

Sharing the evidence



Preventing violence
against women

Respect, Responsibility and Equality

Partners in prevention

Partners in Prevention

Working with young people to prevent violence against women

Partners in Prevention

Final Report

Phase II 2008-2011

Dr Amy Webster



Acknowledgements

Several people and organizations have supported the development of this report. First, I would like to acknowledge Kiri Bear who designed and coordinated the *Partners in Prevention* (PiP) from 2007 to early 2011. Kiri reviewed a draft of this report and I am grateful for her support and input.

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Abbreviations and acronyms

VAW - Violence Against Women

PVAW - Prevention of violence against women

PPVAW – Primary prevention of violence against women

VicHealth - The Victorian Health Promotion Foundation

FVU/OWP – Family Violence Unit of the Victorian Office of the Status of Women

DEECD – Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

RRE – Respectful relationships education

RPL – Research Practice Leader (VicHealth)

Tables and diagrams

Partners in Prevention objectives: Capacity building, resource development and advocacy (section 3, page 26)

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Executive summary

Practitioner networks are also crucial to building local capacity and promoting a collaborative culture of learning...There is a need to further develop these and other opportunities to build evaluation research and capacity in the sector.¹

In 2006, VicHealth created the *Respect, Responsibility and Equality: Preventing Violence Against Women* funding round to further its research into effective primary prevention of violence against women activities. The Domestic Violence Resource Centre Victoria (DVRCV) proposed the development of the PiP project, a state-wide network for professionals involved in the delivery of primary violence against women prevention projects targeting young people. DVRCV was successful in its application, receiving \$30,000 for a 12 month project. In March 2008, DVRCV successfully applied to VicHealth for the PiP project to be 'up-scaled' to Phase II, and received funding for a further three years.

This report presents the findings of the impact and process evaluation activities carried out by the PiP project between July 2008 and June 2011. The report is a requirement of the project funding body, VicHealth, but this final report will be widely distributed so that findings can be shared with other interested individuals and organisations.

PiP is primarily a capacity building project for professionals interested in working with young people for the primary prevention of gender-based violence. In terms of the VicHealth prevention framework, PiP is best understood as an organisation/workforce development project with a focus on youth as a priority population. The project is based on an ecological model that seeks to effect change by providing interventions at individual, organisational and policy levels.

Core activities of the project include:

- A website for workers

¹ Anastasia Powell (2019) *Sex, Power and Consent*, Cambridge University Press, Port Melbourne, 169.

- Quarterly network meetings
- Regular email bulletins
- Consultation, referral and advocacy
- An annual forum
- A library

Additional project activities were developed and carried out in Phase II in response to identified needs within the network. This included building network members' capacity for project evaluation and awareness of best practice in respectful relationships education. PiP also contributed to new DVRCV resources such as the website *Love, the Good, the Bad and the Ugly* and new booklets promoting respectful relationships.

This final report is designed to ensure continuous improvement in the effectiveness of PiP project activities and to assess the impact of the PiP project on youth-targeted PVAW activities in Victoria. Importantly, it also documents effective capacity building strategies that support workers in the primary prevention of violence against women.

This report sets out to answer the following questions as to whether PiP has succeeded in achieving its project objectives:

- Did the PiP project succeed in creating a community of practice amongst youth-targeted primary prevention of violence against women practitioners in Victoria?
- What changes can be observed as a result of the project's activities?

- What is the overall significance of the project? What has been its contribution to the field of primary prevention of violence against women?

The mix of quantitative and qualitative data gathered as part of the evaluation process clearly indicates that PiP has been successful in creating a community of practice amongst practitioners working on youth-targeted primary prevention of violence against women in Victoria. It is hoped that this final report will support PiP to be sustained either through the continuation of the project as it has operated over the past three years, in terms of the model's transference and uptake by others, or in terms of its contribution to the evidence base for effective PVAW practice.

Note

Much of the quantitative data used in this report was generated by the online survey of PiP members.

Quotes and comments from interviews, a survey and narrative reflections from both PiP coordinators have been included in italicised text throughout this report to add qualitative depth. More information about the use of narrative reflections can be found in Section 4 (Evaluation approach, methods and design).

2. Project background and context

PiP is a capacity building project for professionals interested in working with young people for the primary prevention of gender-based violence. The purpose of this section of the PiP Final Report is to provide the background and context and frameworks for the project. The following section of this report (Section 3) will provide greater detail about PiP itself.

The content of this section of the report is as follows:

- Immediate policy and programming context: VicHealth
- State-wide and national policy context
- Rationale and concept for PiP in this context
- Concluding remarks

Immediate program and policy context: VicHealth

Over the last eight years, VicHealth has overseen extensive program and policy activity around preventing VAW in Victoria.

VicHealth first prioritised the prevention of violence against women in 2003 as part of a broader program aimed at addressing the preventable causes of poor mental health and wellbeing. This was followed in 2004 with the publication of a ground-breaking study on the health costs of violence against women using burden of disease methodology.² The study, *The Health Costs of Violence: Measuring the Burden of Disease Caused by Intimate Partner Violence*, demonstrated that intimate partner violence was the largest known contributor to the total disease burden of Victorian women aged 15–44 years. Moreover, the contribution of violence

² VicHealth (2004) *The Health Costs of Violence: Measuring the Burden of Disease Caused by Intimate Partner Violence*. A Summary of Findings, Victorian Health Promotion Foundation, Melbourne

outstripped other more commonly known risk factors of disability and death such as obesity, high cholesterol, high blood pressure and illicit drug use.

In 2006, VicHealth published findings from another major study that explored community attitudes to violence against women. The study, *Two Steps Forward, One Step Back: Community Attitudes to Violence against Women*, showed that overall the Victorian community has a good understanding of the issue of violence against women and does not support men's use of violence.³

Respect, Responsibility and Equality - Phase I

In 2006, VicHealth also announced an important new funding stream to develop Victorian policy and practice in preventing violence against women. The 'Respect, Responsibility and Equality: Preventing Violence against Women' program provided grants of up to \$30,000 to government and non-government organisations to undertake primary prevention activities. A total of 29 projects, including PiP, received support from VicHealth through this program.⁴

A primary prevention framework and a whole-of-government strategy

From 2006, VicHealth partnered with the Victorian Government to develop a framework to guide whole-of-government policy and activity on preventing violence against women. The end result, *Preventing Violence Before it Occurs: A Framework and Background Paper to guide the Primary Prevention of Violence against Women in Victoria*, was published in 2007.⁵

³ VicHealth (2006) *Two Steps Forward, One Step Back: Community Attitudes to Violence against Women. Progress and Challenges in Creating Safe and Healthy Environments for Victorian Women. A Summary of Findings*, Victorian Health Promotion Foundation, Melbourne.

⁴ VicHealth (2007a) *VicHealth Partnership Activity to Prevent Violence against Women*, Victorian Health Promotion Foundation, Melbourne.

⁵ VicHealth (2007b) *Preventing Violence before it Occurs: A Framework and Background Paper to Guide the Primary Prevention of Violence against Women in Victoria*, Victorian Health Promotion Foundation: Melbourne

The framework is based on ecological understandings of the key determinants of violence against women and identifies contributing factors at the individual, relational, community and societal levels. In naming the causes, the framework also provides a sound theoretical and evidence base to support the primary prevention activity of government and civil society alike, and outlines main themes for action, broad intervention types, settings, and population targets to coordinate efforts.

Respect, Responsibility and Equality - Phase II

In 2008 VicHealth embarked on Phase II of the 'Respect, Responsibility and Equality: Preventing Violence against Women' program by providing further funding to five of the original 29 projects for an additional three years to 'scale up' their interventions. This substantial resource allocation allowed VicHealth's partners to consolidate their efforts across five settings and populations.

The projects are:

- *Partners in Prevention* (with Domestic Violence Resource Centre Victoria). A state-wide network for community sector professionals working with young people. Resources include a website, network meetings, email bulletins, an annual forum, and consultations and referrals – each assisting members to plan, implement and evaluate activities that promote respectful relationships between young men and women.
- *Baby Makes Three* (with Whitehorse Community Health Service). Engages new parents attending maternal and child health services in the City of Whitehorse. Programs focus on building equal and respectful relationships during the transition to parenthood.
- *Northern Interfaith Respectful Relationships* (with Darebin City Council). Engages faith leaders in Melbourne's north to primary prevention activities such as using scriptures and teachings to promote respectful relationships between women and men.

- *Respect and Equity* (with Maribyrnong City Council). Engages local government and the community it serves to prevent violence against women. Activities comprise internal capacity building strategies (e.g. cultural change within the organisation) and external partnerships (e.g. with sports clubs).
- *Working Together against Violence* (with Women’s Health Victoria). Engages a major corporate workplace to ‘stand up’ against violence against women. Activities include awareness raising sessions, customised tools/resources, and policy development.

Other VicHealth program initiatives

The Local Government Networking and Capacity Building project acknowledges the pivotal role that Victorian local governments play in fostering safety and wellbeing for all members of their communities through social and infrastructure planning, the provision of community facilities and services, and various community building/strengthening initiatives. The project builds on the efforts of many local governments that have already stepped into the primary prevention arena by increasing opportunities for the sector to network, develop partnerships, share resources and build skills.

‘Fair Game – Respect Matters’ is a program for Victorian community football clubs to build safe and inclusive environments for women that builds on the pioneering work of the VicHealth and AFL program through the ‘Respect and Responsibility’ (since 2005) delivered to elite-level clubs. Both programs aim to foster respectful attitudes towards women and encourage players to take responsibility for addressing violence-supportive attitudes and reduce violence perpetrated against women.

VicHealth’s involvement with the Women’s Domestic Violence Crisis Service also continues through the Media Advocacy project (since 2007). This initiative supports survivors to speak to the media and public as advocates who can influence myths about violence against women that persist in the wider community by bringing lived realities to the statistics.

In the education setting, VicHealth continues its engagements with partners to resource whole-of-school approaches for fostering respectful relationships amongst young people. In 2009, in conjunction with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD), VicHealth completed a review to identify best practice schools-based approaches to primary prevention. The report, *Respectful Relationships*

*Education: Violence Prevention and Respectful Relationships Education in Victorian Secondary Schools*⁶ was subsequently used by DEECD to inform the design of a pilot school-based program for the Victorian education system, implemented through a demonstration project with four secondary schools during 2010. Over the next two years, VicHealth will consolidate these best practice schools-based initiatives.

State-wide and national policy context

VicHealth continues to play an active role in building a skilled Victorian workforce for primary prevention through the Preventing Violence against Women short course. With its pilot phase completed, this established short course is equipping a growing number of practitioners with the skill and knowledge to implement evidence-based initiatives.

In recent years state and federal governments both the Victorian Government and the Federal Government have recognised the need for a comprehensive approach to combating and preventing the occurrence of violence against women, and have developed and launched the following plans:

- A ten-year, whole-of government prevention strategy *A Time for Action: The National Council's Plan for Australia to Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children, 2009-2021*, (2009), and the subsequent
- *National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children* (2011) Council of Australian Governments

Ten-year, whole of government prevention strategy

⁶ Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (2009) *Respectful Relationships Education: Violence Prevention and Respectful Relationships Education in Secondary Schools*, Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, Victorian Government

This state-wide, whole-of-government strategy was initiated by the previous government in Victoria. The initiative was then known as *A Right to Respect – Victoria’s Plan to Prevent Violence against Women 2010-2020*, (2009). *A Right to Respect* reflected strongly the prevention framework established by Vic Health including the ecological approach for understanding the occurrence of violence. This state-wide plan was ‘the world’s first systematic, sustained and cross-sectoral policy to build skills, attitudes and cultural values that reject violence against women’.⁷

The plan had two parts: that Victorian communities, cultures and organizations are non-violent and gender equitable and that relationships are respectful and non-discriminatory. Seven strategies are set out in the plan with corresponding actions. Importantly each of these actions occur within five prioritised settings which reflect but do not replicate the settings outlined in VicHealth’s *Preventing violence before it occurs*.

The PiP objective of supporting practitioners working with young people to prevent violence against women was reinforced by *A Right to Respect*:

Many attitudes, beliefs and behaviors are formed in childhood and adolescence, and this is a crucial time to educate and build skills around respectful relationships. Primary prevention can provide young people with the skills, role models and support to choose positive, respectful behaviors and engage in non-violence relationships.⁸

Under the current government the state-wide plan is referred to as the ten-year, whole of government prevention strategy to promote gender equitable and non-violent communities, organizations and relationships across the state, coordinated by the Office of Women’s Policy.

National Plan to Prevent Violence Against Women and their Children

The *National Plan to Prevent Violence Against Women and their Children* was released in February 2011. A National Council was set up in 2008 under the Rudd federal government to develop a comprehensive strategy

⁷ ‘About the Plan’, *A Right to Respect: Victoria’s Plan to Prevent Violence against Women 2010–2020*, Office of Women’s Policy, Department of Planning and Community Development, Victorian Government.

⁸ *Ibid.*, 20.

with the aim of reducing violence against women and their children in Australia. In 2009 the National Council released *Time for Action* an evidence-based plan based on community consultation assessing existing Australian and international research, investigating the effectiveness of legal systems and commissioning research on the economic costs of violence.⁹ The *Time for Action* report proposed that the Council of Australian Governments (COAG), should agree to an implementable long term plan to reduce violence, with the federal government taking a leadership role.

This led to the development of the National Plan in 2010. The National Plan is divided into four action plans spanning approximately four years each, with the plan concluding in 2022. In line with VicHealth and the Victorian Plan, the National Plan maintains an emphasis on prevention and in particular that prevention can be achieved through the promotion of respectful relationships.

Rationale and concept for *Partners in Prevention* in this context

In line with VicHealth's framework, PiP is underpinned by the ecological model of preventing violence against women. This model is employed by the World Health Organisation (WHO) as part of its wider public health approach in relation to violence prevention as a means of giving structure to understanding the contexts within which violence occurs.¹⁰

VicHealth's research relating to the determinants, extent and costs of violence against women, and the subsequent framework for preventing such violence have provided the basis on which the PiP project has been based over the past four years (Phases I and II of PiP).

The ecological model approach is recommended by experts because it grasps the complexities of the causes of VAW and takes us away from single-factor explanations. This model allows us to conceptualise violence as the result of factors operating within and across three nested levels of causality. Violence is understood as occurring within a broader societal context rather than an isolated or random act. A person and their relationships with others on an individual level (such as the relationship between intimate partners) is

⁹ Council of Australia Governments (2010) *National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children*. Available online: http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/SA/WOMEN/PUBS/VIOLENCE/NP_TIME_FOR_ACTION/Pages/default.aspx

¹⁰ Violence Prevention Alliance, World Health Organisation, *The VPA Approach*. Available online from <http://www.who.int/violenceprevention/approach/en/> accessed 16/2/11, World Health Organisation

understood to operate within the context of the individual's immediate community. This includes formal or informal structures such as family or community organisations such as local churches, for example. The community is then recognised as operating within the broader societal context – those broader beliefs and forces such as the dominant culture and government policies.

3. About the project

This section of the report provides more detailed information about the *Partners in Prevention* (PiP) project including:

- Project history
- Project objectives and design
- Project activities
- PiP logic model

Project History

In 2006, VicHealth created the *Respect, Responsibility and Equality: Preventing Violence Against Women* funding round to further its research into effective primary prevention of violence against women activities. The Domestic Violence Resource Centre Victoria (DVRCV) applied for funding with its proposal to create a state-wide network for professionals involved in the delivery of primary violence against women prevention projects targeting young people.

DVRCV was successful in its application receiving \$30,000 for a 12 month project designer and coordinator Kiri Bear employed for two days a week as the first PiP coordinator.

DVRCV is governed by the DVRCV governance group chaired by Associate Professor Kelsey Hegarty, MBBS, FRACGP, PhD. The executive officer manages the day to day operations of the centre and reports to the governance group. The PiP project worker is located in the communications team and reports to the team coordinator and the executive officer. A project reference group made up of external stakeholders provides advice and feedback to the project.

DVRCV aims to prevent family violence and promote respectful relationships. DVRCV aims to lead debate and promote social change and to strengthen the community and service system response to violence against women and their children, from primary prevention to recovery. DVRCV provides:

- Publications and research, including pamphlets, booklets, kits, posters and discussion papers
- Training courses for professionals on a range of responses to family violence
- Accessible online support and education through five websites
- A quarterly magazine with substantial articles on new research and practices around family violence plus contact details for Victorian support groups
- A free lending library with specialist books, journals and multimedia around family violence and sexual assault
- Supportive online information to help people who have experienced family violence
- Initial telephone support, information and referral to services to assist people who have experienced family violence

DVRCV develops and produces innovative violence prevention initiatives such as:

The website *Love: the good the bad and the ugly* (2010), which was redeveloped from DVRCV's award winning website

- *When Love Hurts* (1998). This website on respectful relationships was a world-first – and many other organisations around the world used it as a model for their own sites for young people. It promoted abuse-free relationships and included a quiz on the warning signs of abuse, advice, and stories from young women. The site won the major 2001 Australian Violence Prevention award. The site was redeveloped to include new material, updated information, and video stories about the development of respectful relationships in 2010.
- *Relationships* (2000) A booklet for young women. Written in consultation with students, teachers and community organisations, the booklet assisted young people to identify the difference between respectful and abusive relationships. The booklet has been widely distributed throughout secondary schools in Victoria and has been reproduced in other states.

The PiP network was modelled on the successful Rainbow Network¹¹ for workers supporting same-sex attracted and transgender young people it was the first of its kind in the field of primary violence prevention.

Partners in Prevention - Phase I

The effectiveness of PiP actions on the populations targeted by the project during its first year (under Respect, Responsibility and Equality Phase I, 2007) was evident in the findings of the Final Report made to VicHealth mid-2008.

Within the first 12 months of the project PiP achievements included:

- Workers in the network feeling that their work is being acknowledged and that they are part of a broad community of violence prevention workers, a 'sector'.
- The creation of new partnerships between workers in the primary violence prevention field.
- Information about primary gender-based violence prevention being circulated via the PiP email list and collected and archived on the website.
- An increase in the visibility of primary gender-based violence prevention programs for young people (for policy makers, community workers and the broader community).
- The development of an ongoing conversation about working with young people for the primary prevention of gender-based violence.¹²

Several objectives of VicHealth's Phase I funding from VicHealth were clearly supported by PiP including:

- The need to increase community and organizational capacity to create safe and inclusive environments in which women and men can participate on equal terms

¹¹ Rainbow Network Victoria, The network for workers with same sex attracted and gender questioning young people. Available online: <http://www.rainbownetwork.net.au/>

¹² Partners in Prevention Phase 1 Evaluation Report, see Appendix 1.

- To build leadership and skills within organizations and communities to undertake activity in the primary prevention of violence against women
- to strengthen existing partnerships and develop new partnerships between organizations to support the primary prevention of violence against women
- to support the application of evidence-based approaches to the primary prevention of violence against women and to further build the evidence base for primary prevention activity.

As a result of the demonstrated effectiveness of Phase I, PiP was one of five of the originally funded 29 Respect, Responsibility and Equality Phase I projects to successfully apply for a further three years of funding (2008-2011) to continue and consolidate the work done in Phase I.

The design and implementation of PiP changed only minimally between Phase I and Phase II. The key objectives remained consistent as did the key activities undertaken to support these objectives with only slight adjustments.¹³

Partners in Prevention Phase II

In March 2008, DVRCV successfully applied to VicHealth for the PiP project to be 'up-scaled' and to receive expanded funding for the following three years, (ending June 2011) (see Section 2 page 12). This is referred to as 'Phase II' of the project. This final report is intended to capture the work of Phase II of the PiP project and reflect on its successes and limitations in order to provide a firm basis for proceeding with and sustaining the program.

The role of VicHealth as funding partner

VicHealth's role in the PiP project has been substantial, providing not only funding, but ongoing professional development and support to the coordinator. This has included:

¹³ Section 4 of this report will provide a more detailed history of the Partners in Prevention project's evolution from Phase I to Phase II.

- Regular one-on-one site visits from the VicHealth research practice leader particularly around evaluation and planning
- Attendance at regular 'Learning Circle' events hosted by VicHealth which brought together representatives from each of the five scaled-up PVAW projects and created a supportive and warm environment to discuss the challenges and successes of each project.

Development of the project plan

The PiP project recognises that the idea of preventing violence against women through work with young people is not new. In fact, a broad range of violence prevention projects targeting young people have been carried out over many years by a variety of organisations. PiP has sought to capture this good work and build on its strengths by drawing workers in the field into a community where they can discuss their practice and share knowledge. PiP received its funding as part of VicHealth's efforts to increase the evidence base for effective PPVAAW strategies but has also facilitated other projects' contribution to this evidence base.

The initial application for PiP Phase I outlined the following objectives:

- Increase the knowledge of violence prevention theory and practice throughout the community sector
- Set up and promote the PiP Youth Violence Prevention Network
- Assist in the development of partnerships and coordination within the primary violence prevention sector
- Share primary prevention resources and best practice models for working with young people
- Expand the evidence base for effective practice with young people to prevent violence against women
- Develop leadership within the youth violence prevention field and advocate to increase the reach and quality of violence prevention initiatives in Victoria.

