

Welcome to the June edition of the Women's Health Grampians (WHG) Newsletter. We welcome your feedback, contribution and collaboration to both this publication and our developing partnerships.

Partnerships improving women's sexual and reproductive health

Women's Health Grampians is currently working on a project with Grampians Pyrenees Primary Care Partnership and Grampians Community Health to map the sexual and reproductive health services that are available across the Grampians region.

Our vision for this work is to improve women's access to timely and appropriate sexual and reproductive health services.

Through this project we are reaching out to about 60 organisations across the region including hospitals, community health, maternal and child health and youth services. We are capturing information about the types of services available, referral options, any emerging or unmet needs within the community and any professional development needs of these organisations.

Using this information we will develop a Sexual and Reproductive Health Referral Guide for the region. This will provide an indication of what services are readily available and what services are potentially missing allowing us to prioritise future projects based on the areas of most need.

If you would like to be involved in this consultation or have any information relating to sexual and reproductive health services within our region we would be very happy to hear from you. Please contact Shannon at WHG on 5322 4100 or email shannon@whg.org.au

Latrobe University: Fifth National Survey of Australian Secondary School Students and Sexual Health

Key findings of a survey recently published by Latrobe University remind us why timely access to sexual and reproductive health services, education and information is so important:

- 23% of Year 10 students, 34% of Year 11 and 50% of Year 12 had experienced sexual intercourse
- 86% of sexually active students used condoms if they were available
- 13% of sexually active students reported using no contraception the last time they had sex; while 15% used withdrawal.
- 25% of sexually active students reported an experience of unwanted sex

Source: <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/news/articles/2014/release/teen-sexual-health-survey-launched>



Follow us on Twitter, look for our handle: @WHGrampians retweet, comment and share, it all helps to get the message out, advocate and influence, and engage in discussion.

Kids these days

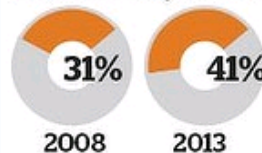
A survey of 2136 students (39% male, 61% female) looked at how they interact sexually online - and in person.

What they're doing

	2008	2013
Intercourse in Year 10	27%	23%
Year 12	56%	50%

Condom use

Did not use condom last time they had sex



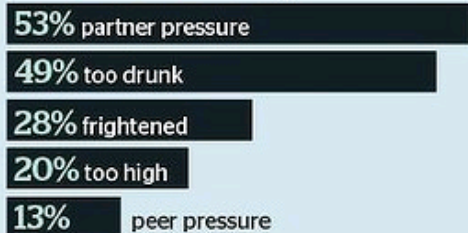
Why not?

Don't like them	30%
Trust partner	31%
Just happened	27%
Embarrassed	2%

86%

of sexually active students used condoms if available

25% Had sex they didn't want. Why?



Source: The Sydney Morning Herald

Sovereign Hill's signs the Community Charter

Sovereign Hill have signed up to the City of Ballarat's Community Charter to Prevent Violence Against Women. This is as a positive and public way to show staff, visitors and the whole community (which reaches an international audience) that Sovereign Hill recognise violence against women as a key social and health issue.

Representing WHG and the Charter Committee Kate Souter attended the May staff meeting at Sovereign Hill to present a Certificate of Endorsement for the commitment to the charter to Sovereign Hill's Charter Champion and CEO Jeremy Johnson.



Act@Work

2 New Act@Work workplaces

WHG's **Act@Work** Project is very excited to be spreading further into the Central Highlands region and to announce two Ararat workplaces have signed up for the program in 2014:

A.M.E Systems

Act@Work is looking forward to working with A.M.E, as already, the value they place on their staff and workplace culture has been evident. Together we can achieve some exciting outcomes as A.M.E leads the way for industry in tackling social and community issues.

Ararat Rural City Council

As the level of government most connected to the community, Ararat Rural City Council has a vital role in reducing the rates of violence against women; WHG is excited to be collaborating with the Council on the Act@Work project.

The Ararat community can be proud that one of its largest industries in AME and their Council are both committed to addressing violence against women.

Gender Indicators

The Australian Bureau of Statistics issued the latest edition of its **Gender Indicators** in February. This release includes a **podcast** with Elizabeth Broderick, Sex Discrimination Commissioner from the Australian Human Rights Commission, which outlines some of the main areas of gender differences. The release includes newly available data on cancer death rates, carer's data, experience of violence and stalking, education, and the latest gender composition of federal and state parliamentarians and ministers. Health-related tables have been updated with 2012 data from the ABS Death Registrations collection and the 2012-13 ABS Australian Health Survey, including life expectancy, death rates, and health risk factors in relation to Aboriginal Australians and Torres Strait Islanders.

Local government identifying family violence

The Municipal Association of Victoria is partnering with Yarriambiack Shire Council, the Grampian's Integrated Family Violence Committee and Women's Health Grampians to offer an introductory level Common Risk Assessment Framework (CRAF) training session for **Identifying Family Violence**.

Local government staff from across the Grampians region are encouraged to attend.

Date: Thursday 19 June 2014

Time: 10.30am to 3pm

Venue: Yarriambiack Council Offices

Meeting Room 1, 34 Lyle Street, Warracknabeal

Cost: Free (lunch provided)

RSVP: Register online at <http://www.mav.asn.au/events/Pages/local-government-identifying-family-violence-19062014.aspx> by COB 12 June 2014.

Who should attend: frontline council officers from across the Grampians region including: local laws, public health, library and recreation centre managers.

