small to medium.

### 04 GENDER DISAGGREGATION OF RATINGS OF KNOWLEDGE

Looking the responses from men and women, only men felt extremely knowledgeable about engaging men and boys in healthier masculinities for the prevention of violence against women both before and after the learning forum. Both genders increased in perceived knowledge. Interestingly, 54% of men and 65% of women felt somewhat knowledgeable before the learning forum and the same proportions felt very knowledgeable after the learning forum.

Figure 4: Gender disaggregation of pre and post learning forum ratings of knowledge about engaging men and boys in healthier masculinities for the prevention of violence against women

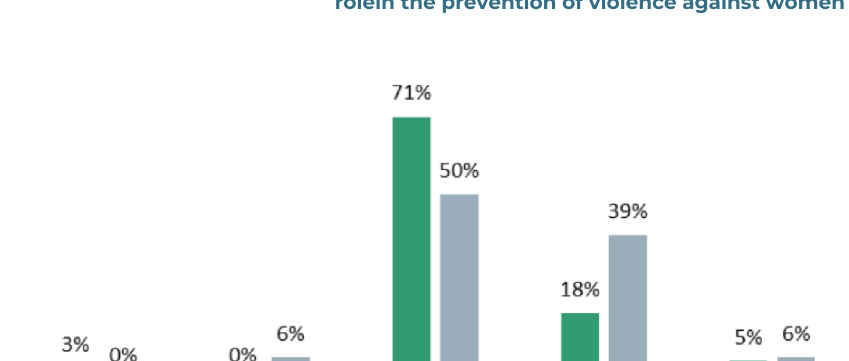


The responses pre and post the learning forum were analysed for statistically significant differences. While the responses for men and women were not significantly different before the learning forum, they were significantly different following the learning forum.

### 05 OVERALL RATINGS OF CONFIDENCE

As can be seen in Figure 5, there was a small increase in confidence around engaging men and boys/having conversations around healthier masculinities and their role in the prevention of violence against women following the learning forum. While almost three-quarters of people felt somewhat confident before the learning forum, this percentage dropped to 50% afterwards, however, there was an increase in the proportions of people who felt very confident.

Figure 5: Pre and post learning forum ratings of confidence around engaging men and boys/having conversations around healthier masculinities and their role in the prevention of violence against women



Analysis of the mean ratings of confidence before and after the learning forum are not significantly different.

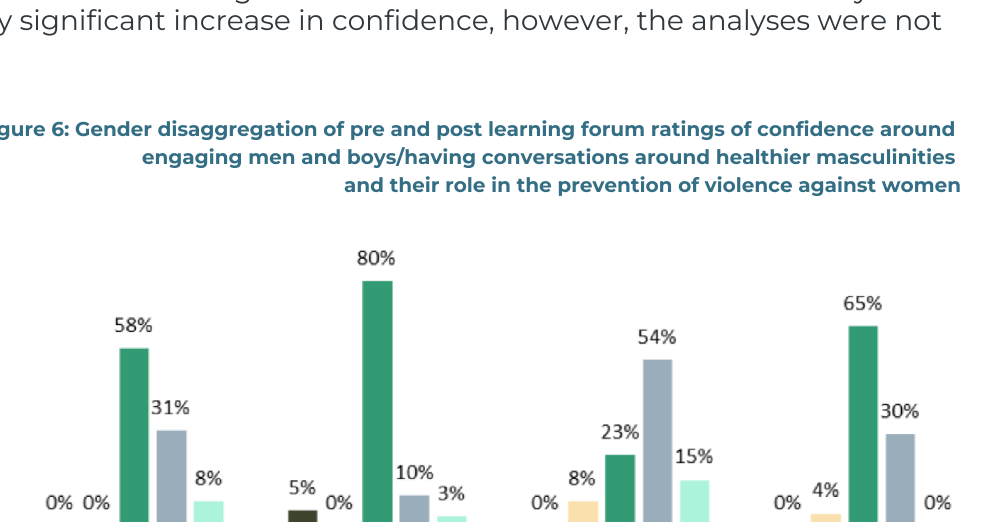
### 06 GENDER DISAGGREGATION OF RATINGS OF CONFIDENCE

Again, looking at Figure 6, it's interesting that men were more likely to feel extremely confident both before and after the learning forum than women. In fact, the ratings of confidence were higher among men before and after attending the learning forum.

The responses for men and women were analysed for statistically significant differences both pre and post the learning forum. However, the analyses revealed that both before and after the learning forum, the responses for men and women were not significantly different.

The difference in men's and women's mean ratings before and after the forum were also analysed to see if either gender had a statistically significant increase in confidence, however, the analyses were not significant.

Figure 6: Gender disaggregation of pre and post learning forum ratings of confidence around engaging men and boys/having conversations around healthier masculinities and their role in the prevention of violence against women



### 07 KEY LEARNINGS FROM THE FORUM

A large proportion of people cited the Man Box and the Men's Project as key learnings for them.

“ Loved hearing about the man box. ”

“ The man box is a segment of a larger concept where change is needed. ”

“ The Men's Project presentation was fantastic and always highlights the need for this work to be carried out across the whole community. ”

Many people really enjoyed the presentations in general, however, some people mentioned specific presenters.

“ Hearing from others in the space and hearing from Nazir. ”

“ I really like first speaker Michael's info as well as the vice principal of Padua. ”

Some people spoke about the networking opportunities as a key takeaway for them.

“ The ability to make connections and network. ”

“ Networking and programs available. ”

The importance of engaging different communities or groups in this work was raised by a handful of people. Specifically, high schools, communities and families, and working together more broadly.

“ Engage communities and families is important. ”

“ Engagement in high school projects most helpful. ”

Several people found the information on the Afghan community to be particularly interesting.

“ I found the talk about Afghanistan cultures very informative, I had very little knowledge on this topic before. ”

“ Loved hearing about engaging Afghan communities. ”

Other key learnings included understanding gendered differences in the community, the impact of cultural diversity on masculinity, the influence of language, and the presence of resistance in primary prevention work.

### 08 THE SOCIAL VALUE

WHISE is committed to demonstrating social impact in dollars using the Australian Social Values Bank, a rigorous, cost-effective approach to providing the social value of our work. Based on the survey data which track indicators on increased knowledge and confidence collected from attendees we illustrate the social value of this learning forum below. For further information on this tool – [www.asvb.com.au](http://www.asvb.com.au) or contact WHISE directly.

**Social Impact**  
Project: Men and Masculinities Learning Forum

**Net Social Benefit to Community**

\$251,328

\$6,981 per person for a cost of \$6,154 (adjusted for opportunity cost and optimism bias)

32.51

Benefit Cost Ratio

+36

Directly delivered to 36 participants with an estimated impact for 12 months

\$

Social Impact as calculated through Australia Social Value Bank for the Men and Masculinities Learning Forum.

The values used in this Cost-Benefit Analysis have been derived using the Wellbeing Valuation method from data gathered through the HILDA (Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia) and Journeys Home surveys.

For further information contact Zoe Francis – [zfrancis@whise.org.au](mailto:zfrancis@whise.org.au)