These objectives have informed, and are consistent with the overarching objectives of Phase II of the project. The main network activities of Phase I (being an annual forum, the website and regular bulletins as well as network meetings) have been continued in Phase II.¹⁴ However, in preparation for Phase II of the project, the design and logic model for PiP was significantly refined and the objectives split into three: capacity building, resource development and advocacy.

The Phase I Evaluation Report included reflections both from network members as well as the then project coordinator Kiri Bear. The following quote from a network member drawn from the Phase I report¹⁵ indicates PiP's success in achieving its pilot phase objectives

[The project has] created an identity for violence prevention work with young people, building the 'sector,' building capacity but also acknowledging this work, being able to see it collectively rather than just one off programs.

The Phase I evaluation report found that in spite of significant success in achieving the project's objectives there were still opportunities to improve the work of the project. The recommendations of the Phase I report for Phase II of the project were to:

- Explore possibilities for fostering communication between workers using online technologies
- Increase opportunities for information sharing and peer support at network meetings
- Develop leadership within the field by encouraging workers to talk or write about their work in other forums such as conferences and newsletters, providing opportunities to become involved in network projects and advocating for network representation on relevant policy bodies
- Expand the network membership through advocacy with other groups such as Parent's Victoria, Family Planning Victoria, Independent Schools Association.¹⁶

¹⁴ These activities are presented in greater detail under 'Project Activities' in this section of the report

¹⁵ Quote from network member, Partners in Prevention Phase I Evaluation Report, see Appendix 1.

¹⁶ Partner in Prevention Phase I Evaluation Report, see Appendix 1.

These recommendations became priorities for PiP Phase II. For example, part of PiP's resource development role became to revamp and expand the PiP website and to use better software for PiP e-bulletins which became more regular in PiP Phase II. PiP network meetings routinely included an allocation of time for information sharing and peer support.

The creation of the PiP Evaluation Working Group¹⁷ in Phase II was designed to encourage leadership in the field around project evaluation theory and practice. The goal of fostering leadership within the sector was also achieved under PiP's advocacy objective through the activity of facilitating practitioner involvement in conferences. Expanding network membership has been an ongoing priority.

At the end of Phase I, the PiP coordinator was able to reflect:

The network has impacted workers' view of themselves and the work that they do. The very fact of having a network validates workers' efforts to create social change and strengthens their identity as violence prevention practitioners. - Excerpt from Kiri Bear, PiP coordinator, Phase I evaluation report (See Appendix 1).

The project in 2010/2011: A focus on evaluation and sustainability

Planning for the final evaluation of Phase II of PiP began in 2008. The PiP coordinator developed the evaluation framework in consultation with Dr Michael Flood, VicHealth research leader.

In 2010 the evaluation framework set out in 2008 was revisited to consolidate the impact evaluation component of the research design with the assistance of the Evaluation and Sustainability Working Group (ESWG).¹⁸ In late 2010 evaluation mechanisms such as the online survey were implemented in line with VicHealth requirements. The design of the impact and process evaluation are detailed in Section 4 of this report (see page 31).

¹⁷ This will be detailed in section 5 of this report: Presentation of Evaluation Findings.

¹⁸ The ESWG was formed as a reference group to support the evaluation and sustainability of the *Partners in Prevention* project. This is not to be confused with the Evaluation Working Group (EWG) which was formed to support network members carrying out evaluation of their own projects, Section 4 of the report details the creation and work of the ESWG more fully (see page 31). Section 5 provides more detail around the work of the EWG (see page 45).

With her move to a new role at VicHealth , founding PiP coordinator Kiri Bear began the process of ‘handing over’ to new coordinator Amy Webster in January 2011. In addition to coordinating ongoing PiP activities, evaluation has been a major focus in the first half of 2011.

With funding for Phase II ending in June, PiP was invited to apply for Sustainability Support Funding from VicHealth to undertake activities that will build towards the achievement of project sustainability from 2012. These include the production of an online manual with associated resources enabling practitioners in youth-focused PPVAW work to transfer or transplant the PiP model to another setting or scale.¹⁹

PiP successfully applied for funding from the Sustainability Support Fund to enable project coordinator to focus on developing a strategy for project sustainability from July 1 2011 to January 31 2012. Funded under VicHealth’s Respect, Responsibility and Equality Phase III program, this period of the project is known as PiP Phase III.

Project objectives and design

PiP is a state-wide capacity building project for professionals interested in working with young people for the primary prevention of gender-based violence.

The project seeks to effect change across the spectrum of prevention from strengthening individual knowledge to influencing policy and legislation (see http://preventioninstitute.org/tool_spectrum.html for details). Project activities are intended to deliver multiple, overlapping and mutually reinforcing objectives as can be seen in the diagram on the following page. These objectives are advocacy, capacity building and resource development.

¹⁹ For more information on the Sustainability Support Funding offered to the Partners in Prevention project by VicHealth in 2011 see the ‘Conclusions and Recommendations’ section of this report.



- **Capacity Building**

To increase the ability of individuals and organisations to deliver youth VAW prevention initiatives through the development of a community of practice supported by effective communication

- **Resource development**

To support the practice of youth-targeted primary VAW prevention initiatives by individuals, organisations and the community through the provision of a suite of resources consistent with VicHealth's preventing VAW framework

- **Advocacy**

To generate an enabling policy environment for youth VAW prevention initiatives in schools and more broadly across the community through the development of new partnerships with youth stakeholders.

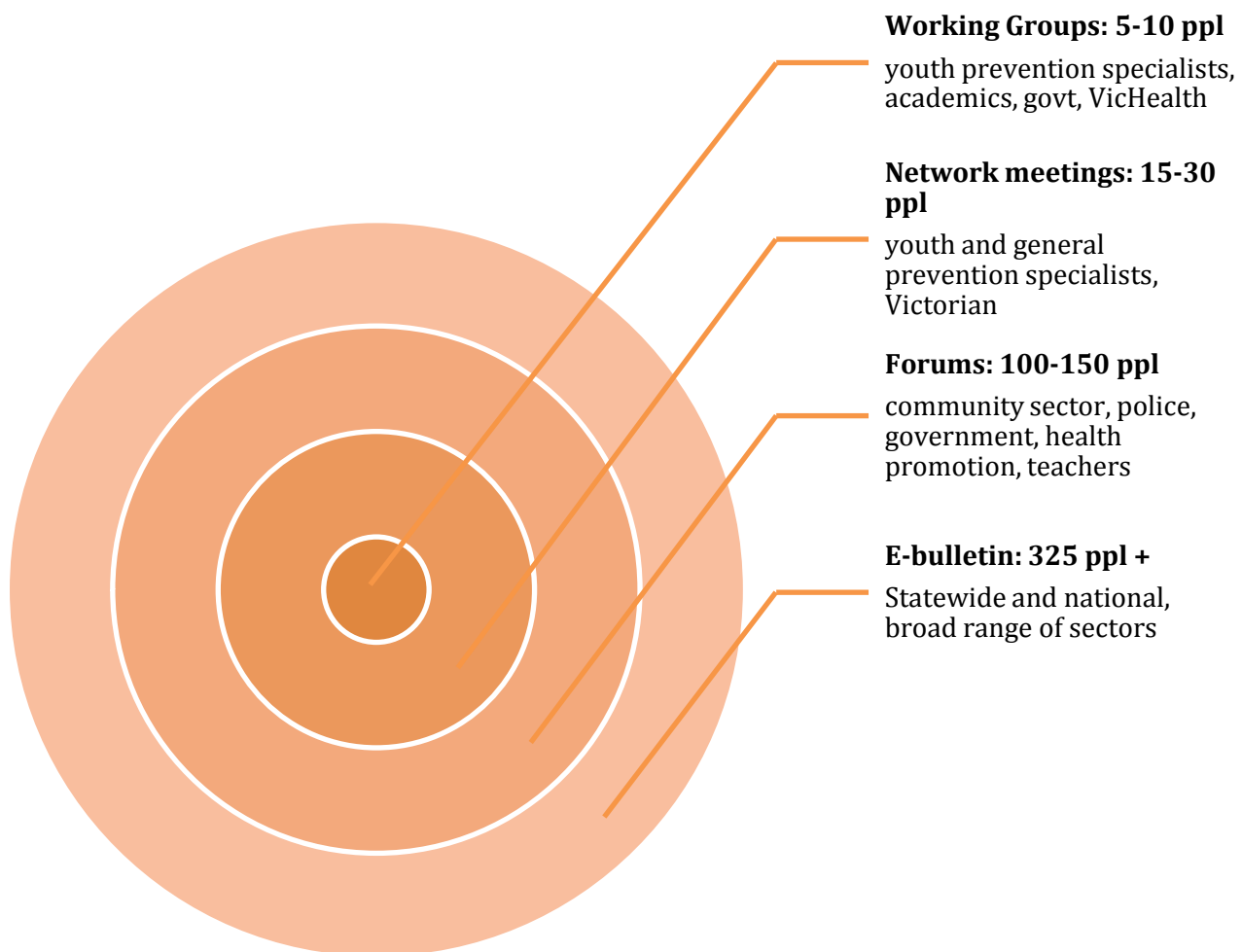
Project Activities

The PiP project Phase II includes the following core activities:

- **A website for workers** in the youth, health, community and education sectors who are interested in finding and sharing strategies for the primary prevention of gender-based violence. It includes information on the network and links to useful articles and websites
- **Quarterly network meetings** with guest presenters on issues relevant to violence prevention. These meetings provide opportunities for violence prevention workers to come together and discuss their work
- **Regular email bulletins** with information and recent news relating to gender-based violence prevention and announcement of upcoming network events
- **Consultation, referral and advocacy** - the PiP project coordinator has access to information on violence prevention projects across the state and is regularly called on to provide input to government consultations and reference groups

- **An annual forum** on a topic relating to young people and the primary prevention of gender-based violence
- **A library** of resources relating to the primary prevention of gender-based violence available as part of the DVRCV library.

This range of activities allows PiP members to have varying degrees of involvement with PiP. As a result, even if members are unable to attend each quarterly network meeting or are unable to commit to being part of a working group, they are still involved and kept up to date via the monthly e-bulletin and PiP website (see diagram below).



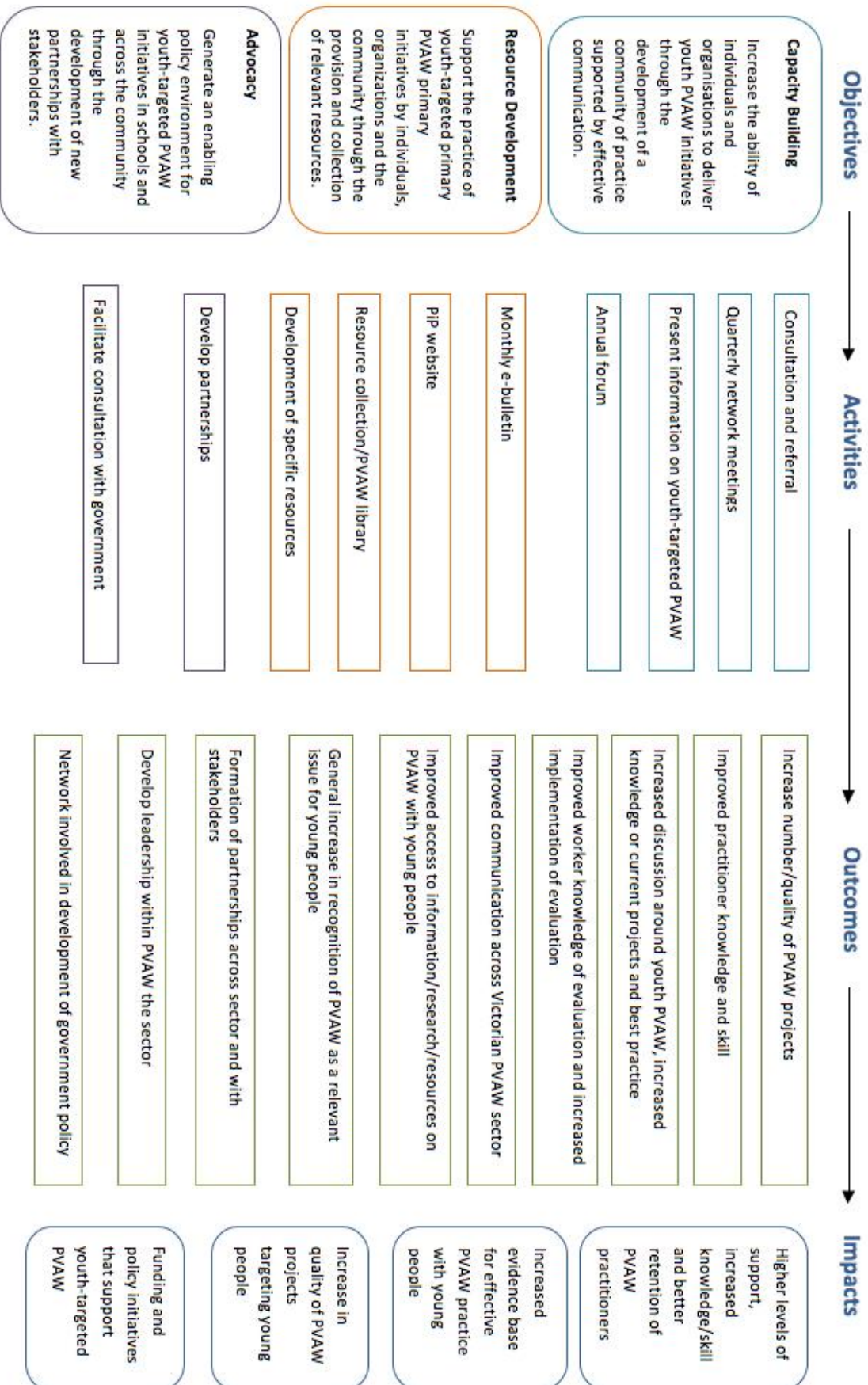
Levels of involvement in *Partners in Prevention* network activities

In addition, Phase II of the project allows for growth in project activities in response to identified needs within the network. This responsiveness to network needs is considered crucial in keeping PiP relevant and up-to-date in order to best support the network members. As a result, the PiP project has focused on building network members' capacity for project evaluation, for example, and contributed to the redevelopment of DVRCV's award winning website *When Love Hurts* for young people as *Love: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly*. A recent major project has been the development of a booklet on respectful relationships for young men entitled *Sex, Love and Other Stuff*. This resource fills a significant gap in materials available to professionals working in the field of youth-based PVAW.

The PiP Logic Model

The following model shows the rationale for the PiP project in terms of connecting objectives to the activities, outcome and impacts.

Partners in Prevention Phase II Logic Model



4. Evaluation approach, design and methods

The findings in this report cover activities carried out by the PiP project between July 2008 and June 2011.

This section of the report comprises:

- Final report: Purpose, approach and framework
- Process evaluation
- Impact evaluation
- Data collection and analysis
- Limitations and hurdles

Final Report: Purpose, approach and framework

Purpose of this report

This report has been designed to ensure continuous improvement in the effectiveness of PiP project activities and to assess the impact of Phase II of the PiP project on youth-targeted PVAW activities in Victoria. It documents effective capacity building strategies that support workers in the primary prevention of violence against women. The report seeks to answer the following questions:

- Did the PiP project succeed in creating a community of practice amongst youth-targeted primary prevention of violence against women practitioners in Victoria?
- What changes can be observed as a result of the project's activities?

- What is the overall significance of the project? What has been its contribution to the field of primary prevention of violence against women?

Approach to evaluation

The core research for this evaluation was conducted by the PiP coordinator, with support from VicHealth's research practice leader. The main researcher is therefore intimately involved in the evaluation process and this is viewed as a strength of the research. As PiP coordinator from 2008 until early 2011, Kiri Bear designed the evaluation process and the methods for collecting data in consultation with the VicHealth research practice leader and the ESWG.²⁰

The approach to evaluation used by the five VicHealth 'Respect, Responsibility and Equality' scale-up projects was informed by 'participatory' and 'empowerment' models of evaluation. Where traditional modes of program evaluation utilise external experts to conduct evaluation activities, participatory and empowerment models strengthen the evaluation capacity of individuals, groups and organisations involved in programs so that evaluation expertise is integrated into core program aspects. 'Evaluation capacity building' (ECB) is therefore a key concept and strategy of participatory and empowerment models.

ECB is defined as the design and implementation of learning activities to support program stakeholders in learning about and undertaking effective evaluation practice.²¹ In the context of public health and health promotion, ECB:

- prioritises the participation of those involved in program implementation in the conduct of their own evaluation activities
- operates within a learning environment where stakeholders learn about evaluation by doing it (a 'learn-by-doing method')

²⁰ Michael Flood was in this role initially and was then replaced by Wei Leng Kwok.

²¹ Preskill and Boyle (2008) 'A Multidisciplinary Model of Evaluation Capacity Building' in *American Journal of Evaluation*, vol. 29 no. 4 pp. 443–59.

- enables stakeholders to draw upon evaluation findings ‘in real time’ for program improvement (as part of an action research cycle) and
- focuses on empowering stakeholders with the view to sustaining evaluation practice well beyond the program for which ECB activities were initially devised.

In practice, ECB engages the evaluator in a coaching and/or structured guidance role. In this role, an evaluator acts as a sounding-board to support stakeholders in solving evaluation problems, such as establishing indicators of effectiveness or developing methods of data collection. The evaluator’s involvement stops short of actually conducting the evaluation, since the point of ECB is to encourage stakeholders to ‘learn-by-doing’.

In certain situations, the evaluator can be involved in undertaking discrete evaluation activities that have been identified and developed as part of ECB practice (e.g. facilitating focus groups). In these cases, the evaluator is seen as part of the program rather than as an external investigator conducting an independent evaluation.

While ECB is not commonplace in preventing violence against women practice, VicHealth’s ‘Preventing Violence against Women’ program has recognised the importance of such an approach to the evidence base for primary prevention in Victoria, and beyond. Strengthening the capacity of programs to conduct evaluation helps to ensure evaluation practice is ‘mainstreamed’ into core program activities. A workforce strengthened in evaluation know-how increases the chances of program evaluation. And the more programs are evaluated, the greater the contribution of findings and learnings to the emerging field of primary prevention.

For these reasons, VicHealth has adapted overseas examples of ECB in primary prevention – such as those documented by the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the USA²² to conceptualise an ECB model for the five scale-up projects. VicHealth’s ECB model is a partnership model where:

- Project coordinators are positioned as the main researchers for their project evaluation activities
- a considerable level of evaluation support is provided to project coordinators by the funding body through a research practice leader, a core staff member of the Preventing Violence against Women program at VicHealth

²² Cox, P. J., Keener D, Woodard T, Wandersman A (2009) *Evaluation for Improvement: A Seven-step Empowerment Evaluation Approach for Violence Prevention Organisations*, Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta GA

- Project coordinators are expected to work closely with the research practice leaders for the duration of their projects to develop all aspects of their evaluation design/research and for technical assistance in implementing various evaluation strategies, and
- specific processes are put in place and continuously refined throughout the funding period to foster a ‘learn-by-doing’ environment for project coordinators so that the research practice leader’s evaluation support is both meaningful and effective (processes include a combination of group instruction and individual assistance).

This ECB model was highly successful and has been documented in detail by VicHealth. More information can be found at www.vichealth.vic.gov.au.

The Evaluation and Sustainability Working Group

The Evaluation and Sustainability Working Group (ESWG) played a key role in refining the design of the impact and process evaluation which informs this final report. Furthermore, the ESWG has, and continues, to support PiP’s quest for sustainability. The group has seven members representing a range of key stakeholder organisations including the Victorian state government’s Office of Women’s Policy, VicHealth, DVRCV, Women’s Health in the West, the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society and the Gippsland Women’s Health Service.

