

Keeping Women Safe In Their Homes Program

JUNE 2020

The Australian Government, through the National Initiatives program, has provided funding to the Tasmanian Government to deliver the Keeping Women Safe in Their Homes program (the Program).

The Program will be delivered through Safe at Home: the Tasmanian Government's Integrated Criminal Justice Response to Family Violence.

OBJECTIVES

To keep women who experience family violence safe in their own homes, or a home of their choice.

Risk assessment and safety planning are key components of the Program to ensure it is safe for women to remain in the home of their choice.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible women should meet one of the following criteria:

- have a current protective 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 are deemed at risk of future violence;
- have an expired PFVO or FVO but identify as feeling unsafe in their home;
- have revealed family violence to a non-government service provider and require assistance with security upgrades, including women accessing the Rapid Rehousing initiative; and

- deemed as requiring additional security to ensure their sense of well-being.

SECURITY UPGRADES

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

- solid core doors;
- door viewers;
- locks;
- security screens and doors;
- sensor lights; and
- security cameras with the capacity to collect admissible evidence.

Funding is also available for purchasing of mobile phones where it provides additional safety and/or supports the woman to feel safer in her home.

DISABILITY MODIFICATIONS

There is limited funding available through the Program to provide disability upgrades alongside other supports such as case management, risk assessment and 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 property, applications can include a request for such upgrades. These may include, but are not limited to:

- Installation of ramps;
- Widening of doorways;
- Bathroom modifications; and
- Bedroom modifications.

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

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ACCESS TO THE PROGRAM

Women who are experiencing family violence and are clients of Safe at Home services or services delivered through non-government providers are able to access assistance.

An assessment and referral form is available by contacting the Safe at Home Coordination Unit at safeathome@justice.tas.gov.au.

Applications will be assessed by the Integrated Case Coordination Committees, and the Safe at Home Coordination Unit will assess those applications where an applicant has not yet reported to police.

Applications may be approved in full, in part or declined, based on an assessment of risk and other factors to ensure that the objectives of the Program are achieved within the funding available.

Contact details

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

Keeping Women Safe in Their Homes Program

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 or Google Play.

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

The Keeping Women Safe in their Homes program is funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.dss.gov.au for more information.

Contact details

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safeathome@justice.tas.gov.au

