

Keeping Women Safe in their Homes

The Australian Government, through the National Initiatives program, has provided funding to the Tasmanian Government to deliver the Keeping Women Safe in Their Homes (KWSITH) program. KWSITH funding will be delivered through Safe at Home: the Tasmanian Government's Integrated Criminal Justice Response to Family Violence, on behalf of the Department of Social Services. Go to www.dss.gov.au for more information.

Objective

KWSITH supports women and their children who experience family violence to have security upgrades made to their homes, or a home of their choice, so they may safely stay there. Risk assessment and safety planning are key components of KWSITH to support a holistic, individualised response to safety in the home.

Eligibility criteria

To be eligible the application must be assessed by Integrated Case Coordination (ICC) members as being of current high-risk, and meet one of the following criteria:

- have a current Police Family Violence Order (PFVO) or Interim/Family Violence Order (I/FVOs) through a Safe at Home intervention
- have a partner who is due for release from a custodial sentence who is deemed at risk of committing future violence
- have an expired PFVO or FVO but identify as feeling unsafe in their home due to recent changes in their circumstances with a family violence perpetrator which increases the risk to safety

- deemed as requiring additional security to ensure their sense of well-being, including women accessing the [Homes Tasmania - Family violence rapid rehousing](#) initiative

Support available

Security upgrades

Funding is available to provide a range of security upgrades including, but not limited to:

- solid core doors
- security screen doors
- door viewers
- door chains
- door locks
- sensor lights

In some cases (e.g., where a breach has occurred at the home of the victim-survivor), funding may also be approved for the addition of:

- window locks,
- security window screens
- security camera/s with the capacity to collect admissible evidence
- mobile phone where it provides additional safety
- monitored personal safety devices
- other relevant technology solutions

Disability modifications

KWSITH funding may be approved for disability modifications alongside security upgrades. Where there is a delay in access to NDIS funded supports, and a disability modification is required in order to facilitate a move to a new home, applications for modifications may include, but are not limited to:

- installation of ramps
- widening of doorways
- bathroom modifications
- bedroom modifications

Disability modifications may relate to the needs of the woman, or any child(ren) in her care.

Access to KWSITH

Government and non-government service providers who work with family violence victim-survivors can submit an application to Safe at Home on behalf of a client who is leaving a family violence situation after they have undertaken a family violence risk assessment and created a safety plan.

Applications will be assessed on a case-by-case basis by ICC members. They may be approved in full, in part or declined, based on an assessment of risk and safety needs of the client to ensure that the objectives of the KWSITH are achieved within the funding available.

SAHCU will organise the relevant contractor to complete approved security upgrades.

An assessment and referral form is available by contacting the Safe at Home Coordination Unit (SAHCU) at safeathome@justice.tas.gov.au or by accessing the website [Keeping Women Safe in Their Homes | Safe at Home](#).

Contact

Safe at Home Coordination Unit
Email: safeathome@justice.tas.gov.au
Visit: safeathome.tas.gov.au

For all rental properties, permission must be provided in writing from the landlord with the KWSITH application at the time of submission.

Seeking Help and Support:

Family Violence Response and Referral Line – **1800 633 937**

Family Violence Counselling and Support Service – **1800 608 122**

Safe Choices - **1800 806 189**

Australian Childhood Foundation – **1300 381 581**

Engender Equality - **6278 9090**

Yemaya - **6334 0305**

RAIN (Relationship Abuse of an Intimate Nature) - **1800 243 232**

Huon Domestic Violence Service - **6264 2222**

1800 MYSUPPORT - **1800 697 877**

DAISY - Daisy is a free App which connects you to local and national specialist family violence and support services. Download Daisy from the App Store, Google Play or visit www.1800respect.org.au/daisy.

In an emergency always call 000

To report a family violence incident call Tasmania Police on 131 444 or attend your nearest police station



Tasmanian
Government