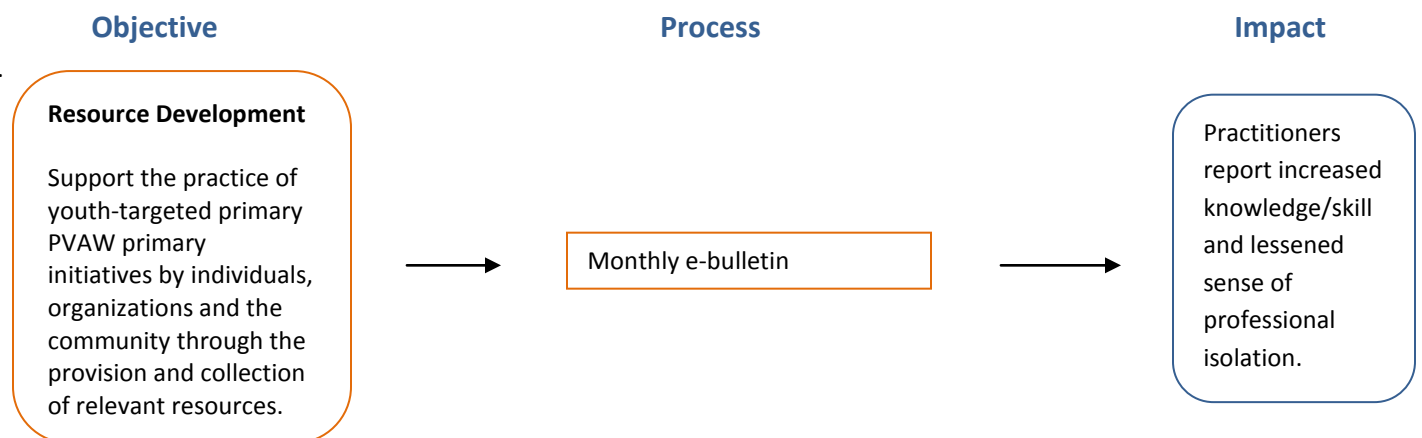
The group has provided advice and feedback on the PiP project impact evaluation and on developing strategies to ensure long-term sustainability of project outcomes. ESWG activities have included engaging in discussion about the impact of the PiP project on the primary prevention of violence against women field and confirming the existing evaluation plan and provide advice on methods and tools including those already developed. Specifically the group felt that the evaluation questions were originally too broad and suggested that the questions be connected to a set of more measurable indicators.²³ This suggestion was implemented (see Section 5 page 45).

²³ Appendix 2 provides a fuller overview of the purpose, background and activities of the ESWG. The group has been convened twice so far (most recently in July 2011).

Evaluation framework

In order to measure the success of PiP Phase II, this report provides an evaluation of both the ‘processes’ and ‘impacts’ of the project. ‘Processes’ refers to the way in which activities were carried out whereas ‘impacts’ relates more to whether and how the activity/process affected the practitioners involved.

The logic model in Section 3 of this report (see page 30) illustrates this clearly. The following diagram provides an example of the logic model, where the objective is resource ‘development’ and the activity is a monthly e-bulletin.



In this example, process evaluation assesses the number of recipients and the use of the bulletin’s content by recipients through such tools as Google Analytics to ascertain how many ‘clicks’ the bulletin items received. Process evaluation would also include the project coordinator’s reflections on the process, including, for example, whether the mechanisms for sending the bulletin were effective and how the layout of the bulletin was designed.

The impact evaluation of the monthly bulletin, however, measures the affect the activity or process had in supporting or achieving the overall objectives of the project. In the case of the e-bulletin, the impact evaluation would look at whether network members stated (in the survey for instance) that they felt receiving

the e-bulletin kept them up to date with current and best resources to support their practice and professional development.

The evaluation framework below deals first with processes and then with impacts. The framework breaks down the PiP project into its three core objectives: capacity building, resource development and advocacy. Each objective is accompanied by a set of questions and indicators. The questions help us find out whether or not the project has been successful in meeting its objectives and the indicators direct us to the evidence we need to use to answer the questions.

To build on the resource development example above, one of the questions we use to evaluate impact is

- How did workers say the resources supported their practice?

An indicator would be:

- Participants reported accessing the project resources (such as library materials, evaluation tip sheet, *Love: the Good, the Bad and the Ugly* website, PiP website, or project coordinator) and using them with students or teachers, or using them to enhance their own knowledge or to add to the development of their project

Clearly process evaluation is more straightforward than impact evaluation. This is reflected in simpler and more straightforward questions and indicators relating to process in comparison with impacts.

Process Evaluation Questions and Indicators

Capacity building

- How many VAW prevention professionals attended PiP events?
 - Records of attendance at PiP Phase II events

- How many people consulted with the project?
 - Records of consultations with project coordinator and feedback from network members, and reflections of the project coordinator
- How many partnerships were generated through network activities? What was the nature, strength and significance of partnerships generated?
 - Information from network members about partnerships developed

Resource development

- How many resources were produced or collected?
 - List of resources produced/ collected by project – websites, bulletins, publications, library books
- How often were project resources accessed by practitioners?
 - Practitioners reported accessing resources provided by PiP a number of times

Advocacy

- What committees and consultations has the project been involved in?
 - Record of consultations
- Which organisations has the project engaged in project activities?
 - Record of partnerships generated by the project

Impact Evaluation Questions and Indicators

Capacity building

- Did PiP network members report an increase in their knowledge of best practice, current issues and research in the field of VAW prevention as a result of PiP activities?
 - Were able to describe best practice principles listed in *Respectful Relationships Education in Schools* report

- Were able to talk about current issues relating to prevention of violence against women in Victoria that were raised through PiP bulletin and network meetings
- Did workers report improvement in their skill in delivering VAW prevention activities as a result of PiP network activities?
 - Reports of increased confidence in discussing PVAW in terms of best practice, current issues and challenges:
 - ability to evaluate their project through planning, process and impact
 - ability to advocate for best practice to management or project partners
- Did workers report any changes in practice as a result of their involvement in PiP activities?
 - Able to identify changes in practice after attendance at a PiP event in line with best practice:
 - Whole-school approach
 - Program framework and logic
 - Effective curriculum delivery
 - Relevant, inclusive and culturally sensitive practice
 - Impact evaluation
- What projects/ activities/ other benefits have developed through PiP project activities?
 - Participants were able to identify partnerships that have developed through PiP events or referrals from the project coordinator
 - Participants were able to identify network type activities or events that have been inspired by the example of PiP

Resource development

- How did workers say they used project resources?
- How did workers say the resources supported their practice?
 - Participants reported accessing the project resources (library materials, evaluation tip sheet, *Love: the Good, the Bad and the Ugly* website, PiP website, or project coordinator) and using them with

students or teachers, using them to enhance their own knowledge or to add to the development of their project

Advocacy

- According to stakeholders, what impact has PiP had on the development of government policy over the life of the project?
- According to stakeholders how effective has the project been in providing consultation to the sector?
 - Stakeholders reported that they have referred self or others to PiP coordinator for information and the outcome was satisfactory.
- How do PiP members describe PiP's influence on the way organisations or departments work?
 - Participants described changes to organisational/departmental practice as a result of PiP activities:
 - prioritising PVAW in organisational decision making
 - development of new organisational partnerships
 - applying for or allocating funding for PVAW related projects
 - knowledge of best practice in PVAW

Data collection and analysis

In collecting data for the evaluation a mixed-methods approach was utilised. This means that qualitative as well as quantitative data was collected as part of the evaluation design.

Whilst some of these evaluation data collection mechanisms such as the online survey and interviews with stakeholders were 'one-off' processes which occurred towards the end of PiP Phase II, they were decided upon and planned well in advance with the support of the research practice leader and the ESWG. Others were built-in to the day-to-day functioning of the project and were implemented throughout the life of the project. Such day-to-day data served the dual purpose of ensuring that the PiP project was successfully responding to the needs of its members in the short term in relation to specific events, as well as contributing to the evaluation evidence for this report.

Data collected throughout the project

Mechanisms for monitoring the project's impact day-to-day that built towards the project's impact and process evaluation included

- Coordinator records of email/phone enquiries and consultation meetings for one year (Contact Log 2008-2009)
- Coordinator collects attendance at each meeting/event
- Feedback forms to be handed out and collected at end of events
- Use of Google Analytics to track use of the PiP website and monthly e-bulletin
- Regular consultations with DVRCV librarian
- Coordinator keeps minutes of network meetings
- Self-reflection and narrative evaluation to be undertaken by coordinator
- Coordinator's audio recording of final EWG Meeting

Data collected at project's end

Complementing these, a set of data collection tools were designed (during the final 12 months of the project) and implemented in the final six months of the projects with the specific aim of building evidence for this report. This data collection process had five components which have been designed to directly relate to process and impact questions and indicators. These components are

- Feedback from a focus group
 - 10 professionals convened in November 2010 who had each participated in the PiP project at different levels and in different ways. A visual activity took place with participants asked to choose two images from a range of images which best represent how they felt professionally before and subsequent to their involvement in PiP. A focus

group was convened to capture a variety of perspectives and stories to help evaluate PiP.

- An online survey of network members
 - Coordinator Kiri Bear and research practice leader developed an online survey for PiP members in October/November 2010. The survey was reviewed externally before going live in December 2010.
 - A focus of the survey was attempting to measure participants' perception of changes in skill, capacity and knowledge as a result of involvement with PiP.
 - 54 network members undertook this survey composed of 18 questions with additional space for comments
 - The survey results were then cross-tabbed by categories including rural and metropolitan workers, mainstream and specialist services practitioners to deepen insight
- Two Case studies
 - The coordinator spent one morning (each) with two members of the PiP network at their workplaces to gather their reflections about whether/how PiP has changed or supported their work
 - Two network members were selected: One rural worker who is new to the sector and one long-term worker in the sector who works in metropolitan Melbourne
 - Interviews with both case studies recorded and transcribed
- Four Stakeholder interviews
 - Interviews with stakeholders to gauge value of PiP to the wider field of PVAW in Victoria
 - Key stakeholders were identified. One from state government, one from local government, one from a key service closely involved with PiP and one from PiP's host organisation
 - Stakeholders interviewed by the project coordinator. The interviews were recorded and then transcribed

- Narrative evaluation from the coordinator June 2007 - February 2011
 - Narrative reflections based on experience as PiP coordinator, process lead by VicHealth research practice leader
 - Complemented by snippets of narrative reflection from current PiP coordinator

Data analysis

A combination of quantitative and qualitative data has been used to build a multi-dimensional and thorough evidence base for this report. This evidence will inform the subsequent sections of this report (Sections 5-7) although qualitative data including narrative excerpts from past and present PiP coordinators and excerpts from the case studies and stakeholder interviews have been intertwined throughout the report. This is referred to as 'narrative' technique.

During the process of analysing the data the researcher maintained a focus on measuring change based on the self-perception and self-reporting of network members.

For further detail on the matching of specific data to specific indicators see Appendix 3: PiP Phase II Evaluation Plan. A detailed description of each PiP activity/intervention and the data sources used to evaluate them is included in Section 5.

Spotlight on narrative technique

As part of its support to the scale-up projects, VicHealth provided a set of capacity building activities that explored narrative technique and its application to project evaluation.

This technique drew on the local example of the Narrative Evaluation and Action Research (NEAR) project that had been offered by the Department of Human Services to its community partners since 2004.²⁴ According to the NEAR project, storytelling is an important part of evidence gathering and a valuable adjunct to methods

²⁴ Y Wadsworth, A Wierenga and G. Wilson (2007) *Writing narrative action evaluation reports in health promotion: Manual of guidelines, resources, case studies and QuickGuide*, 2nd edition, Victorian Government, Department of Human Services, and the University of Melbourne, Melbourne.

that typically feature in evaluation research design (such as feedback sheets or statistical collection). This is because ‘telling the story’ can help stakeholders to illuminate what really went on during program implementation – and shed light on attendant impacts. Stakeholders should therefore be encouraged to ‘tell the story’ for evaluation purposes as often as possible in order to capture the multiple viewpoints inherent in complex program delivery.

For VicHealth, one of the most critical viewpoints that can be captured as part of evaluation belongs to the project coordinators themselves. Preventing violence against women is an emerging field of practice; and VicHealth saw the project coordinators as having important insights that needed to be shared with a growing community of practitioners.

The project coordinators, too, felt that they were encountering challenges and overcoming barriers that were unique to the field (referred to by them as the ‘hard stuff’) but which were at risk of not making it into final evaluation reports. They needed a method of making sure that such data could find a way to the broader practice field.

Narrative technique provided an innovative answer for both the project coordinators and VicHealth.

For PiP the technique began with a reflective interview during 2010, where the project coordinator delved into reflections on project activities, events, conversations and observations including the ‘surprising’ or unexpected, or the ‘light bulb’ moments. Then, through three learning circle workshops at VicHealth from September 2010 to March 2011, the project coordinator was supported in shaping this data into themes, metaphors, pivotal moments, low points, high points, revelations, learnings and insights – elements of which became the basis of a story (or two) about the project.

The results of this process – the stories or excerpts – are included in this evaluation report to give readers (and the community of practitioners) a sense of the ‘colour’ and ‘flavour’ of the project in addition to evaluation findings sourced by more traditional methods.

The application of narrative technique to project evaluation was highly successful and has been documented in detail by VicHealth. More information can be found at www.vichealth.vic.gov.au.

Ethical procedures

Preserving the anonymity of people in case studies and stakeholders posed a particular challenge given the small size of the sector and the detailed information required. Our process was to de-identify by name, and to offer the chance to view and approve the content of this report before its submission to VicHealth.

Limitations and hurdles

One perceived limitation of this evaluation approach is the reliance on member self-reporting of changes and impacts on practice as a result of their involvement with PiP. This relates to each of the data collection methods listed above including the survey, interviews and focus group.

This perceived limitation is difficult to overcome: given that PiP only gains access to its members after they sign up, it is not possible to use pre and post-participation surveys that test various capacities. Another option of asking new members to answer a survey upon signing up to the network is problematic. As well as potentially putting some new members off, the administrative burden of collecting, matching and comparing 300 + surveys three years apart would be significant. In any case, the limitation of self-reporting change in practice would still remain.

5. Presentation of process and impact evaluation findings

This section outlines all activities carried out under Phase II of the PIP project. Relevant activities are listed under the each of the project's three core objectives (capacity building, resource development and advocacy). A brief overview of each activity is followed by a list of related data sources (for example records of attendance from network meetings) which is followed by an analysis of the process itself as well as the impact made as a result of each activity.

- Objective
 - Activity
 - Data Sources
 - Processes and impacts

The following section of the report (Section 6) analyses the significance of the impacts of each activity in greater depth and in the context of achieving the overall objectives of the project.

Capacity building

Objective

Increase the ability of individuals and organisations to deliver youth VAW prevention initiatives by fostering a community of practice around this work supported by effective communication. Network activities included consultation and referral, network meetings, annual forums and the formation of the Evaluation Working Group (EWG).

Consultation and referral

PiP provides a unique, well –planned and managed resource base and ‘central point’ for all people working in this sector in a neutral, supportive and empowering way creating a sense of unity, support and empowerment in the work done by many individuals and small organizations across Victoria. This is VITAL and must be continued. (Comment from survey)

Consultation and referral was provided by the PiP coordinator in order to connect network members to one another and/or to relevant stakeholders or resources. Consultation occurred either by email, phone, in person or via comments on the PiP website. The rationale for this activity was to build the capacity of network members to tap into the expertise, learnings and resources held by other practitioners and stakeholders across the state. It also focused on building local partnerships, by supporting and referring people to local expertise.

Data sources: Contact Log 2008 - 2009, focus group findings, survey results, email from network member

Processes and impacts:

The PiP coordinator received requests for consultation and referral throughout Phase II. Requests for consultation have grown steadily since the project’s inception in 2008.

Requests came from members, key stakeholders such as VicHealth and government departments as well as non-members interested in accessing information and support around working with youth to prevent VAW. Teachers from across Victoria also contacted PiP for resources and information to support their respectful relationships education work in classrooms.

In 2009 the PiP coordinator maintained a contact log to collect data on the number, nature and medium for consultations. In this 12 month period a total 194 consultations took place, including 108 emails, 18 face-to-face consultations and 68 telephone conversations. These consultations took place between the PiP coordinator and state and commonwealth government organisations, such as the Australian Centre for the

Study of Sexual Assault, stakeholders such as DV Vic (the peak body for Domestic Violence organisations in Victoria) or the Australian Domestic and Family Violence Clearing House as well as media organisations. The majority of consultations, however, were between the PiP coordinator and network members and network member organisations across Victoria.

As one network member wrote in the survey:

The contact with [the] PiP Coordinator in person, phone call and email has been invaluable. Simply asking a question about an area of work has resulted in [me being directed] to information and to a contact person who may have done similar work.

The PiP evaluation survey found that 39 per cent of respondents had consulted with the PiP coordinator. Forty-three per cent reported having used this consultation to ‘deliver program activities.’ In addition, the focus group identified the PiP ‘contact person’ as a core activity of PiP which should continue.

The PiP coordinator noted that there was often a significant increase in demand for consultations after public events such as forums and network meetings.

Below is an example of a typical request for information from the PiP coordinator received by email (identifying content removed):

Our family violence program has been invited to attend the grades forum again at a couple of the high schools in the area. This is a small workshop about unhealthy relationships given to year 9 students. In the Partners in Prevention network has anyone done something similar and do you have any suggestions of resources or material that has been effective? Last year we were asked a week before it started and pulled something together in time and we wanted to be more prepared with better resources as it's a great opportunity to do some prevention work with young people.

This was the PiP coordinator's response:

I've come up with a few ideas for contacts and resources which might support you in your work with year 9s.

- *DVRCV has some great resources in terms of booklets aimed at young people around health relationships and a library with some other prevention resources such as DVDs. To contact DVRCV call...*
- *Family Planning Victoria does 'one off' sessions or interventions in high schools promoting respectful relationships and may have some good ideas and resources to offer you, Call or email....*
- *The 'Love Control' resource produced by Women's Health in the North may also be useful. Call....*
- *Finally, in the South West has been compiling resources, toolkits, tips and materials for practitioners working to prevent violence against women by doing prevention work in high schools around respectful relationships. She is about to finish her project but I would recommend getting in touch with her on*

The PiP coordinator was available to consult with network members, stakeholders and interested parties. She acted as a 'hub' and conduit for practitioners in the PVAW sector in Victoria including government, school programs and related services and youth-based PVAW programs, initiatives and contacts state-wide. In these consultations, the PiP coordinator often referred to PiP booklets, websites, bulletins which meant that the PiP project as whole, rather than just the coordinator, became a hub for youth-focused primary PVAW.

Members also called to discuss or test ideas for new projects or to debrief difficult stakeholder relationships. In many cases network members are the only people in their organisations working on prevention activities, and they turned to the PiP coordinator to discuss issues in this specialised area of work. The PiP coordinator also responded to requests for updates on various projects or initiatives.

Whenever someone rang to discuss an idea for a project, if they were new to the youth PVAW field I would offer to meet with them in person and orient them to the PVAW space. Many ill-conceived projects were prevented this way. - Reflection from PiP coordinator

The survey of network members found that between 39-40 per cent of respondents identified consultation with the coordinator as a PiP resource which they had used to 'gain knowledge of the primary prevention of violence against women' and to 'develop primary prevention initiatives.

Every contact with the PiP coordinator and PiP material has enriched, improved and sustained my prevention work. - Comment from survey

One unexpected outcome of the PiP coordinator's availability for consultation was that teachers and welfare coordinators who were not members of PiP called the Coordinator called for support, advice and referral. This included specific incidents of violence against women including sexual assault at a school. As a result of these requests the PiP coordinator up-skilled her knowledge of appropriate advice and referrals for teachers in this situation relevant to the region, age of those involved and the specifics of the incident.

Appropriate services to refer to in this situation might include organisations like Centres Against Sexual Assault who can assist teachers in de-briefing their experiences, or the Gatehouse service attached to the Royal Children's Hospital which specialises in working with children victims and perpetrators of sexual assault. Teachers will also often be entitled to counselling as part of their employment arrangements.

The current coordinator has experience in responding to sexual assault and working with victim/survivors of domestic or family violence and was therefore able to support distressed staff/witnesses in a limited way. However, the issue of the PiP coordinator receiving calls of this nature from non-members and teachers who are not specifically running or engaged with primary prevention work of any kind is potentially problematic.

Network meetings

Quarterly network meetings took place with guest presenters speaking on issues relevant to violence prevention in youth. These meetings provided opportunities for network members to come together to discuss their work. This activity aimed to support the development of higher levels of skill and knowledge amongst practitioners thereby increasing the quality of PVAW projects targeting young people.

Data sources: Meeting evaluation sheets, minutes, focus group feedback, feedback from survey, case studies and interviews with stakeholders

Processes and impacts:

Network meetings were held quarterly each year. They were held in community venues in the Melbourne CBD to make them as accessible as possible particularly for rural workers travelling by train. The meetings were held on rotating days of the week to enable network members with different schedules to attend. This was important because of the large number of part-time workers involved in the network. The meetings ran for three hours and typically included time for welcomes and introductions, one or two presentations of varying length, information sharing and networking.

Meetings topics were decided by the PiP Coordinator by weighing up three factors:

- Demand by network members for information or professional development around a specific topic
- The PiP coordinator's knowledge of new initiatives, resources or research relevant to youth-based PVAW practitioners
- The overall goal of PiP to build the capacity of youth-based PVAW practitioners

PiP quarterly network meetings topics

Date	Meeting Topic/Key Presentations
20/8/08	'Theories of Change': Thinking About Social Change and Resistance, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society
2/12/08	'Sexual Health and Violence Prevention' followed by update on statewide and national developments
9/3/09	'Intimate Partner Violence Prevention and Sexuality Education in Education Policy': Presentation from the Office of Women's Policy
18/6/09	'Primary Prevention of Violence Against Women with Disabilities': Youth Disability Advocacy Service, Victorian Women with Disabilities Network
1/9/09	'Engaging with the Media to Prevention Violence Against Women':
9/12/09	'A Right to Respect and Respectful Relationships Education in schools': Presentations by representatives of the Office of Women's Policy and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
18/2/10	'Engaging with Best Practice Respectful Relationships Education in Schools': Workshop responses to this document released by DEECD
11/5/10	'Information Sharing': Network members brought along fliers and materials, stories of triumph and challenge to share with their fellow network members
11/11/10	'Engaging Schools': PiP network members considered questions such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do you engage schools? • What different forms do school/community partnerships take? • What are the conditions for a successful partnership?
9/12/10	'Right to Respect' (State Plan for PVAW): Office of Women's Policy
3/3/11	'National Community Attitudes Survey': VicHealth Overview of development of new respectful relationships resource aimed at young men
18/5/11	'Working with and Supporting Sexual Diversity in Youth': The Rainbow Network, Safe Schools Coalition and 'Pridentity', Women's Health in the North

Considerable data has been collected relating to the impact and importance of the network meetings to PiP members. Survey results found that 57 per cent of all respondents stated that they had attended a network meeting. This percentage was higher for rural workers, 67 per cent of whom reported having been involved in network meetings.

