

Rural and remote women

Women in rural and remote areas of Australia experience different health and wellbeing outcomes than those living in urban areas due to lack of access to health services, shortages of health professionals and infrastructure and higher rates of disadvantage. Rural women experience financial insecurity, social isolation, and face complex barriers to equal participation in our communities.



IMPROVING GENDER EQUALITY

GENDER INEQUALITY IMPACTS ON WOMEN'S HEALTH AND WELLBEING.

Discrimination, harmful gender norms and the unequal distribution of power and resources all result in poor health outcomes for women.

Gender inequality in the Grampians region is higher than the state average in some areas, and we are even moving away from equality rather than toward it in other areas.

To change this we want:

- Commitment to a National Gender Equality Strategy that addresses women's economic security, the gender pay gap, superannuation equity and leadership opportunities.
- Commitment to an Australian Women's Health Network with a strong rural and remote lens.

WOMEN'S SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

ACCESS TO SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES IS A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT FOR EVERY WOMAN IN AUSTRALIA.

But this is not a reality. Major gaps have been identified in primary health knowledge regarding reproductive options and referral pathways in the Grampians region.

To achieve this we need:

- A National Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy and funding to support its implementation to ensure women can access services close to where they live.
- To address financial barriers which can limit access to medical abortion services for women in rural and remote areas.
- Free provision of medical abortion in every public hospital.

PREVENTING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IS PREVALENT AND PREVENTABLE.

To prevent it, we need to address the drivers of violence against women — like inequality, disrespect, and rigid gender stereotypes.

Whole-of-population culture change initiatives which focus on these drivers are essential.

To overcome this we need:

- Secure, ongoing funding to expand regional primary prevention strategies.
- To invest in research to identify effective primary prevention initiatives specifically for rural and remote communities.
- Strong commitment to the Fourth Action Plan of the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-2022.

Take action for Grampians women.

1 IMPROVE
GENDER
EQUALITY

2 COMMIT TO
WOMEN'S
SEXUAL AND
REPRODUCTIVE
HEALTH

3 PREVENT
VIOLENCE
AGAINST
WOMEN

Our vision is for a safe, equal and respectful society for everyone.