

## **100 organisations across the Grampians commit to ending violence against women**

Launched in 2016, the regional strategy *Communities of Respect and Equality (CoRE) initiative*: has just reached the significant milestone of 100 members.

Led by Women's Health Grampians, CoRE sets a vision for a safe, equal and respectful society for everyone. This significant social change strategy addresses the drivers of violence against women and seeks to create new norms regarding respectful attitudes and behaviours.

CoRE is gaining momentum. Across the region members from a range of organisations, clubs and networks join and take action towards our vision. Membership includes all local governments across the region.

While early membership came from organisations with a strong alignment to the cause such as community services, membership, is now growing to include business, education, sport and other community groups wanting to make a difference.

A recent evaluation of the initiative found that members are making significant progress, and have a high satisfaction rate with their membership.

"Action across all settings in our society is needed if we are to unpack what is driving violence against women. We need to ensure that women and men, boys and girls have the same access to opportunities and are valued equally in our society. It is critical that we work together to build communities of respect and equality – they don't just exist – we have to think gender and check we have balance in everything we do" said Women's Health Grampians Acting CEO, Darlene Henning-Marshall.

"It is critical to have a whole of community effort to prevent and respond to family violence. CoRE enables the work of the Central Highlands Integrated Family Violence Committee to make important connections from primary prevention through to response, treatment and recovery" said Pennie Mathieson, Principal Strategic Advisor for the Central Highlands Integrated Family Violence Committee

More information is on our website:

<https://whg.org.au/priorities-programs/core>



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