One third of respondents stated that the quarterly network meeting was one of the PiP activities that contributed most to changes in their professional capacity in terms of knowledge of current relevant issues, confidence in advocating for best practice and feeling connected to a broader community of practitioners.

When asked if the PiP project were to continue in a scaled-back form what one activity would you most like to see maintained (out of nine activities offered)²⁵? Respondents rated the quarterly network meetings second.

While rural workers were more likely to attend network meetings than metropolitan members, they nonetheless placed a greater emphasis on the need for monthly bulletins to continue.

Written feedback gathered at the conclusion of network meetings has consistently been very positive. Some typical examples of this are:

- *Great support, great info, great contact people*
- *Really valuable resourcing and information sharing...creating real opportunities for collaboration*
- *Really enjoyed hearing about other people's 'wins' and 'losses'. Their experiences and what they have learnt*
- *A great resource for the sector and for the development of primary prevention*
- *Always helpful to have time set aside to reflect on things such as primary prevention.*

²⁵ Activities to choose from were: annual forum, quarterly network meetings, PiP website, Evaluation capacity building, library resources, committees/working groups, monthly bulletin, coordinator role and advocacy.

The two case studies provided a more reflective and in-depth response to the value of PiP network meetings. One practitioner who had worked in the youth-based violence prevention sector in Melbourne for several years emphasised the sense of isolation she had felt in her role before PiP began. When asked whether PiP meetings are valuable in addition to other activities such as the monthly bulletins and the website, she replied:

They're dynamic, dynamic. They have good attendance and they give good new information ... The meetings give the network life, they bring the bulletins and website life ... it's a space to discuss pitfalls and weaknesses and bring questions about what hasn't worked ... whereas the bulletin is about advertising good things.

The impact of network meetings for this practitioner was summed up by the following statement:

... they make me feel like I'm not just a lone ranger, like I'm not the only one doing the work in isolation.

Although many network members stated in feedback that they wanted extra time allocated for information sharing in the meeting, a larger number wanted a component of professional development or training included. Attendees felt better able to justify travel time and attendance at the meeting to their manager's or broader organisations if the meeting included a component of professional development.

I would like to see the network meetings continue as a way of sharing best practice, but I also believe it's important for the smaller working groups to continue alongside this because these forums give us an opportunity to build relationships and better understand the work that is presented at the annual forums and network meetings. – Comment left by network member via survey

Annual forum

The annual forum was a key activity relating to PiP's capacity building objective. The aim of the annual forums was to increase knowledge of youth prevention theory and practice throughout the community sector and to generate awareness around contemporary issues. The forum hosted speakers with expertise in youth-focused primary prevention practice or research and provided an opportunity for networking and the building of partnerships.

Forums also functioned as a way to increase the reach of the project and its membership and to publicise the area of youth-focused PVAW more broadly. They also offered network member an opportunity to showcase their work within the sector.

It was by chance that the forum was happening at the same time that I was visiting Victoria. The various guest speakers and their prevention strategies were discussed in relative details backed by video and/or computer media which was contemporary and interesting. - Comment from forum participant

Data sources: Forum attendance records, feedback collected after the forum through evaluation sheets, member survey, case studies and stakeholder interviews.

Processes and impacts:

Forums are held in the CBD to maximise accessibility for metropolitan and rural workers. Forums are scheduled away from school holidays to maximise attendance by school-based practitioners and network members more generally.

The first forum was held in 2009 and looked at working with schools to advance violence prevention in youth. Presentations were made on 'Advancing the field: best practice in schools-based prevention' (Dr Flood), the Sexual Assault Prevention for Secondary Schools program (CASA House) and on the Solving the Jigsaw model

(EASE Bendigo). The forum was well attended with 88 participants from the youth, community health, police, family violence and sexual assault sectors.

The 2010 forum was titled 'For Better and Worse: Young people, technology and preventing violence against women'. The keynote address was by Dr Anastasia Powell and the forum also featured presentations from the 'Reality and Risk' and 'Be the Hero' projects and an introduction to social media by young people from 'Inspire Foundation'. Around 100 people attended the 2010 forum which was also the platform used to launch respectful relationships booklet *Love, the Good, the Bad and the Ugly*. The forum received overwhelmingly positive feedback from participants via the evaluation handout.

Feedback gathered from participants after forums included:

- *It was a great overview of just how prevalent technology is in influencing young people on how they think and feel about sex and violence. Lots of great resources to draw on to combat this. - (participant 2010 forum)*
- *Wednesday was terrific! Learned a lot, was inspired, motivated and re-energised. - (participant 2009 forum)*

Fifty-seven per cent of survey respondents stated that they had been involved in a forum. Forty-one per cent stated that the forum was one of the PiP project activities which most contributed to their practice better reflecting the principles related to best practice for respectful relationships education in schools. These principles are a

- Whole school approach,
- Program framework and logic,
- Effective curriculum development,
- Relevant, inclusive and culturally appropriate practice, and
- Impact evaluation.

Some feedback suggested that increased involvement of young people, and principals and teachers in the forum presentations would be welcomed. A strategy to implement this recommendation will be implemented in the lead up to the 2011 forum to be held 22nd of September.

Evaluation working group (EWG)

The EWG was convened as part of the capacity building objective of the PiP project. Its aim was to assist practitioners in the primary prevention of gender-based violence field to better evaluate their projects. It also aimed to create a suite of resources and an implementation strategy to assist workers in the network to evaluate their projects. The aim of the EWG was to increase practitioner skill and knowledge around evaluation resulting in higher quality PVAW programs and an increased evidence base for effective youth-focused PVAW projects.

Data sources: EWG minutes, meeting attendance, PiP Evaluation Needs Survey (2009), audio recordings of final EWG meeting.

Processes and impacts

In 2009, the PiP coordinator identified a need for increased knowledge and skill in the sector around program and project evaluation. The reasons that evaluation was felt to be important for the sector at this time included:

- The trend towards ‘evidence based’ interventions; (policy makers, researchers, agencies) wanted to see evidence of the effectiveness of primary violence prevention activities
- Workers in the youth primary prevention field were often in very part-time positions. Feedback from workers suggested that many feel unskilled in the area of evaluation without the time or resources to learn about it or create new tools
- Incorporating evaluation into project design and implementation had the capacity to increase programs’ effectiveness

- Increasing the evidence base put projects in a better position to attract funding and generally improve understanding of violence prevention.
- Evaluation creates opportunities for young people who participate in violence prevention projects to contribute their understanding of effective practice.
- PiP was well placed to support workers to evaluate their projects through its existing structures such as the PiP website and network meetings.

Overall, it was felt that a focus on evaluation would encourage network members to move towards best practice and support the development of a culture of reflection and open sharing about learning.

As a result the PiP Evaluation Working Group (EWG) was formed. Care was taken in inviting members from a variety of backgrounds – academia, community sector, metropolitan and rural – and with varying levels of experience in evaluation. A key recommendation of the EWG was that an Evaluation Needs Survey²⁶ be developed by the PiP coordinator (with feedback from the EWG) ‘for members to fill out in order to find out how best to respond to the needs of PiP members.’²⁶

Workers involved in the PiP network have consistently identified evaluation as an area where they would like support. The outcomes of this survey will be used to guide the PiP project coordinator and the Evaluation Working Group in delivering support for program evaluation in the field of gender-based violence prevention. Results will be collated by the project coordinator and reported anonymously.¹

The EWG was convened six times throughout Phase II and had five members including the coordinator. The group’s small size arguably contributed to its success in producing evaluation-related resources including the Evaluation Tip Sheet²⁷ within a limited timeframe.

A seminar on evaluation was also included in the 2009 forum and a specific training session around evaluation was run by a member of the EWG later in the year.

²⁶ See Appendix 4.

²⁷ See Appendix 5: Evaluation Tip Sheet.

The working group can only get these things done because you're holding all the work. – Comment directed to PiP coordinator by EWG member.

The Evaluation Mentor Scheme (EMS) was initiated by the results of the needs survey which indicated many workers wanted occasional contact with people with evaluation expertise who can provide mentoring. Six mentors were recruited with a range of different experience and expertise.²⁸ The scheme was not successful, however, as there was low uptake by the network. The PiP coordinator felt that too few practitioners had the knowledge to feel confident in engaging with the program.

The PiP coordinator made a presentation to the Australian Centre for the Study of Sexual Assault Forum in 2010. The mentor scheme generated a lot of interest and discussion around how the scheme could be replicated.²⁹

According to the survey of network members, 28 per cent reported having used the Evaluation Tip Sheet, a key resource generated by the EWG. Ten -12 per cent reported that either the tip sheet or the EWG training contributed **most** to changes in their professional capacity in terms of knowledge of current relevant issues, confidence in advocating for best practice and feeling connected to a broader community of practitioners.

The highlight of my time with the EWG has been sending out the evaluation tip sheet to my networks and kind of passing it on to them. – Comment from EWG member

When network members were asked to rate what they perceived at the most significant impact of the PiP project, 'Increasing my knowledge of and skill with evaluation' was rated relatively highly, and more highly than either 'improving my work to prevent VAW', 'increasing my access to information about PVAW' or 'increasing my knowledge of youth-targeted PVAW'.

While considerable resources were developed by the EWG there was little uptake of or demand for these resources by the broader network. The challenge is to engage PiP members with evaluation activities, given that evaluation remains essential in terms of the future and impact of the youth-focused primary PVAW sector.

²⁸ See Appendix 6 Evaluation Mentor Scheme publicity sheet.

²⁹ Transcript of audio recording at final EWG meeting.

Resource development

Objective:

Support the practice of youth-targeted primary VAW prevention initiatives by individuals, organisations and the community through the provision of a suite of relevant resources consistent with VicHealth's preventing VAW framework.

e-bulletin

All PiP members received e-bulletins. While VicHealth required a quarterly e-bulletin, the PiP bulletin actually came out monthly throughout Phase II. The e-bulletin contained around 8-10 items (approximately one page) that focused on sharing current news, events and resources related to youth-focused primary prevention of violence against women.

Data sources: statistics generated by e-bulletin software (Mail Chimp), email feedback, requests to include info, survey, PiP membership information.

Processes and impacts:

The PiP website is connected to the program for PiP e-bulletin distribution. Once practitioners became members of PiP by signing up via the PiP website they automatically became recipients of the bulletin. The bulletin was therefore the PiP activity with the widest reach (setting aside the 'reach' of PiP's advocacy work) in that all PiP members are involved. New subscriptions to the e-bulletin average 11 per month.

While the project originally used Outlook to generate the bulletins, it was soon replaced by Mail Chimp which more efficiently managed subscription and automatically collects evaluation data.

Mail Chimp enabled the PiP coordinator to store templates for the bulletin, manage the list of recipients (for example to update members' email addresses) and collect data on how the bulletins are used in terms of how many members open the bulletin and how many hits it receives. At the time of writing there are 340 subscribers to the bulletin. Information from members suggests that the bulletin is often forwarded widely through subscribers' own networks and organisations. See Appendix 7 for an example of the bulletin.

The following template was developed to guide the PiP coordinator in deciding the content for the bulletins.

1. PiP network news
2. Urgent local youth PVAW news
3. In the news (general PVAW)
4. Other local PVAW youth news
5. Local PVAW news
6. Tangential news
7. National PVAW
8. International PVAW

This range of items was designed to enable practitioners to situate their work within a local, national and international context and in connection to PVAW more broadly. Aside from the content located by the PiP coordinator, members of the network commonly sent their own information for inclusion in the bulletin. This meant that the bulletin was a tool which was owned and shared by the PiP network as a whole.

The aspects of communication such as the website and bulletin have created a bank of information that I return to as needed and use as a reference when talking to other workers. – Comment taken from the survey

The impact of the bulletin for the network was very clear in the evaluation findings.

- 85 per cent of respondents reported having used the bulletin to gain knowledge of PPVAW
- 54 per cent reported having used the bulletin to distribute information
- 65 per cent reported having used the bulletin to develop primary prevention initiatives, and
- 90 per cent reported having used the bulletin to provide other professionals with information.

The bulletin was also the highest rated PiP activity perceived by practitioners as contributing most to changes in practitioner knowledge, practice, ability to carry out evaluation and feeling of connectedness to a community of practice. It was also the highest rated PiP activity perceived as contributing most to changes in practice (practitioners reported that their practice now better reflected the principles of best practice).

When asked 'If the PiP project were to continue in a scaled-back form which activities would you most like to see maintained (please pick ONE)?', the highest response was for the monthly bulletin (33 per cent), followed by quarterly network meetings at 20 per cent.

One of the subjects of the two case studies of PiP members said the following about the value of the bulletin to her work in youth-focused PVAW:

- *It allows you to feel really up-to-date in your work. So much changes quickly in this area, working with youth, things like sexting and cyber bullying [and] the PiP bulletins keep people informed about current issues*
- *It feels like the most current, up-to-date and relevant resource available ... you get to hear about new resources like DVDs, websites for workers but also for workers to refer young people to ... You can't get that stuff anywhere else*
- *In terms of professional development it keeps you up- to- date with conferences, grants, policies, new initiatives*

In her interview she also highlighted this additional impact of the bulletin for her specific project:

Another big impact of PiP for my work has been promotion. Girls Talk Guys Talk is now at the stage when we want to start training other professionals to run with it in their own regions. When you included the info about Guys Talk Girls Talk in the latest PiP bulletin I got a great response from services and agencies wanting to start up projects in schools. A great response, PiP is fantastic for promoting stuff like that.

The PiP bulletin was also a key tool for measuring the growth of the network. Subsequent to the release of the e-bulletin each month there is a 'mini surge' of new membership. This occurred because network members would forward information from the bulletin on to other people in their organisation or to other people in their professional network who then sign up for the bulletin themselves. With part of the signing-up process including nominating your organisation, the coordinator was able to 'see' this process take place. As a result, PiP membership spanned an ever greater geographical reach, with members from as far afield as Western Australia, New Zealand, Korea and Italy.

Website

The PiP website provided an information hub for youth-focused primary PVAW practitioners. Unlike the bulletin, the website permanently archives relevant information and resources for the network. The website also allowed practitioners to leave comments for the PiP coordinator to respond to or moderate. The website was therefore a key resource developed as part of PiP but also a key vehicle for the collection and dissemination of other youth-focused PVAW resources to the sector.

Data sources: Google Analytics, survey results, feedback from case studies and stakeholders

Processes and impacts:

The first PiP website was created for Phase I and was less sophisticated than the current website which was created in June 2010 using the Word Press program. The site was designed to be user friendly and used

consistent colours and font and featured the PiP logo. The PiP site can be found at:

<http://www.dvrcv.org.au/pip/>. Categories for website content/posts included:

- Contact details and 'About PiP'
- Evaluation
- Events,
- Opinion
- Projects
- Resources

The following is a screen shot taken of the PiP website.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the PiP website. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for HOME, ABOUT, CONTACT, and BULLETIN ARCHIVE. To the right of the menu is a search bar with the placeholder text 'Enter search keyword' and a 'Search' button. Below the navigation is a banner featuring silhouettes of four people and the text 'Partners in Prevention'. Underneath the banner is a secondary navigation menu with links for Evaluation, Events », News », Opinion, Projects, Resources », and Uncategorized. The main content area is divided into several sections. On the left, there is a featured article titled 'Creating Healthy Workplaces – call for submissions' dated 17 August 2011, with a 'Keep reading' button. Below it is another article titled 'White Ribbon Day Every Day: Conference materials'. In the center, there is a featured article titled 'My Work Rights – new interactive online tool for young women' dated 11 August 2011, also with a 'Keep reading' button. Below it is an article titled 'My Work Rights launch' dated 04 August 2011. On the right side, there is a sidebar with a 'Latest' tab selected, showing a list of recent articles: 'Creating Healthy Workplaces – call for submissions', 'My Work Rights – new interactive online tool for young women', 'White Ribbon Day Every Day: Conference materials', 'My Work Rights launch', and 'Not 1 More event White Ribbon Day 2011'. At the bottom right, there is an 'About PiP' section with an orange header.

The website was the vehicle for signing up to be a member of PiP and for receiving the e-bulletin and advertisements for upcoming PiP events such as meetings and forums. Visitors to the website were also able to leave comments including asking for further advice or referral.

The content of the website is regularly updated with new posts added most weeks. There are currently approximately 100 posts on the website. Google Analytics (which is incorporated into the Word Press website administration program) enabled us to gain further insight into the way the website was used. For example, we know that over the last month of Phase II of the project (June 2011) the PiP website was visited 325 times. Sixty-six per cent of the visits were 'new visits' and 741 pages were viewed. Visitors spent an average of two minutes on the website. The top pages visited were 'About PiP' and 'Resources' and the top site search was 'respectful relationships education'. We also know that the top referrers to the PiP website were DVRCV and the Australian Institute of Family Studies. PiP is listed on the best practice database of the Institute's Centre for the Study of Sexual Assault.

The survey has allowed us to collect the following information from network members around how the website is used.

- 82 per cent of respondents reported having visited the PiP website
- 73 per cent reported having used the PiP website to gain knowledge of primary PVAW
- 61 per cent reported having used the websites to develop their primary prevention activities, and
- 57 per cent reported using it to provide other professionals with information.

In addition, 41 per cent of respondents reported that the website was one of the PiP activities which contributed most to changes in their professional knowledge, skills, capacity for evaluation, development of partnerships and feeling of connectedness to a broader community of practitioners. Forty-three per cent reported that the website was an aspect of PiP which contributed most to changing level of engagement with best practice principles.

However, members were less likely to share information with other PiP members via the website than via the bulletin. Comments were not often posted on the website by members. Only 13 per cent of members

surveyed nominated the website as the PiP activity they would most like to see maintained if PiP were to be scaled back.

For me the greatest value of the website is that amongst PiP activities it is the resource best able to hold and keep information and particularly resources. The website is where I put things with a short lifespan like one-off trainings or events. The website holds information and resources which practitioners may want to refer to again and again. In this way the PiP website is an archive for youth-focused primary prevention of VAW work in Victoria and is unique in that respect. –

Comment from PiP coordinator

Resource collection/prevention library

In order to support the work of practitioners the project coordinator collected a range of resources around youth-focused PVAW to be accessed by the network and stakeholders. The collection includes program DVDs, books, journals, etc and is housed within the DVRCV library.

Data sources: DVRCV librarian records, survey, collection of prevention materials

Processes and impacts:

One of the key strengths of PiP was its location within DVRCV. This has allowed PiP to operate in an organisation with a feminist approach to VAW which sat comfortably with the VicHealth framework for preventing VAW. DVRCV has established long-term leadership and expertise in the field of VAW and this includes an established specialist library and librarian. As a result PiP was able to collect, organise and house youth-focused PVAW resources which can be loaned out to practitioners and stakeholders.

During Phase I of PiP the project coordinator met with the DVRCV librarian to initiate the creation of a prevention library as a component of the DVRCV library. Together they created a list of key violence against women prevention resources including books and DVDs with an emphasis on youth-related prevention. These

resources were ordered and paid for out of the PiP budget and were available for borrowing or browsing by appointment with the librarian. Currently there are 78 resources in the collection, a full list of which can be accessed via the DVRCV website (<http://www.dvrcv.org.au/>), and follow the links 'Resources', 'library', 'reading lists (<http://www.dvrcv.org.au/library/reading-lists/>).

The PiP project coordinator was often consulted about, on working groups for, or invited to the launch of resources and information related to youth-focused and other PVAW. As a result the PiP coordinator was well positioned to hear of and collect new materials which might be of use to the network as a whole.

For example, the PiP coordinator was on the reference group for the development of the resource notes which accompanied the *Love Control* DVD (produced by Women's Health in the North) as well as the film itself. This was a great resource and is still used widely throughout the sector and in schools. The PiP coordinator is now a member of the reference group for a new project which looks at the impact of pornography on young people's sexuality and sexual relationships. This project is called 'Reality and Risk' and includes the production of a documentary as well as other education resources aimed at young people.

Seventeen per cent of members reported having used the PiP library as a resource to support their practice. Eighteen per cent reported having used the library materials to gain knowledge of primary PVAW. Fourteen per cent used the library to assist them to deliver program activities and 13 per cent used the library resources to develop primary prevention activities.

When asked which aspects of PiP contributed most to changes in their knowledge and capacity 13 per cent of respondents nominated the library. When asked 'Which aspects of the PiP project contributed most to your practice better reflecting best practice principles?' 16 per cent nominated the library. While this data shows that the library was not the most important resource for practitioners amongst the range of PiP activities, its contribution as a component of the PiP project overall is still significant, is achieved at low cost. It is possible that in the future the prevention library will be used more by researchers or to inform evaluation than by practitioners.

Development of specific resources

The PiP project also developed new resources to support the work of youth-focused PVAW practitioners. These were developed based on demand from the network and in order to fill gaps in the resources available.

The Evaluation Tip Sheet is an example of such a resource but more ambitious and significant resource development projects have included:

- The young people's website *Love, the Good, the Bad and the Ugly*
- A respectful relationships booklet for young women: *Relationships, the Good, the Bad and the Ugly*
- A respectful relationships booklet for young men *Sex, Love and Other Stuff*

These projects drew on DVRCV's previous resources and took approximately one year each to develop.

Young people's website: *Love, the Good, the Bad and the Ugly* (LGBU)

This website site gives you information and advice from the personal experiences of other young people who have been there... people who have experienced 'the good, the bad and the ugly'. –
Quote taken from the website

Data sources: Survey, Google Analytics, case studies and interviews with stakeholders, 'Research, rewrite, remix' article in the DVRCV Quarterly, (Spring 2010),

Processes and impacts:

In 1998 DVRCV created the original website for young people titled *When Love Hurts: a guide on love, respect and abuse in relationships*. *When Love Hurts* was the first website of its kind with 40 pages of quizzes, advice and real stories about abuse in relationships. In 2010, with PiP leadership, DVRCV decided to update, re-design and re-launch the website. This led to the creation of *Love, the Good, the Bad and the Ugly* (<http://lovegoodbadugly.com>) (LGBU) by Kiri Bear (the then PiP Coordinator) and Jane Curtis and Mandy McKenzie of DVRCV.

[The PiP coordinator] came to Hoppers Crossing where GTGT had set up a focus group. Then she came back to get feedback on web design for the resource PiP produced in 2010. The students saw their feedback adopted when they looked at the website and it 'gave them the feeling that their contribution and expertise matter. They were rapt. – Comment drawn from case study

The website was informed by 1000 stories about relationships and abuse submitted by young people to DVRCV's *When Love Hurts* site. Quotes and stories are used throughout the site. Once the viewer has reached the home page of the *LGBU* website there are three 'gateways' for accessing the content.

- I want a relationship that's fun and makes me feel good
- My relationship's okay but sometimes it makes me feel bad
- I think I'm being hurt & controlled. It's getting ugly

Content includes information on dating, relationships, what to do when you want to end a relationship, sex and 'love or control'. It also covers advice and referral for young people in abusive relationships including myth-busting and identifying warning signs of an abusive relationship. Content has been updated to include information on sexting and using technology safely.

Subsequent to feedback from young people interactivity became a focus in the development of the new website. For example there are a range of quizzes for young people to take including

- Is my behaviour ugly?
- Am I ready for sex?, and
- Is it love or control?

Two videos were created for the site and added via You Tube. The videos tell of two women's experiences of violence based on interviews with the women.

The *LGBU* site continues to have high rates of visits and usage by PiP network members as the following data gathered from the survey demonstrates.

- Fifty six per cent of survey respondents reported having visited the site.

- Thirty per cent of practitioners reported having used the *LGBU* website to gain knowledge of primary PVAW,
- Twenty four per cent reported using the site to help deliver develop primary prevention activities.
- Exactly one third of respondents used *LGBU* to provide other professionals with information and a very significant 61 per cent used the site to provide young people with information.

Data gathered via Google Analytics attached to the site demonstrates the sites ongoing international popularity. Aside from an Australian audience, the site is also visited internationally. In one month (June 2011) the site received 9,565 visits. The most commonly visited pages on the site (after the site homepage) were the quiz 'is it love or control?' and 'what is abuse?'

Relationships booklet for women

The booklet titled *Relationships: the Good, the Bad and the Ugly* is a pocket-sized guide to respectful relationships aimed at young women about what to do/how to know if your relationship has turned 'ugly'. The booklet is distributed to schools and relevant youth services and respectful relationships educators. It can be used as a component of larger programs or can be handed out individually to young people in counselling.

Data sources: PiP coordinator reflections, feedback from schools included in booklet order forms, interviews with case studies and stakeholders, DVRCV stocktake records 2010.

Processes and impacts:

In 2000, DVRCV created the original booklet entitled *Relationships* aimed at young. In 2010 the PiP coordinator in consultation with DVRCV decided that there was a need to update and release a new version of this popular booklet. This became the *Relationships; the Good, the Bad and the Ugly* booklet.

The booklet includes information which updated and expanded upon the content of the original *Relationships* booklet'. It also includes referral and guides to support young women in working out if their relationship is

respectful or abusive and how to stay safe. It encourages young women to ask themselves questions like 'What do I want from a relationship?', 'What don't I want?', and teaches young women about warning signs to help them understand if they are being abused and the components of abuse (including financial, psychological abuse, etc). The booklet was updated with quotes from young people talking about their own experiences and includes a guide for young people in helping someone else who maybe experiencing abuse (information for bystanders). Updated content includes information around sexting.

In addition to PiP funding from VicHealth and support from DVRCV, the booklet received funding from the Victorian Women's Trust.

Feedback from schools and teachers on the booklet's use and impact was gathered via the order forms sent out with free samples by DVRCV in November 2010. There has been significant and steady demand for the booklet since this time. DVRCV stocktake records indicate that **over 10,000 copies** of the booklet have been distributed over the past twelve months (August 2010 – August 2011). Feedback on the young women's booklet gathered from schools includes:

- *I like the concept very much – informal layout but cuts across whole spectrum of relationship issues which pass through my office - student counselor*
- *Has been very useful to hand out to female students. Has the relevant information and girls love it*
- *Fantastic resource, we use it regularly*
- *Looks good. Can't wait for the booklet for young men also.*

The booklet for young women will be reviewed, re-ordered and re-printed according to demand and DVRCV priorities. It forms part of a suite of DVRCV resources relating to domestic violence.

Development of new resource for young men

Sex, Love and other Stuff is a booklet developed for young men which will be launched at the PiP forum in September 2011. The booklet includes similar content to the booklet for young women (such as the respect

checklist, a referral page information on how to help a friend) as well as content specifically designed for young men around masculinity and communication skills.

Data sources: records kept by project worker, reflection from the PiP coordinator, records of consultations with young men

Processes and impacts

A resource targeted specifically at young men was needed because there is currently a lack of information about engaging men in violence prevention. DVRCV has received many requests from schools (particularly) as well as those in the community sector about the need for a respectful relationships resource specifically addressing issues that young men face in their day to day lives and in their relationships.

Whilst there is a lack of evidence about the need for specific (hard copy) resources as such, much research has examined the need to engage young men in violence prevention and identified a need for any respectful relationships/violence prevention resources to reach men where they are at, and use scenarios and language that relate to the specific issues that young men are facing.

We believe that the outcome of the *Sex, Love and Other Stuff* booklet will be that young men will be better equipped with information on healthy, respectful relationships, gender roles and appropriate services. In the long term young men will engage in more equal and respectful relationships, have improved attitudes toward gender equity/ gender roles and be less tolerant of violence.

On a broad level the project will add to the current body of knowledge about working with men to prevent violence against women. It is part of the move toward encouraging men to take responsibility for preventing violence against women.

In terms of content, consultation and design an enormous amount of work and energy went into the development of the booklet. PiP was able to fund a project worker position to support the development of *Sex, Love and Other Stuff*. A project reference group was convened to advise on current best practice in violence prevention and inform the content of the booklet.

Research was carried out with more than 100 young men aged from 14-18 yrs through secondary school focus groups and an online survey. The results from these focus groups and the online survey showed a strong level of interest from young men in receiving a booklet about sex and respectful relationships.

Particular topics of interest were:

- What is respect? What does respect look like in a relationship?
- What do different sorts of relationships look like?
- What do girls want in a relationship?
- How to check if someone wants to have sex
- Statistics on young people, sex and relationships (ie. How many are having sex or in relationships?)
- How to help a friend who has experienced violence
- How to talk to your girlfriend/boyfriend or to a girl you like

The results from the focus groups and online surveys have demonstrated that young people are interested in receiving information about respectful relationships. Therefore the booklet is likely to have an impact on their understanding of relationships and their attitudes about gender, power, respect, sex and consent.

Early draft versions were tested on focus groups of young men in particular with positive results. The draft version was then refined further in response to feedback and consultation with the project working group.

The booklet will also be distributed to secondary schools, youth and relevant community services as well as interested government departments and agencies. Feedback from focus groups has shown that the booklet's design and content are attractive and relevant to young men.

The resource itself will be sent to all Victorian secondary schools (approximately 800 based on the distribution of the young women's booklet), it will be launched through the DVRC PiP network and publicised to the broader community as part of DVRCV's suite of publications. Distribution will also be enhanced by the booklet being publicised through the PiP network.

Over the long-term, it is anticipated that the resource will be evaluated and updated along with DVRCVs other publications. The booklet and the process for its development may also be evaluated.

After setting up the room I anxiously waited for the network members to arrive. How could I properly acknowledge each of youth-based PVAW experts in the room? Some had more than 20 years experience in the field.

I knew from the RSVP list that I was expecting a diverse group including teachers, CEOs on non-government organizations, counselors, project workers, community health workers and advocates. Some would be coming from the local CASA and others would have driven for hours from regional Victoria to make it to the meeting.

How could I make it worth their while? How could I ensure that the content and discussion would be relevant to everyone?

The welcomes and introductions went smoothly and the first presentation began. As soon as the power points of the final content and design for the new booklet (a resource developed for young men) were up and running the room began to buzz with energy and ideas.

'It's designed for young men? Oh I have been waiting for this!'

'You'll need to distribute it much more widely than schools you know. The Council would love to have them, and then we could pass it on to the local sports clubs.'

'I know just the person to get it out to the youth footy clubs in the Barwon region... he's a health teacher at one of the schools I did training with and he's absolutely on board with PVAW.'

During the break between the two planned presentations people gathered around the data projector to go back over the slides together in greater detail. The coordinator of a new school-based PVAW program for young men approached me to ask about the potential for integrating the new booklet into his program. –Reflection from current PiP coordinator

Advocacy

Objective:

Generate an enabling policy environment for youth VAW prevention initiatives in schools and more broadly across the community through the development of new partnerships with youth stakeholders and by working with government.

Partnership development

PiP allowed us to get advice about who key people were in regions so we were pretty well across who to talk to ... that allowed us to access those local networks, it also allowed us to select which regions it would be most effective for us to conduct those consultations in ... it allowed us to organise those consultations because we were able to advertise through the PiP network which meant that when we ran the consultations not only were the rooms largely full but people had a really clear idea of why they were there and the bitsy questions were gone because everyone was on the same page which meant we could get the value out of a very limited time. –Quote taken from interview with stakeholder

As the established hub for state-wide youth-focused work relating to the prevention of violence against women, the PiP coordinator is uniquely positioned to have a ‘big picture’ view of this work across Victoria. This means that the coordinator was ideally placed to identify strategic partnerships and to support these to develop either via referral, or in person via other network activities. The aim of this work was to build the capacity of the sector and to foster a community of practice. This included identifying and avoiding possible

duplication of work, increasing efficiency and promoting best practice and evaluation by enabling network members to learn from each others' experiences.

Data sources: Emails from practitioners, survey, findings from interviews with case studies and stakeholders

Processes and impacts:

Practitioners consulted with the PiP coordinator in order to connect with other practitioners doing similar work with the aim of sharing knowledge, experience and resources. Partnerships were formed either directly as a result of the PiP coordinator 'matching up' two practitioners or organisations, or they were formed more indirectly through participation in PiP network events and activities as well as information circulated via the monthly PiP bulletin.

A great example of this process was provided by the subject of one of the case study participants. She wrote the following based on her experiences working on a youth and schools-focused PPVAW project:

An example of a complex occasion of networking:

1. PIP supports the Regional Prevention Project (RPP) to develop by coordinating attendance at the initial meeting of the reference group
2. RPP Project Officer and PIP coordinator network, PIP supports project to establish with advice, resource, networks and encouragement
3. RPP Project Officer develops a scoping document, it is passed through PIP networks
4. Connections established with Women's Health in the North, *Love Control* project Officer utilises RPP scoping document as resource
5. RPP Project promotes *Love Control* DVD as resource to prevention workers in the region
6. RPP Project Officer contributes to the *Love Control* Resource Notes (LCRN) (mentioned as generous helper). Note 'Living Safer Sexual Lives Project' and [name removed] have input into the LCRN and particularly the development of the plain language tip sheets
7. RPP Project holds a LCRN workshop in the region (with permission of WHIN). Attended by 16 school and youth related workers including workers associated with the Living Safer Sexual Lives Project in the region. This event providing both a resource and networking opportunity
8. The RPP LCRN workshop power-points and facilitator notes (added more school focused best practice context) communicated back to WHIN for further resource.

This is one example of a complicated roll on effect that highlights the power of networking and collaboration and the important role that *Partners in Prevention* has had in the Regional Prevention Project as a whole.

Adding another dimension to this narrative was the PiP coordinator's own reflections on facilitating these types of partnerships to form within the network at network events.

A network is a web

As I cross the lawn to the marquee I'm already taking note of who's here; PiP network members, policy makers, funders, academics. My goal is to acknowledge everyone I know and introduce myself to a couple of people I've heard of but haven't had a chance to meet. These little face to face moments give permission for further contact down the track.

"We'll be taking our play about sexual assault to a Jewish school next year."

"Oh, have you spoken to the Jewish Taskforce Against Family Violence? Come and I'll introduce you."

I move through the crowd, pausing to say hello, catch up on where projects are up to and share information.

"Hey Kiri, any word on the Department of Education's respectful relationships education report?"

"All I've heard is 'soon' but they have put out a tender for the demonstration project that goes alongside it. Believe me I'll be sending it out in the bulletin as soon as it's released."

For me the speeches are secondary, a moment to reflect on the invisible work of my friends and colleagues. I know how much they put into this but here it is unacknowledged, their individuality subsumed by the monolithic notion of government. I say 'notion' because I've come to see government as a complex, multifaceted and regularly incoherent collection of people.

"I know you didn't get a mention so I just wanted to come and acknowledge your fine work and congratulate you on an excellent launch. It really is phenomenal to see this come together."

PiP coordinator Kiri Bear

The survey found that the PiP project had significantly increased the formation of partnerships within the sector. Almost half of the survey respondents (47 per cent) reported that as a result of their involvement with PiP their partnerships with other workers in the primary prevention of violence against women field had increased significantly (either a lot or a great deal). Furthermore, 'partnerships developed with other network members' was identified in survey as one of the top four 'most significant impacts' of the PiP project.

A more recent example of the potential of networking within the PiP project resulting in innovative PVAW practice has been in relation to a youth custody centre (YCC) in Victoria. DVRCV was approached by a programs leader (PL) working in a live-in custody centre for youth in the criminal justice system which houses young men and women aged 10-18 years (for the purposes on this evaluation we will refer to this person as 'YCC PL'). DVRCV then forwarded the request to the PiP coordinator. The YCC PL identified that many of these young people were both victims and perpetrators of family violence and that because they were not in school they did not have the opportunity to participate in mainstream respectful relationships education (RRE).

Because of the wide age range and the fact that these young people were potentially both perpetrators and victims it was very unlikely that one of the established RRE programs in Victoria would be able to deliver their program at the centre. However, there was clearly a need for RRE to be delivered at the centre as it was identified as a gap in the reach of RRE. The PiP coordinator called and emailed a range of network members investigating any ideas or potential for new partnerships. Eventually project leaders at two community-based respectful relationships education providers indicated that they would value the opportunity of working with the centre's leader to customise a RRE program to deliver to the youth in custody with the first steps being engaging other workers in the centre in training. This was a very satisfying result.

Consultation with government and stakeholders

Overview

- Have input into the formation of government policies relating to youth-focused prevention of violence against women through consultation.

- Develop a mutually supportive relationship with government and to be a voice for the sector.

Facilitate Consultation with Government

Data sources: List of consultations, PiP members involved in consultations, areas of consultation, reflections from both PiP coordinators, case studies and interviews with stakeholders.

Processes and impacts:

This second component of PiP's advocacy activities involved the PiP coordinator regularly communicating with the relevant government departments generally on the state government level. The PiP coordinator acted as a bridge between government and the largely local government and community sector organisations involved in delivering youth-focused primary prevention initiatives and programs. The PiP coordinator was informed via the network meetings and consultations with network members about the concerns or priorities of the sector. The PiP coordinator was also called upon by representatives of government (most often representatives from Office of Women's Policy (OWP) and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) for consultation on what might be happening 'on the ground' and to hear about and discuss upcoming government priorities and initiatives. The PiP coordinator then filtered this information and relayed it back to the sector where appropriate. The advocacy role of the PiP coordinator therefore included facilitating communication between government and network members, managing expectations on both sides.

The example below is a reflection from the previous PiP coordinator. It relates the forging of the connection between the DEECD and the community partners in the PiP network and it spans the life of the PiP project. She has called it 'Advocacy in action'.

Advocacy in action

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

Office of Women's Policy secured funding for the DEECD to do some work around the primary prevention of violence against women.

2007 DEECD is invited to sit on the *Partners in Prevention* reference group for Phase I of the project.

April 2008 DEECD commissions VicHealth to research current school based initiatives on the primary prevention of violence against women, review the international literature and develop best practice principles.

June 2008 PiP coordinator assists in publicizing the call for information from school based PVAW projects across Victoria.

August 2008 PiP coordinator invited onto the steering group for the research and asked to suggest other PiP network members, not currently involved in running projects, for inclusion.

October 2008 PiP coordinator attends reference group and gives feedback on draft report.

Throughout 2008 PiP coordinator communicates with PiP network about the progress of the research at meetings and during consultations.

Late 2008 publication of the research is delayed due to editing and approval processes.

May 2009 PiP coordinator organizes researcher, Dr Flood, to present at PiP forum.

- Dr Flood gets permission from DEECD to share some of the outcomes of the research including the best practice principles for working in schools
- Projects highlighted as 'promising' in the report are invited to present at the forum

Audio recording of Dr Flood's presentation is uploaded to the PiP website, as the power points are not approved for distribution.

May – November 2009 PiP coordinator continues to inquire about progress of the report and communicate with the PiP network, directing interested people to the recording of Dr Flood's presentation at the May forum.

September 2009 PiP coordinator writes a letter to the then education minister, Bronwyn Pike, commending the DEECD for their interest in the issue, asking about when the report might be released and what the DEECD plans to do next.

Continued...

October 2009 DEECD release a request for quote for a demonstration project based on the outcomes of the (as yet unreleased) RRE report, the request includes the best practice principles outlined in the report (and presented by Dr Flood at the May forum).

The RFQ is sent to a number of organisations including DVRCV. The PiP coordinator is approached by three of the four other organisations and either asked to support their applications or partner with them. DVRCV decides not to tender for the project but agrees to support one of the other applicants.

November 2009, *Respectful Relationships Education* report is released.

December 2009, representatives from DEECD are invited to speak at PiP network meeting, particularly about the demonstration project and what the DEECD intends to do with the recommendations of the RRE report. This meeting attracts the largest attendance of any in the network's history – 50 people.

Network members exhibit a great deal of anxiety about the demonstration project and what it will mean for their work, both at the meeting and afterwards. The PiP coordinator manages expectations about what the demonstration project can realistically achieve given limited funding and extremely tight timelines. She confirms to network members that their work will continue to be important during and after the demonstration project.

February 2010, PiP meeting focuses on engaging with best practice principles. Participants workshop the principles outlined in the RRE report and consider the challenges of integrating them with their current work.

CASA House is successful in their bid to develop the demonstration project.

February 2010, PiP coordinator provides advice on consultations for the demonstration project and puts the Coordinator in touch with key regional contacts.

The following examples of the impact of PiP's advocacy with government on the capacity of the sector are excerpts from interviews with members of the PiP network as well as with key stakeholders in government.

The first example was from a PiP network member who ran what can be broadly termed a respectful relationships education program for delivery in schools. She had been working in the sector previous to the existence of PiP and had the following to say about PiP's impact on her work:

Through the e-bulletins, through the website, through the coordinator's communication with people there was one picture of what the demonstration project was... one clear message of this is what the demonstration project is about it's going to move us one step closer to best practice. –
Excerpt from interview with stakeholder.

Specifically in relation to the development of the government's State Plan for preventing violence against women in 2009 (*A Right to Respect*) PiP was seen as playing an important role in facilitating communication and advocating between the government and the sector.

From government's point of view:

In terms of the development of the state plan (we had education as a key setting) it was really helpful to me able to use PiP as a resource for first leading into the working groups underlying the drafting of the strategy for education but also for testing out the actions which would be going into those education settings ... Having PiP involved in the development itself also I think strengthened the accountability of government back to the sector.

A community sector PiP member working in respectful relationships education delivery perspective said:

PiP mechanisms ensured that the sector could have input into the plan ... that they feel that it's something that really supports their work rather than something which is imposed upon them ... The PiP network built a shared understanding of what the state plan was increasing people's access to the state plan and their ability to refer to it when they go to a school or in their broader organisations or to funders.

Whilst the survey of network members did not specifically ask about any self-perceived changes in participants' ability or confidence in advocating directly to government, respondents were asked if they felt that as a result of their involvement with PiP their confidence in advocating for best practice approaches to prevention of violence against women with young people had increased? Fifty nine per cent reported that their confidence had increased a lot or a great deal.

Facilitation of network members' involvement in conferences

Another component of PiP's advocacy objective was the promotion of relevant conferences and encouragement of network members to be involved in those conferences. This was achieved by regularly updating the website and including material in the monthly bulletin about relevant conference and opportunities for networking and professional development occurring outside the immediate sphere of the PiP network, for example nationally.

Concluding remarks

The above aspects have extended my understanding of and commitment to my work due to the promotion of current evidence-based information through high quality speakers and print material. The inspiration that has come from an informed, creative, accessible coordinator has been significant, along with the collegiality that developed during the network meetings and forums. –Comment left by network member via the survey

Each of PiP's three core objectives (capacity building, resource development and advocacy) was supported by a range of interrelating and mutually reinforcing activities designed under the PiP logic model to first create and then foster a community of practice around youth-focused primary PVAW. Some activities such as the bulletin. Others, such as the evaluation working group had a smaller reach. While the website and the bulletin were seen as having directly contributed to participants' confidence and ability (capacity), other initiatives,

such as the library, were less valued across the network as a whole but still made a significant contribution particularly considering their low cost. The PiP logic model has had only the most minor amendments over the last three years. This is testament not only to its inherent flexibility, consultative approach and responsiveness.

6. Discussion of evaluation findings

PiP really created a sense of permission I think to acknowledge that we can do better than we're doing now. - Quote from interview with stakeholder

The PiP project received its original Phase I funding from VicHealth in 2007 as a component of VicHealth's work to prioritise the prevention of violence against women under its 'Respect, Responsibility and Equality: Preventing Violence against Women' program. The design of the PiP project supported the VicHealth PVAW framework by working to affect change at an individual, organisational and societal level by building the capacity of the youth-targeted PVAW sector. In 2008 PiP was one of five out of the original 29 projects to receive funding to extend the project for a further three years. This extension of funding for three years (2008-2011) became PiP Phase II. These projects became an integral part of VicHealth's primary prevention activities.

The purpose of this report is to thoroughly evaluate both the processes and impact of the PiP project over the past three years with the aim that this report should make a significant contribution to the evidence base for PVAW strategies. The findings of the evaluation process clearly indicate that PiP has significantly increased the capacity of youth-targeted prevention work in Victoria and has set an important precedent in terms of providing and demonstrating a proven model for achieving these strong results.

section 5 of this report 'broke down' into its three core objectives and the activities which support each including the website, network meetings, email bulletins, an annual forum, and consultations and referrals. Each of these activities were designed to assist practitioners to plan, implement and evaluate activities that promote respectful relationships between young men and women. Section 5 presented the evaluation findings for PiP's activities.

The impacts looked at in section 5 related specifically to the impact of each activity as perceived by the participants. For example, 43 per cent reported or respondents to the survey reported that the website as an aspect of PiP which contributed most to changing level of engagement with best practice principles.

The findings of section 5 certainly made clear that practitioners used and found value in many PiP activities. This section of the report, however, sets out to answer a set of broader questions which have provided the overarching framework for both the PiP project as a whole over the past three or four years and also for its evaluation. These questions are:

- Did the PiP project succeed in creating a community of practice amongst youth-targeted primary prevention of violence against women practitioners in Victoria?
- What changes can be observed as a result of the project's activities?
- What is the overall significance of the project? What has been its contribution to the field of primary prevention of violence against women?

The combination of qualitative and quantitative data employed in this evaluation provides sound evidence to support the arguments that the Phase II of PiP project has clearly made a significant positive difference to the capacity of the youth-targeted PVAW sector in Victoria and that the project has created and supported a community of practice to develop around this work. 87 per cent of respondents to the survey reported a positive increase in their knowledge of current issues relation to PPVAW and over 70 per cent reported an increase in their ability to plan and implement PVAW initiative as a result of involvement with PiP.

However, the contribution that the PiP project has made has not been only in terms of increased sector capacity or the development of a community of practice. Perhaps its most significant contribution in terms of the PVAW big picture both nationally and internationally, has been the provision of a proven, replicable and transferrable model for prevention work.

Did the Partners in Prevention project succeed in creating a community of practice amongst youth-targeted primary prevention of violence against women practitioners in Victoria?

There's heaps more stuff happening around prevention now than there used to be, PiP provides a focal point for all of it. Before PiP maybe things were happening in a random, or ad hoc way, but people didn't know about it, everyone was isolated. – Quote from case study

There are several components to a 'community of practice'. Evidence includes quantitative data showing that practitioners from different areas of the VAW, PVAW and related sectors including health, education and government are represented and engaged in activities. Another indicator is the size, span and growth of membership. Does the 'community' in questions involve and support more experienced as well as new workers in the field? In ascertaining whether a community of practice has been created qualitative evidence is perhaps more important:

- Do members report feeling that they are connected to other practitioners in their field?
- Do members contextualise their own practice within a broader context? Both in terms of other, related projects and the wider policy context.
- Have your partnerships with other practitioners increased?
- Do you feel like you know where you could go for support, information or referral in your practice?

By all of these measures PiP has been successful in creating a community of practice amongst youth-targeted PPVAW practitioners in Victoria. PiP membership currently stands at 335. After each monthly e-bulletin is sent out and after events such as network meetings or forums there is a small spike in new members as practitioners spread news and information to their colleagues and wider organisations.

The survey found that 76 per cent of PiP members work in metropolitan Victoria. This reflects the concentration of programs and schools in this area. It was always an intention of the PiP project to maximise potential for the inclusion of rural workers in PiP activities. Steps that were taken towards this end by the project coordinator included giving extra weight to rural members' ideas about what would make it easier for them to attend events. As a result all events were held in the CBD area of Melbourne so that they would be easily accessible by public transport. Meetings were deliberately made longer and included professional development so that practitioners could better advocate for their attendance with their managers.

Where rural members were unable to attend, network meetings for example, the project was designed so that all members would have equal access to website and bulletins. Content from the meetings is uploaded onto the website where possible. The survey data shows that PiP has been successful in attracting membership from rural areas, with more than 20 per cent of members working in rural Victoria. Geographically membership is slowly widening across other Australian states and territories.

It's great hearing from rural members who come in to the meeting. I can't imagine about how we would hear about their work without PiP. Some of the best and most innovative work is happening in the country that we'd otherwise never know about ... and talk about working in isolation. -

Quote taken from interview with case study

The breadth of PiP membership also indicates a community of practice has been formed. PiP members come from a broad range of relevant sectors. The survey found that:

- 17 per cent of respondents were from the family violence sector
- 13 per cent reported being from the women's health and education sector
- 11 per cent were from the sexual assault and local government sectors
- 9 per cent reported working in community health.

Also represented in lower numbers are youth and police sectors and state government. All the major stakeholder sectors are therefore involved and represented in PiP which is a key success of the project.³⁰ This is a strong indication of a community of practice because it shows practitioners are joining PiP from a range of organisations which do not have PVAW as their core focus in order to develop their capacity and expertise with other specialists in PVAW. Indeed it is typical that PiP members report being the only people in their organisations doing prevention work. This was a theme which came up repeatedly in the focus group.

³⁰ It is important to note here that one of the sectors which is perhaps surprisingly under-represented in PiP is the mainstream education sector (teachers and principals, etc). Certainly there are reasons for this, but a stronger connection with this group and established lines of communication might significantly add to the capacity of youth-targeted PVAW. This issue will be discussed in more detail in section 9 of this report under 'Conclusions and Recommendations'.

PiP has therefore played a key role in giving PVAW work its own distinct identity and the sense of being its own, specialised and legitimate 'sector'. PiP's success in this must be seen in the context of VicHealth's work in driving forward the evidence for and prioritisation of PVAW as well as the state plan. This work provided the programming and policy environment without which PiP not have existed – indeed this work in some ways created the need for PiP in the sector. PiP became the mechanism by which the sector was kept informed about the work of Vichealth, particularly the prevention framework, but also the state plan and the RRE report by DEECD. The large amount of policy activity around PVAW over the last four years actually increased the need for the network, to consolidate practice, increase communication and bring everyone one along together over shifting ground.

PiP's work in advocating for an identity for this specialist work, whether it's through government or through health agencies, how the advocacy helped to build a community of practice...creating an identity and legitimacy for the work and the needs of the workers, a home for the workers to sit in.

– Quote from interview with stakeholder

In relation to violence against women the PiP network bridges the gap between the intervention or crisis service/response VAW sector (including refuges etc) and the primary prevention VAW sector. This is significant because unfortunately the increased emphasis on prevention by VicHealth and government in recent years has been perceived as threatening the already very limited and insecure funding and legitimacy of the direct service/intervention side of VAW. This has perhaps added to a sense of competition amongst organisations.

PiP has played a role in bridging this gap as the statements below from two network members from either end of the 'stream' indicate:

As a worker in a refuge I get dispirited about what is essentially band-aiding a massive problem. There is no doubt in my mind that more focus and funding should be put into prevention and targeting young people. I am tired of seeing the cycle of DV run through generations. – Quote from survey respondent

Prevention work can be intangible, not like direct service where you have an outcome, like a woman going into refuge and escaping violence is an outcome. But because prevention work is so broad and difficult to measure it's hard to feel like you're making a difference, especially when you're working in one region and you have no idea what work, great work, is happening around you....Absolutely, PiP makes you feel reinforced, like it's not just you. – Quote from interview with case study whose role is focused on youth-targeted prevention

Of course there had also been a sense of competition between PVAW practitioners/organisations as well. The result of limited funding and low recognition of the importance and legitimacy of PVAW initiatives had resulted in initiatives being undertaken in isolation. The statement below from a PiP stakeholder shows how this sense of competition changed and became more constructive as a result of PiP bringing PVAW workers together.

Early on, without PiP, to be frank, there was a stronger sense of competition between workers....having PiP meant that there was more space for people to be heard which is powerful symbolically... PiP shifted that a bit so that the hunger was to be heard collectively rather than as competing workers in competing projects.

There is other evidence that PiP successfully fostered a community of practice such as that PiP attracted membership from practitioners who are new to the sector whilst also attracting and keeping more experienced practitioners involved. Twenty-four per cent of respondents to the survey had been in their roles for less than a year which indicate that PiP is recommended to them as a useful way of developing and supporting their practice and connecting them with more established practitioners in the field. Thirty-two per cent had been in their role for more than three years. Despite their experience they clearly felt that membership to PiP added value to their practice.

Whilst I have been a part of the PiP network I have had three quite different jobs in different sectors...The ways in which I used/participated in the PiP network whilst working within the community sector is radically different [to] whilst I was working within government. Whilst working in the community sector the PiP bulletin, evaluation and bulletin assisted me to further my practice.

I think the positives of PiP from a government perspective is that it is not seen as continually asking for money, as a 'pushy' advocate and is viewed as a useful source of information for those in government as well as non-government organisations – this gives the network legitimacy and allows the creation of partnerships or networks across the government and non-government sectors over an extended period of time. – Comment by survey respondent.

All of the measures listed thus far clearly indicate that PiP has successfully created a community of practice around youth-targeted PVAW. However, the PiP members were also given the opportunity to answer the question themselves. When asked the question 'has your involvement in the PiP project increased your feeling of connectedness to a broader community of practitioners?' Eighty two per cent reported that their feeling of connectedness to a broader community of practitioners had increased. Forty-five per cent reported that it had increased by 'a great deal'. This is clear evidence that PiP has been successful in achieving its objectives. Quotes from stakeholders and participants give this quantitative finding deeper meaning:

There's a strong sense of sharing skills and workshopping problems and shared experiences which is key to a community of practice, there was a sense of a shared identity [between] workers in the sector with a focus on primary prevention, a focus on schools, a niche within a niche so to speak ... there was a sense that the profile of the network and its members grew and that's important. –
Quote from interview with stakeholder

When asked how it would affect her work if the PiP project was to end one PiP member replied:

It would be terrible! ... I would feel like I'm going back to doing it alone again. I'd lose that point of connection (the meetings, the bulletins, the website) and that sense of being part of a whole combined effort. ... which would dissipate. – Quote drawn from case study

What changes can be observed as a result of the project's activities?

The impact of PiP has been significant and tangible not only for members of the network but also in terms of the increased capacity of youth-targeted PVAW the connection between the sector and government and the wider policy context. Changes observed as a result of PiP's activities can be broken up into four main categories:

- Practitioners are better able to situate their work within broader program (partnerships) and policy context
- Practitioners are more aware of best practice principles and the importance of evaluation and feel better equipped to meet these challenges
- PiP has provided a singular, established line of communication between practitioners and stakeholders within the sector as well as between the sector and government
- PiP is known and used as a central hub for the sector for accessing news, information and resources

These changes would not have been possible if PiP had failed to create and foster a community of practice around youth-targeted PVAW.

Each of these changes will now be explored in greater detail.

Practitioners are better able to situate their work within broader program (partnerships) and policy context

Over recent years we have seen PVAW become a more visible priority for government and the community alike. This has resulted in more funding for youth-targeted prevention projects and initiatives and more PVAW practitioners. This recent positive trend has been driven largely by VicHealth's research and prioritisation of PVAW as a major health priority and the creation of the Vichealth prevention framework and was reinforced by the state government's 10 year plan for PVAW A Right to Respect. The DEECD's Respectful Relationships Education report released in 2009 provided guidance on best practice criteria for respectful relationships education in schools as well as a basis for future policy and program development.

PiP helps practitioners to establish a balance between building the profile and reach of their program while connecting to the bigger picture in terms of policy development and working towards best practice. I think that the latter, as a worker, would have been particularly difficult without PiP. - Quote from interview with stakeholder

In order to increase the quality of youth-targeted PVAW initiatives one of PiP's objectives has been to support PVAW practitioners' ability to situate their own projects within this broader context. Practitioners should ideally be aware of the work being done around them in other PVAW projects to avoid duplicating work and to learn from one another's experiences. Ideally they should be able to relate their work directly to the state plan and the VicHealth prevention framework – in other words the broader policy context. The formation of partnerships both between practitioners and between practitioners and government are therefore key indications of the PiP project's success.

When asked in the survey 'has your involvement in the PiP project increased your partnerships with other actors in the PPVAW field?' 66 per cent of respondents indicated that there had been an increase. Twenty-nine per cent said that their partnerships had increased by 'a great deal'. While the impact that this dramatic increase in partnerships has had on the efficiency and overall quality of youth-targeted PVAW initiatives in Victoria is impossible to extrapolate from this data, the evidence we do have represents a significant impact of the PiP project on members' practice and on the capacity of the sector.

Practitioners are more aware of best practice principles and the importance of evaluation and feel better equipped to meet these challenges

The DEECD's *Respectful Relationships Education* report released in 2009 provided guidance on best practice criteria for respectful relationships education in schools. In terms of building the sector's capacity a key objective of PiP activities has been to foster an awareness of best practice principles with a particular focus on project evaluation and to build practitioner skill around these.

Best practice

The five best practice principles set out by the DEECD for respectful relationships education in 2009 were

- A whole-school approach
- A program framework and logic
- Effective curriculum delivery
- Relevant, inclusive and culturally sensitive practice
- Impact evaluation

In the survey PiP members were asked to indicate whether they felt that their practice better reflected these principles as a result of their involvement with PiP activities. The results were very positive and indicated some significant change.

- 50 per cent of respondents indicated that their practice better reflected a whole school approach (15.5 per cent indicated that this had increased 'a great deal')
- 53 per cent of respondents indicated that their practice better reflected a program framework and logic

- 52 per cent of respondents indicated that their practice better reflected effective curriculum delivery
- 60 per cent of respondents indicated that their practice now better reflected the principle of relevance, inclusiveness and cultural sensitivity
- 52 per cent of respondents indicated that their practice now better incorporated impact evaluation (10 per cent indicated that this had increased ‘a great deal’)

Not only were the participants’ own practice better reflecting best practice principles, but their self-reported confidence in advocating for best practice in approaches to prevention of violence against women with young people had also increased. Eighty-five per cent reported that their confidence had increased in this area with 26 per cent reporting that it had increased ‘a great deal’. The monthly bulletin and the PiP website were the activities most credited with contributing to the changes listed above by 62 and 43 per cent respectively. However, according to one stakeholder it was the network meetings and smaller working groups which most impacted this positive change within the sector.

PiP initiated and maintained a dialogue around best practice ... and created a kind of safety to do that. We’re talking about dozens of under-funded organisations and underfunded workers working in 20 schools off the smell of an oily rag so any move away from what they’re doing now or another way of practicing that would have been quite ... there might have been a defensive or reluctance... those face to face conversations in a supported environment were actually really important for professional development and the level of engagement was really high instead of people just shying away from it. – Quote from interview with stakeholder

Evaluation

The data forms a similar picture in terms of practitioners' increased ability in relation to project/program evaluation. When asked in the survey whether their involvement in the PiP project increased their ability to plan for and carry out evaluation work 60 per cent reported an increase with 10 per cent reporting that their capacity had increased a great deal. The PiP Evaluation Working Group was key for some practitioners in affecting this change. However it is clear that PiP's contribution to fostering awareness and skill in relation to evaluation also extended past the EWG.

PiP has enabled an interest and also a capacity amongst practitioners and amongst agencies to focus on evaluation and sustainability. I was part of the Evaluation Working Group ... and I know not many people really came to the workshops ... but even the fact that PiP was always talking about evaluation it was always in the bulletins I think had an impact on the sector ... [names two organisations which have a high level of involvement with PiP] evaluation has become and organisational priority for them because of PiP.

[Stakeholder continues ...]

I think that the sense of shared purpose and the dialogues about evaluation and sustainability sowed the seeds. If words like evaluation and sustainability keep appearing in e-bulletins the workers get the message that this should be on their radar, on the horizon – even if they're not at the network meeting there's an expert, namely the PiP coordinator who is saying this is relevant to you, this is something important in your field and I'm going to keep you updated about it and I think that that has an impact. PiP kept a whole lot of issues in the practitioners sphere that otherwise may not have been there and I think that's quite powerful.

PiP has provided a singular, established line of communication between practitioners and stakeholders within the sector as well as between the sector and government. PiP is known and used as a central hub for the sector for accessing news, information and resources.

Another change which can be observed as a result of the PiP project is that a single line of communication has been established between practitioners and stakeholders in youth-targeted PVAW. This channel of communication is regularly used by practitioners and stakeholders including government to seek and share partnerships, information and resources and is now relied upon as a unique, specialist hub for PVAW communications.

This statement was part of a member's response to a question asked in the survey as to where practitioners would go for PVAW information if PiP no longer existed.

In regards to where you would go for information without PiP there would be a serious loss of the ground that has been gained in unifying and working together on the best practice possible. Searching for information between a number of agencies, networks and websites creates a threat of fragmenting information and therefore actions and possibly undoing the work that PiP has achieved. – Quote taken from survey.

Thirty five per cent of practitioners have distributed information through the PiP bulletin. The following quotes are from a practitioner who used PiP as a vehicle to communicate with other practitioners about her project. She spoke about the situation prior to PiP and the impact that this single, established line of communication to PVAW practitioners specifically added value to her project and made it more efficient.

The choice was to either to put a lot of time and effort finding out what other workers were doing and explaining the project to them, or totally disregarding that work - instead we could use PiP. We didn't need to worry about communication or messaging and could focus on the project itself...There was a singular messaging to the sector. Through the e-bulletins, through the website, through the coordinator's communication with people there was one picture of what the project was... one clear message of this is what the project is about it's going to move us one step closer to best practice.

PiP's provision of a single line of communication was also useful for government. Specifically the Family Violence Unit (FVU) OWP and the Sexuality Education and Sexual Diversity section of Student Wellbeing Unit at DEECD often used PiP to connect themselves with what was happening 'on the ground' with practitioners. This was particularly the case in relation to the development of the State Plan and the Respectful Relationships Education report.

In terms of the development of the state plan we had education as a key setting ... it was really helpful to be able to use PiP as a resource for first leading into the working groups underlying the drafting of the strategy for education but also for testing out the actions which would be going into those education settings. – Quote drawn from interview with stakeholder

Similarly PiP has striven to ensure that the relevant government level is included in network meetings and annual forums increasing the visibility and legitimacy of the sector.

What is the overall significance of the project? What has been its contribution to the field of primary prevention of violence against women?

Without PiP there wouldn't be any form or process of information sharing in the sector, I mean that's PiP's function. There's no other way of people from these different programs and projects getting together. – Quote from interview with stakeholder

Clearly the PiP project has been successful in its aim of creating a community of practice around youth-targeted PVAW and has resulted in a range of important and tangible changes in the sector in terms of

- Practitioner capacity particularly around best practice principles and evaluation
- Practitioners are better able to situate their work within broader program (partnerships) and policy context
- Sector visibility and legitimacy, communication with government,
- Providing a singular, established line of communication between practitioners and stakeholders within the sector as well as between the sector and government

The evidence for and significance of these changes has been discussed earlier in this section of the report as well as in Section 5 of this report.

The PiP project also has a bigger overall significance and has made a significant contribution to the field of PPVAW in Victoria. The precedent set by PiP and its potential for transferability and adaptation is a significant contribution to PPVAW evidence base more generally.

In building the capacity of the youth-targeted PVAW sector PiP has supported the development of a specific, specialist identity for this work. As practitioners have come to identify more strongly as prevention workers this has had a trickle on effect on their organisations.

Nearly 30 per cent of PiP members surveyed reported that their role was entirely dedicated to PVAW. Thirty-seven per cent reported that only 10 - 20 per cent of their roles were dedicated to PVAW. The existence of a professional network dedicated to prevention helps legitimise and hopefully grows the prevention aspect of practitioners' work. When asked 'has your involvement in PiP impacted the priority given to PVAW in your organisation?' 43 per cent of respondents felt that there had been an impact. The same percentage reported that there had been an impact on workforce development as a result of their involvement with PiP.

I think that it's really good to have a project that is focused on one thing. Everyone else in the organisation has to be across a few areas ... I think that the organisation has really embraced PiP... broadened horizons in a way that couldn't have been done without a dedicated worker resourcing and leading ... those things don't just happen unless you have someone leading it ... someone who knows the field, the issues, the resources ... that's what's been great about the PiP project. There's someone who knows what we need to know about prevention and who know who the other players are and what they're doing. – Quote taken from interview with stakeholder

Contribution of PiP as a model

A further contribution of the PiP project to the PPVAW evidence base is the contribution of a demonstrated effective model for workforce development. The PiP model, including the logic model, rationale and combination of activities are highly transferrable to different locations or settings. The model can be adapted to focus on a different element of the PVAW workforce or to run on a different scale other than state wide. Sustainability support funding from VicHealth for PiP Phase III will enable the PiP coordinator to 'pack up' the PiP model and turn it into an online manual complete with associated resources to allow the model to be implemented elsewhere.

Specific elements of PiP have also been adopted in other settings. The PiP bulletin as a template for communicating to prevention networks was utilised by the Local Government Networking and Capacity Building Project and, more recently, by the Northern Interfaith Respectful Relationship project (both of these initiatives are supported by VicHealth).

A delegation from the Korean Women's Development Institute visited DVRCV recently to discuss the Korean Government's new initiative for PPVAW which is setting up 244 local PPVAW agencies. The delegates were

very interested in the PiP model as a way of facilitating communication between these agencies. They also asked to be signed up to PiP.

Demonstrated demand for and uptake of PiP activities

Another contribution to the primary prevention evidence base in Victoria specifically is that the PiP project has demonstrated that there is a significant and growing demand for a professional network for youth-targeted PVAW practitioners and stakeholders. PiP activities have good rates of uptake and the project as a whole is very highly valued by its members and is successful in supporting their professional capacity to grow.

It would be very difficult if PiP wasn't around because we would lose everything that PiP provides, the forum, the network meetings, the e-bulletins, the website, all of that is an essential conduit of information and mechanism for advocacy. So, without a replacement we'd be in trouble. We'd be more likely to have ad hoc projects and the move towards best practice would halter with people trying to scrape together funding from wherever. – Quote from interview with stakeholder

Significance to DVRCV

Finally, the PiP project has also had a significant impact on its host organisation, DVRCV. As stated previously DVRCV has provided the ideal home to PiP over the past four years. The expertise and reputation of DVRCV in relation to violence against women and more specifically resource development has been a key factor in PiP's success and rapid growth. In addition to this, as a one-person project the PiP coordinator has also benefitted from the day-to-day supervision and advice offered by the communications team leader and the executive officer as well as from the camaraderie and support of the wider staff.

There have also been benefits for DVRCV as a result of hosting the PiP project. For example, in an interview with key stakeholder Vig Geddes, DVRCV executive officer of DVRCV she spoke about how PiP has allowed DVRCV to widen its connections with schools:

I did have a sense of us [DVRCV] being somehow linked in with the work in schools through the PiP network... it took us closer to the schools themselves and gave us more understanding and some knowledge about what people were doing with those programs.

The PiP project has also enabled DVRCV to expand its expertise around the prevention end of VAW.

PiP embedded our prevention work within something bigger, and gave a focus to the prevention work ... It got everyone in the organisation to talk more about prevention work. We had lots of vague aspirations around prevention work, we should do more work in schools, we should make such and such a resource, but we didn't have any way of bringing aspirations together to make the work happen ... I think it brought a lot of people in the organisation satisfaction and pride that PiP was happening. There has always been a lot of interest in PiP activities.

Concluding remarks

This section of the evaluation report has used quantitative and qualitative data to clearly demonstrate that the PiP project has succeeded in creating a community of practice amongst youth-targeted primary prevention of violence against women practitioners in Victoria. As a result of PiP there have been important and observable changes in the capacity of individual youth-targeted PVAW practitioners as well as in the sector more broadly including the facilitation of a more efficient and specialised channel of communication between the sector and stakeholders such as government. The PiP project, in terms of both the model itself and in terms of its impact has made a significant contribution to the PVAW evidence base. The concluding section of this report will contain further reflection on the PiP project and recommendations for its future application.

7. Conclusion and Recommendations

No PiP, no good.

– Quote taken from interview with stakeholder

This evaluation report covers the PiP project as it operated between July 2008 and June 2011. PiP was funded by VicHealth as part of its Respect, Responsibility and Equality Phase II. Under the VicHealth prevention framework PiP is primarily an organisational and workforce development project with a focus on preventing violence by targeting youth. This evaluation report has demonstrated that the PiP project has been highly successful in achieving its goal of building the capacity of youth-targeted PPVAW sector by fostering a community of practice around this work. PiP's success has been recognised in the form of a VicHealth Award for Organisational Development (2009) and a Certificate of Merit in the Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards in (2011).

The range of activities supporting each of PiP's three objectives: capacity building, resource development and advocacy have been mutually reinforcing and have enjoyed strong uptake. The activities have been valued by participants and have resulted in increased capacity in a range of areas including knowledge of PPVAW, evaluation, best practice, partnerships and increased efficiency across the sector.

In achieving this, and through the submission of this report to VicHealth, the PiP project has also made a significant contribution to the evidence base for effective PVAW initiatives, especially those which focus on workforce development. PiP has demonstrated the demand for a professional network for PVAW practitioners and stakeholders in Victoria.

PiP is a great resource and service that is critical to support the workers in the field and the sector and a WHOLE, [to] move forward, advocate the messages and necessity of this work and continue building a safer, stronger future for all. – Comment left on survey

It is a key recommendation of this report that PiP as a unique and specialised professional network be continued in order to support the growth of the PVAW sector and in order to maximise its efficacy.

The following paragraphs briefly investigate recommendations for the future of PiP both in terms of PiP continuing as it currently operates as well as looking at possible applications for the PiP model and its potential in terms of transferability. The report then moves to an overview of the Sustainability Support Funding provided to PiP by VicHealth.

Recommendations if PiP were to continue largely as it did under Phase II

The survey offered participants the chance to comment on what aspects of the PiP project they would like to see changed should the project continue and why. The following comments were typical:

- *The mix of access to new information has been very effective – combination of forums, meetings and internet and phone – worthwhile for the format to continue*
- *Just myself taking more initiative to use a vital service. If it did not exist we would want to create it.*
- *It seems in this area of work we are at the beginning and need to maintain the ground and add to it.*

The survey also asked ‘if the PiP project were to continue in a scaled-back form what activity would you most like to see maintained?’ Responses were evenly distributed. Approximately one third of respondents chose the bulletin, with between 10-20 per cent each choosing the forum, network meetings, website, and evaluation capacity training. This data reinforced the evidence that all of the activities of the PiP project are valued and that they work together effectively as a package.

Through interviews with stakeholders and case studies with active PiP members, however, two themes emerged in terms of recommendations for improving PiP in the future. The first related to connecting PiP as a largely community sector network more closely to the mainstream education sector). The second related to adding regional and national 'layers to PiP'.

Two minor recommendations for any future incarnation of the PiP project relate to the library resource and contact with schools. are as follows. Although the prevention library appeared from the evidence not to be as highly valued as other project activities, its value to the sector is still important – if yet untapped. It is unique in terms of its specialisation on prevention and also provides an important archive for prevention activities. Secondly, future PiP coordinators need training to ensure that they can provide adequate referral and support if they are contacted by non-members, particularly teachers, for advice following incidents of violence or sexual assault at their schools.

Relationship with schools and education sector

PiP has succeeded in fostering a community of practice around youth-targeted PVAW work with membership spanning a wide range of sectors related to this work varying from family violence, community health, the police and state government. In general, the focus of PiP's work is on RRE programs and initiatives. Some of these initiatives are specifically designed to engage non-school attending youth, but by and large RRE programs are run through schools and are therefore dependent on their cooperation and commitment. Yet in 2010 only 13 per cent of PiP members report working in the education sector.

Members have consistently identified the problems associated with the absence of effective working relationships with schools and the problem of schools finding time for RRE within their already over-crowded curriculums. With best practice principles for RRE including a whole-of-school approach and effective curriculum delivery this issue has only become a more pressing one for practitioners.

One of the things that always came up in network meeting was people from the community sector saying it's so difficult to establish these things long-term in schools and how different might that have been if there were teachers and principals in the room to answer those questions. –Quote taken from interview with stakeholder

From another perspective, the PiP coordinator often receives calls and emails from teachers, student wellbeing officers and even occasionally principals who are not members of PiP but who are seeking information about RRE or support in relation to a specific incidence of violence or sexual assault in their schools. In either case teachers will often request a 'one-off' visit from a RRE program to a specific year group at the school. As one stakeholder commented:

[PiP] Created legitimacy for the involvement of the community sector and allowed the community agency delivery model [to] maintain its legitimacy...Now I wonder if it legitimised it too much – at that time we could have worked better with the PiP coordinator to say well this is our moment to bring schools into PiP, this is our moment to make it a resource for teachers as well as the community sector that's already doing this work.

Including a strategy for bridging the gap between community sector RRE/youth-targeted PVAW practitioners and the mainstream school system would be useful in the next phase of PiP. Whilst a detailed strategy for this is not within the scope of this report, it could include the following elements.

- Targeting of teachers and principals or student wellbeing officers to become members of PiP
- A network meeting to brainstorm how to involve schools in the network and why this is important
- A forum specifically dedicated to bringing teachers and principals together with PiP practitioners
- Identifying champions in schools. For example, identifying teachers who are already members of PiP and building their capacity to involve others.

In addition to, or even underlying these actions PiP could use the opportunity presented by the development and distribution of our new resource for young men to foster a closer relationship with schools. For example information about PiP and how to sign up could be included in the order form for the young men's booklet and other DVRCV RRE materials. Measuring the impact of these strategies would be included into PiP's future evaluation strategies.

A model with wide potential

As detailed in the previous section of this report the PiP model has significant potential for adaptation, transferability and extension. The model could be adapted to support the work of PVAW practitioners without a focus on youth or as a proven model for workforce development/capacity building more broadly.

The PiP model could also be transferred to other settings on either a larger or smaller scale than state-wide. Regional PiPs or 'PiPettes' could be created across Victoria under a larger PiP umbrella based at DVRCV.

A possible change might be some regional PiP networks with leaders attending forums and meetings. In my experience the understanding of VAW with a school focus is only just beginning in some rural areas. There may be pockets of programs and practitioners who are skilled in this area. But there are also workers and organisations keen to get started but needing support and guidance. PiP is well placed to support this readiness. This is the time to keep the action of PiP intact and moving forward. - Comment by PiP member via the survey.

PiPs could also be established in other Australian state and territories. Across Australia there has been an increased recognition of the need of youth-based primary prevention work to prevent violence against women. However, state and territories face the same hurdles in streamlining and improving this work. As was the case in Victoria, practitioners are working largely in isolation from each other, with little awareness of each other's work (sometimes duplicating each other's work) and are unsupported in evaluating their

projects. State-based PiPs could stand independently, partner with Victoria, or be overseen by a national PiP body. There is really no limit to the potential for PiP, as a demonstrated model for PVAW capacity building.

Other possibilities include the use of the PiP model but with an adjusted focus and/or set of activities. For example, VicHealth has recently released a 'Review of bystander approaches in support of preventing violence against women'³¹ by Anastasia Powell in, 2011. The purpose of the review is to enable VicHealth to utilise the findings of the review to inform further research into the current capacity of individuals and organisations to undertake pro-social bystander action to prevent violence against women.' One of the next steps identified by the review is the creation of a web-based resource collating existing materials (including an annotated bibliography/evidence base) with links to programs and resources, 'best practice' guides for developing/implementing/evaluating bystander approaches, as well as drawing together local projects and promoting information-sharing and collaboration.³² The PiP precedent and model may provide the ideal way to build capacity around bystander action in PVAW.

Sustainability Support Funding from VicHealth

It doesn't make one bit of sense for PiP not to continue now, no sense at all. – Quote from case study

Project funding for PiP ceased at in June (2011). Fortunately, PiP was successful in its application for a Sustainability Support Fund (SSF) made available to the five-scale up projects funded under VicHealth's Phase II of the Respect, Responsibility and Equality (RRE) program (2008–2011).

VicHealth is now looking to increase the capacity of others to implement primary prevention initiatives across the settings and with the populations that featured in the scale-up projects, employing and building on their contribution to the PVAW evidence base. The objectives of PiP Phase III will ensure that such resources,

³¹ Dr Anastasia Powell (2011) *Review of bystander approaches in support of preventing violence against women*, VicHealth. Accessed online <http://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/pvaw-bystander>.

³² *Ibid.*, 49.

programs, tools, kits, models and approaches arising from Phase II are accessible and utilised by stakeholders in the field of primary prevention more broadly. A key component of this work will be the creation of an online 'How to manual' or program guide.

It is hoped that the PiP model will be adopted, adapted and transferred by stakeholders to new settings. Most importantly of all, it is hoped that PiP itself - now an established and thriving Victorian community of practice - will find a way to continue for the benefit of its members and to support the burgeoning PVAW and PPVAW sector in Victoria.

Appendices

Appendix 1



Partners in Prevention

Phase I Final Evaluation Report

In 2006 VicHealth created the *Respect, Responsibility and Equality: Preventing Violence Against Women* funding round to further their research into effective primary prevention of violence against women activities. The Domestic Violence Resource Centre Victoria (DVRCV) submitted the idea of creating a state-wide network for professionals involved in the delivery of primary violence against women prevention projects targeting young people. DVRCV was successful in its application, receiving \$30,000 for a 12 month project and a project worker (Kiri Bear) was employed for two days a week to coordinate the *Partners in Prevention* (PiP) project.

In March 2008 DVRCV successfully applied to VicHealth for the PiP project to be 'upscaled' and receive expanded funding for the following three years – this is referred to as 'Phase II' of the project. This evaluation is intended to capture the work of Phase I of the PiP project and reflect on its successes and limitations in order to provide a firm basis for proceeding into Phase II.

Context

The PiP project recognises that the idea of preventing violence against women through work with young people is not new. In fact a broad range of violence prevention projects targeting young people have been carried out over many years by a variety of organisations. The project seeks to capture this good work and build on its strengths by drawing workers in the field into a community where they can discuss their practice and share knowledge. It is modelled after the successful Rainbow Network for workers supporting same-sex attracted and transgender young people but is the first of its kind in the field of primary violence prevention.

The current momentum around the primary prevention of violence against women has been driven by research produced by VicHealth over the last five years. Reports such as 'Measuring the burden of disease of intimate partner violence,' the 'Community attitudes to violence against women survey' and the 'Framework to guide the primary prevention of violence against women' have highlighted the issue of violence against women and provided a strong basis to lobby for a prevention agenda. The PiP project receives its funding as part of

VicHealth's efforts to increase the evidence base for effective prevention strategies but it also facilitates other projects' contribution to this evidence base.

VicHealth's work has led to unprecedented interest in the primary prevention of violence against women from a variety of sectors across the state. The Department of Education is funding a stock-take of all primary prevention work happening in state schools with a view to defining best practice principles and developing a pilot program. A number of regional Primary Health Care Partnerships have identified violence against women as one of their priority issues. In the face of this interest PiP serves an important function in facilitating the flow of information about primary prevention. The project is therefore both a product of the current momentum and an enabler for effective action in response. DVRCV is ideally placed to auspice a project of this kind as it is a state-wide service with good links to government and a strong reputation in prevention.

Objectives

The initial application for PiP outlined the following objectives:

- Increase the knowledge of violence prevention theory and practice throughout the community sector
- Set up and promote the Partners in Prevention Youth Violence Prevention Network
- Assist in the development of partnerships and coordination within the primary violence prevention sector
- Share primary prevention resources and best practice models for working with young people
- Expand the evidence base for effective practice with young people to prevent violence against women
- Develop leadership within the youth violence prevention field and advocate to increase the reach and quality of violence prevention initiatives in Victoria

The overarching goal of *Partners in Prevention* was to shape an enabling environment for primary prevention activities within Victoria. We achieved this through capacity building, providing professional development to workers, facilitating the distribution of information and resources, and bringing workers together to develop partnerships and provide peer support.

[The project has] created an identity for violence prevention work with young people, building the 'sector,' building capacity but also acknowledging this work, being able to see it collectively rather than just one off programs.³³

³³ Except where stated otherwise, words in italics are directly transcribed quotes from workers during the evaluation session at the final network meeting.

We worked with organisations already engaging young people in violence prevention activities, to provide opportunities for that work to be shared, expanded, documented and celebrated. This in turn expanded the knowledge base of what works in programs for young people that aim to prevent violence against women.

Activities and Outcomes

What follows is a break down of each of the major activities provided in the first 12 months of the PiP project. A description of each activity is followed by reflection on the process and impact of that activity with reference to evaluation information

gleaned throughout the life of the project.

There are a number of layers to a network project of this kind. A variety of activities were offered in order to accommodate people's involvement at different levels. The forum attracted a broad range of participants, a smaller number opted to be included on the email list, a subset of that group attended network meetings and a couple of workers were involved in the steering committee.

Methodology

The bulk of the evaluation information in this report comes from a session conducted with workers at the June network meeting. Participants reflected on major project activities over the last year and then chose two pictures (out of a range of 60 or so postcards) that represented how the network had impacted their work. This session was digitally recorded and transcribed quotes appear throughout this report. At the meeting's close workers were asked to write: one thing they got out of the day, ideas for improving network meetings and suggestions as to how the network could support them over the next 3 years. Other evaluation information reported here comes from forms filled out by participants at the forum and at previous network meetings and unsolicited feedback on the project received via email.

Partners in Prevention Forum

We began by running a forum called *Partners in Prevention: Working with young people to prevent violence against women* in order to draw attention to the project and generate interest in the issue. The forum included the following academic presentations:

- Associate Professor Moira Carmody (University of Western Sydney) '*Sexual ethics, young people & sexual assault prevention education*'
- Kim Webster (VicHealth) '*Preventing violence against women – what works?*'

Followed by shorter presentations from a number of violence prevention projects currently operating around the state including:

- *Xpect Respect* - Secondary school program, Meridian Youth and Family Services
- *REAL Life* - Secondary school teacher/worker training, Women's Health Goulburn North East
- *Respect Protect Connect* - Secondary school peer education program, Women's Health in the South East and the South East Centre Against Sexual Assault
- *Feeling Safe, Being Strong* - Primary school program, Bethany Community Support

The forum also provided an opportunity to invite Anj Barker (a young woman survivor of relationship violence) to launch the updated version of DVRC's *Bursting the Bubble* website for young people witnessing or experiencing family violence.

The day concluded with the first PiP network meeting, which largely focused on determining the needs of workers and how the network could best support them.

Reflection

The *Partners in Prevention* forum was attended 110 people from a diverse range of sectors – state government, local government, sexual assault, domestic violence, police, schools and even faith organisations. Of those 110 attendees, 80 joined the email group to receive further information on the primary prevention of violence against women and 56 stayed for the network meeting.

Feedback suggests that a great strength of the day was the mix and balance of presentations – encompassing theory and practice. Although the forum was pitched at violence prevention practitioners in the community sector it attracted workers from a broad range of fields.

...seeing the forum and the opportunities and seeing a different view of the world and that's probably when I started seeing that I could be doing this work in my organisation.

One limitation, reported by a network member afterwards, was that the large number of participants meant that workers already well acquainted with the issue didn't necessarily have opportunities to connect with one another. This was remedied by later network meetings which had a tighter focus and attracted practitioners rather than 'interested others.'

I think part of what was good is having the forum with so many people coming along, some of whom are involved in the work and some of whom are thinking about it or in the general sector but not necessarily involved and then having these [network meetings] where there's been a smaller number of people who are usually very involved in the work, I've found that good in terms of the balance of having people that are a collegial network.

Many participants reported feeling energised and inspired by the presentations and the possibility for future collaborations.

Website and Bulletin

Information bulletins were sent out on an ad hoc basis – 10 over the course of the 12 months. When enough information had been sent to the project, or there was an upcoming event, this information was summarised and passed on to the network. The email list is an 'outlook' contact list (currently 115 people), bulletins are sent using the 'blind carbon copy' feature.

The website is essentially an 'archive' of links sent out in bulletin posts, information on upcoming meetings and notes from previous meetings. The 'projects' section currently has links to a number of local projects that have their own websites. It has been challenging to find a straightforward way of displaying information about projects that are not already on the internet. A form has been developed to capture information from these projects with the intention of 'posting' these online in pdf format.

Reflection

Feedback about the bulletin has been extremely positive. Workers said that the bulletin is current, feeds their passion and helps them link with other work that's happening.

The contact has been great and you send us information that I don't have time to search for.

When it was mentioned in a bulletin that the project coordinator was looking for feedback on the project, a couple of workers wrote to say how much they'd enjoyed receiving it.

Just to say what a great resource this update and other information you send out is to myself and other members of [my] network. (email communication)

The email bulletins keep lines of communication open in between network meetings.

Even though the meetings aren't that close together, the emails keep coming.

They keep workers up to date with recent developments in the field and provide opportunities for new workers to acquaint themselves with current issues.

Thanks for your informative email. For someone who is new to the area of domestic and family violence, I find your email a great asset in getting 'up to speed' on the topic. (email communication)

They are also a point of connection for workers who are unable to attend the meetings in person.

One limitation of the bulletin is that it is heavily reliant on the project worker to collate the information and send it to the 'list'. Initially attempts were made to set up a google group so that anyone could send emails to 'the list' but the technology was a barrier. It required people to 'log in' to google and then 'verify' their email address, very few people made it through this system. Ideally phase II of the project could try again to set up an email group so that conversations can happen between workers online. It may be that a 'message board' on the website is a more appropriate way of doing this.

Network meetings

As PiP is a state-wide network we were keen to make meetings accessible to rural workers. At the forum I canvassed workers who had travelled from rural and regional areas to find out what would be most useful to them. Their feedback was to have fewer network meetings of longer duration in order to make the travel more worthwhile and to hold the meetings at a central (CBD) location. With this in mind meetings were held quarterly and each was made up of a professional development component and an information sharing/gathering component.

October 2007 – Evaluation strategies

In the first meeting (on evaluation) I was very concerned about ensuring good quality content. We had a workshop about survey writing from Bernie Murphy (Deakin University) and a presentation from Renee Imbesi on her evaluation of the CASA House schools program. The overwhelming feedback from participants was that they wanted more time to share information with each other and hear about everyone's individual projects. (18 workers attended)

February 2008 – Information sharing/ SWOT analysis

In response to feedback, the second meeting focused on information sharing. Each person had the opportunity to talk about themselves and their work. This was followed by a SWOT analysis of the violence prevention sector, which fed into the application for the upscale of the PiP project and will guide the project's advocacy efforts. (10 workers attended)

June 2008 – Self-care/ PiP evaluation

The idea for a meeting on the topic of self-care was offered by a worker on the steering committee with some years experience in the field. I initially had doubts because I wondered whether newer workers would find it valuable and whether more experienced workers would make time to attend. I was pleasantly surprised that this meeting was a great success. As it was the last meeting for phase I, we had a self-care workshop with Deb Bryant (manager, WestCASA) followed by some activities to evaluate the project and a fully catered celebratory lunch. (16 workers attended)

Reflection

The majority of workers who attended network meetings were employed in the community sector, coming from a range of organisations – eg. CASA's, women's health, local government, community health, church-based. All meeting topics came out of a combination of suggestions from workers and the needs of the PiP project. Response from workers has generally been very positive:

The training component part of the meetings has been really relevant and valuable stuff.

During the evaluation activities a consistent theme that several workers returned to was the power of collegial relationships.

'You can talk the talk without having to give the preface explanation' being able to step out of the role of educating people and discuss the work with colleagues.

Many discussed being the only worker in their organisation involved in prevention and the only one who understood exactly what their work involves.

The networking is definitely a really important part of it for me, the partners part of the Partners in Prevention, because some of us work, a lot of us work alone.

For workers who are committed to preventing violence against women as a vocation the PiP network provides an opportunity to stay connected to the field as well as receiving support outside their organisation.

It's not about the organisation so whatever organisation I'm in I can still come here and still be able to continue on this work which is really important to me.

While it hasn't always been easy to find the time, especially for those of us who travel, once I'm here I'm really glad that I have, and it's stuff that we were talking about before about the network and bits and pieces, it's that pressure of keeping on top of things, for me it's been fantastic to being able to do that and taking the time away from the office to talk with people in the same field.

Although these sentiments were largely expressed by workers who had been in the prevention field for some time, newer workers appreciated being privy to the discussions taking place.

This year everything's been very black and white like 'What are we going to do? How are we going to do it?' and I think this network's provided colour for me and linking with all the other programs that are out there that we might connect with so thank you for the colour.

The network provides a shortcut to more developed thinking around the primary prevention of violence against women for workers who are new to the field.

In spite of these promising comments there are plenty of opportunities to improve the work of the project. For example more could be done to give workers opportunities to talk about their work in detail. Several workers suggested that part of each meeting could be devoted to a presentation and discussion of one or two projects. These projects could then be invited to write about their work for DVRC's quarterly newsletter. In future we plan to rotate the day of the week that meetings are held on to accommodate the large number of part-time workers in the sector. In phase I this proved too difficult to coordinate with the project worker's limited hours.

Consultation and advocacy

The project's outcomes in terms of advocating for violence prevention with young people are twofold.

First there is the work that the project has done to spread the word about violence prevention. These include:

- Delivering presentations on young people and violence prevention for the Frankston Mornington Peninsula Primary Care Partnership (PCP) and the Northern Metro PCP.
- The inclusion of members of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) and the Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD) on the steering committee.
- Running the forum and producing the email bulletins, to disseminate information to a wide audience (an article about the forum's keynote speaker appeared in the Sunday Age).
- Responding to requests for information from workers across Victoria, Australia and the world (the project has received emails from as far a field as South Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand and even Ireland).

Secondly there is the impact of network involvement on member workers, this is best captured by the following comment:

We're all in this together, even if it's a small group of people it's incredibly powerful to have these discussions and being able to take this perspective into other forums and be able to advocate for the work that we do and the importance of that work.

This suggests that involvement in the network increases the capacity of individual workers to describe the work of violence prevention and to advocate for its advancement within their local areas.

When a worker from New Zealand visited Victoria to research the primary violence against women prevention initiatives happening here, a worker set up a lunch for her to meet with others in the field. When we arrived the worker commented "This wouldn't have happened if it wasn't for PiP." The idea of being in a network and being part of a sector inspires workers to collaborate more readily with each other.

Reflection

Workers in the network felt that advocacy was an important part of the project:

Someone said before about not having to do the introduction that we're on the same page to start with that's good but also that we need to keep advocating for this work being done and encouraging and introducing other people to these concepts so I think it's good that PiP's done a bit of both and I think the balance has been good in it.

They enjoyed the benefits of the network for themselves as prevention practitioners but also wanted to see violence prevention being brought to new audiences. When asked how the network could support them over the next 3 years, many workers suggested advocacy.

The strengths of Phase I's advocacy efforts could be enhanced in Phase II by developing leadership within the network. Inviting workers to write newsletter articles, supporting them to present at conferences and offering opportunities for involvement in working groups/ steering committee are all avenues for empowering workers and increasing the profile of primary violence against women prevention.

Steering Committee

At the beginning of the PiP project a steering committee was convened to assist and advise the project worker in advocating for the primary prevention of violence against women through youth and community focused initiatives. The steering committee comprised representatives from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, Department of Community Development and Planning, Brophy Youth and Family Services (Warrnambool), CASA House (Melbourne) and from DVRCV.

During PiP phase I the steering committee met 5 times and contributed to a range of project outcomes including: a map of the authorising environment for violence prevention in Victoria, conceptualisation of the project upscale and of general project activities such as the website and evaluation.

Reflection

According to one worker involvement with the PiP steering committee yielded the following results:

- *More developed relationships with government, funding bodies and other community organisations*
- *Enhanced understanding of VAW and prevention issues within government structures and non-VAW sectors*
- *More 'systems advocacy' work in my own job role*
- *Enhanced focus on development of student program as 'curriculum' within our Prevention Program*

The committee involved a good mix of people – rural and metro, community workers and government – offering the project worker a rich diversity of perspectives on project activities. It was particularly beneficial to have a rural worker on the committee to assist the project in maintaining a genuine state-wide focus. The strong participation of rural workers in network activities demonstrates the success of the project in listening to rural workers and incorporating their needs into project planning.

The committee facilitated dialogue between policy makers and project workers in the community sector. The representatives from DEECD and DPCD gave insight to other committee members on government processes and received insights in turn into community sector responses to violence against women.

Additional Outcomes

In addition to the outcomes related to specific project activities outlined above, the evaluation yielded two outcomes that have arisen out of the project as a whole.

Program publicity

Several workers commented that they appreciated the way the project has shared information about their programs and their work.

An opportunity to take my program out there to people who might not otherwise have been able to access it

Another worker expanded on this sentiment, stating that the network has led to greater public acknowledgement of the work that is taking place

I think you've made our work visible, you seem hidden as one person with one program, then it's great when your work is out there, other people can see what you do.

Identity for violence prevention work with young people

The network has impacted workers' view of themselves and the work that they do. The very fact of having a network validates workers' efforts to create social change and strengthens their identity as violence prevention practitioners.

The breadth of it being a state-wide thing and getting pictures and snapshots of all over the state.

Workers described seeing themselves as part of a broader movement, feeling that the network had brought a sense of cohesion and connection to their various roles.

Having a person to hold the work, you can have all those things as scattered activities – having Kiri

Having a dedicated networker role was perceived as a great strength of the project, integral to those feelings of cohesion and connection. The networker role was seen as a powerful opportunity for workers' views to be represented in other forums and to enhance communication between government and the sector.

Recommendations

Phase I of PiP has made significant progress in addressing each of its main objectives. With the expansion of PiP phase I comes a capacity to build on these successes and overcome some of the project's limitations. This evaluation has led to the following recommendations for PiP phase II

- Explore possibilities for fostering communication between workers using online technologies.
- Increase opportunities for information sharing and peer support at network meetings.

- Develop leadership within the field by encouraging workers to talk/write about their work in other forums (eg. conferences, newsletters), providing opportunities to become involved in network projects and advocating for network representation on relevant policy bodies.
- Expand the network membership through advocacy with other groups eg. Parent's Victoria, Family Planning Victoria, Independent Schools Association.

The Partners in Prevention project would like to thank the following supporters:



PROMOTING MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING



Partners in Prevention

Evaluation and Sustainability Working Group

Purpose:

The Partners in Prevention (PiP) evaluation and sustainability working group will be convened to provide advice and feedback on the PiP project impact evaluation and develop strategies to ensure long-term sustainability of project outcomes.

Background:

DVRCV is required by VicHealth to deliver an evaluation report on the PiP project that covers processes, outcomes and impacts of the project. An evaluation plan was developed at the beginning of the project and data has been collected in line with the plan. At this stage most of the collected data responds to process measures, data on impact has not been systematically collected.

The project is now at a point where we need to consolidate the impact evaluation by undertaking a number of focused activities as specified in the plan. These include an online survey, key informant interviews, focus groups, and selected follow up of people who have provided feedback on the project's activities.

As the end of the project funding draws near (June 2011) we also need to consider the future of the PiP network and develop strategies for sustainability.

Aim:

- An evaluation report on the PiP project that answers stakeholder's questions about the impact and effectiveness of project activities and clearly states key lessons or recommendations of the project.
- A strategy for the continuation of the PiP project activities that have been most effective in building the capacity of community sector professionals to work with young people to prevent violence against women with a range of options depending on further funding.
- A plan for dissemination of the evaluation findings, particularly recommendations.

Objectives:

- Meet as a group of PVAW stakeholders (from the PiP network, government and academia) to contribute to the evaluation of the PiP project and assist in the development of a sustainability strategy.

Key Activities:

- Engage in discussion about the impact of the PiP project on the primary prevention of violence against women field.
- Confirm the existing evaluation plan and provide advice on methods and tools including those already developed.
- Provide feedback on the draft evaluation report (when completed).
- Participate in the development of recommendations based on evaluation findings and a dissemination strategy.
- Identify potential funding sources for the continuation of the PiP project.
- Consider possibilities for extension or expansion of the PiP project.
- Define appropriate strategies that might be carried out by PiP network members and DVRCV to sustain project activities.

Tenure:

It is envisaged that the ESWG will meet twice – September 2010 and March 2011 for a three hour workshop at DVRCV 292 Wellington St Collingwood.

Individual members may also be called on to advise on aspects of evaluation activities, data analysis and report writing on an as needs basis.

Partners in Prevention Phase 2 Evaluation Plan

Background

In 2006 VicHealth created the *Respect, Responsibility and Equality: Preventing Violence Against Women* funding round to further their research into effective primary prevention of violence against women activities. The Domestic Violence Resource Centre Victoria (DVRCV) submitted the *Partners in Prevention* (PiP) project, a state-wide network for professionals involved in the delivery of primary violence against women prevention projects targeting young people. DVRCV was successful in its application, receiving \$30,000 for a 12 month project. In March 2008 DVRCV successfully applied to VicHealth for the PiP project to be 'upscaled' and receive expanded funding for the following three years – this is referred to as 'Phase 2' of the project.

Program Outline

Partners in Prevention is primarily a capacity building project for professionals interested in working with young people for the primary prevention of gender-based violence. The project is based on an ecological model that seeks to effect change by providing interventions at individual, organisational and policy levels.

Core activities of the project include:

- **A website for workers** in the youth, health, community and education sectors who are interested in finding and sharing strategies for the primary prevention of gender-based violence. It includes information on the network and links to useful articles and websites.
- **Quarterly network meetings** with guest presenters on issues relevant to violence prevention. These meetings provide opportunities for violence prevention workers to come together and discuss their work.
- **Regular email bulletins** with information and recent news relating to gender-based violence prevention and announcement of upcoming network events.
- **Consultation, referral and advocacy** - the PiP project coordinator has access to information on violence prevention projects across the state and is regularly called on to provide input to reference groups and government consultations.
- **An annual forum** on a topic relating to young people and the primary prevention of gender-based violence.
- **A library** of resources relating to the primary prevention of gender-based violence available as part of the DVRCV library.

In addition phase 2 of the project allows for growth in project activities in response to identified needs within the network such as the redevelopment of the 'When Love Hurts' website for young people or the focus on building network members' capacity for project evaluation.

Evaluation rationale

Partners in Prevention is underpinned by community development principles such as self empowerment, mutual support and collective action. The PiP project is based on an ecological approach to preventing

violence against women, in accordance with VicHealth’s ‘Preventing Violence Before it Occurs’ framework. The project seeks to effect change across the spectrum of prevention from strengthening individual knowledge to influencing policy and legislation (see http://preventioninstitute.org/tool_spectrum.html for details). Project activities are intended to deliver multiple, overlapping and mutually reinforcing outcomes. This evaluation plan deals with the project holistically in order to capture this.

This evaluation is designed to ensure continuous improvement in the effectiveness of PiP project activities, assess the impact of the PiP project on youth-targeted PVAW activities in Victoria and document effective capacity building strategies that support workers in the primary prevention of violence against women. The evaluation is a requirement of the project funding body, VicHealth, but the final report will be widely distributed so that outcomes can be shared with other interested individuals and organisations.

Methodology

The main researcher for this evaluation is the PiP Project Coordinator supported by the VicHealth Research Practice Leader. The main researcher is therefore intimately involved in the project and this is viewed as a strength of the research. The evaluation plan encompasses qualitative and quantitative lines of inquiry. The researcher has a strong interest in exploring the use of most significant change processes in focus groups and narrative action evaluation during the report writing phase of the process.

Program goal: The Partners in Prevention project seeks to reduce violence against women by creating an enabling environment for youth targeted violence prevention activities in the state of Victoria.				
Target population	Violence against women prevention professionals targeting young people			
Objective 1:	Key questions	Information needed	Data collection	Budget/resources
Capacity Building To increase the ability of individuals and organisations to deliver youth VAW prevention initiatives through the development of a community of practice supported by effective communication.	Process evaluation How many VAW prevention professionals attended PiP events? Did they find the professional development activities suited their needs and expectations? How many people consulted with the project?	Records of attendance at PiP events Views of people attending events Phone/email logs Information from network members about partnerships developed through PiP	Satisfaction surveys to be handed out at end of events Project worker to record email/phone enquiries and consultation meetings Online survey at end of data collection period Phone or in person interviews with 5 stakeholders (1hr)	Survey development - 1 hour/ event Collation and analysis of data – 2 hours/ event Collection of phone logs – 1 hour/month Survey development – 10 hours Collation and analysis of data – 10 hours Development of interview questions –

	<p>How many partnerships were generated through network activities? What were the nature, strength and significance of partnerships generated?</p> <p>Impact evaluation Did PiP network members report an increase their knowledge of best practice, current issues and research in the field of VAW prevention as a result of PiP activities?</p> <p>Did workers report any changes in practice as a result of their involvement in PiP activities?</p> <p>Did workers report improvement in their skill in delivering VAW prevention activities as a result of PiP network activities?</p> <p>What do workers say about how PiP has impacted on the way they feel about their work?</p> <p>How effective has the project been in</p>	<p>Key informant interviews with network members and other stakeholders to determine knowledge gained, impact on practice and partnerships developed</p> <p>Focus group with network members</p> <p>Feedback from people who have consulted with the project worker</p>	<p>Detailed case studies of two network members</p> <p>Focus group held at end of data collection period as part of network meeting – using elements of Most Significant Change process</p>	<p>10 hours</p> <p>Organise interviews – 2 hours</p> <p>Carry out interviews – 10.5 hours</p> <p>Collation and analysis of data – 20 hours</p> <p>Development of focus group process – 5 hours</p> <p>Carry out focus group – 3 hours</p> <p>Collation and analysis of data – 10 hours</p>
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	<p>providing consultation to the sector?</p> <p>What projects/ activities/ other benefits have developed through PiP project activities?</p> <p>What other factors (than PiP) do workers report have influenced their capacity/ knowledge/ skill?</p>			
Objective 2:	Key questions	Information needed	Data collection	Budget/resources
<p>Resource development To support the practice of youth-targeted primary VAW prevention initiatives by individuals, organisations and the community through the provision of a suite of resources consistent with VicHealth's preventing VAW framework.</p>	<p>Process evaluation How many resources were produced or collected?</p> <p>How often were project resources accessed by workers?</p> <p>Did workers find the resources accessible, easy to use and useful?</p> <p>Impact evaluation How did workers say they used project resources?</p> <p>How did workers say the resources affected their practice?</p>	<p>List of resources produced/ collected by project – websites, bulletins, publications, library books etc.</p> <p>Website hits/ Email list members</p> <p>Library borrowing information</p> <p>Workers' views on project resources</p> <p>Key informant interviews to determine perceived impact of resources on</p>	<p>Project records, DVRC library</p> <p>Webaliser, Google analytics</p> <p>Names/ email ads. from Outlook</p> <p>Consult with DVRC librarian</p> <p>Question in online survey at end of data collection period</p> <p>Interviews and case studies as above</p> <p>Focus group as above</p>	<p>3 hours to assemble list of resources</p> <p>1 hour/month to collate statistics</p> <p>1 hour to collate list</p> <p>As above</p> <p>As above</p> <p>As above</p>

		practice Focus group with network members		
Objective 3:	Key questions	Information needed	Data collection	Budget/resources
Advocacy To generate an enabling policy environment for youth VAW prevention initiatives in schools and more broadly across the community through the development of new partnerships with youth stakeholders.	<p>Process evaluation What committees and consultations has the project been involved in?</p> <p>Which organisations has the project engaged in project activities?</p> <p>How many network members have had input into policy development through PiP?</p> <p>Impact evaluation According to stakeholders, what impact has PiP had on the development of government policy over the life of the project?</p> <p>How do workers describe PiP's influence on the way organisations or departments work?</p>	<p>Record of consultation invitations</p> <p>Record of partnerships generated by the project</p> <p>Information from network members about consultation opportunities taken up</p> <p>Key informant interviews with network members and other stakeholders to determine impact of PiP involvement on policy and practice</p> <p>Focus group with network members</p>	<p>Project worker to collect data on partnerships and consultation opportunities</p> <p>Survey as above</p> <p>Interviews and case studies as above</p> <p>Focus group as above</p>	3 hours to assemble list
Overall aspects of the project	Key questions	Information needed	Data collection	Budget/resources
Reach	What kinds of	Attendance	Project worker to collect	10 minutes/event

	<p>workers have benefitted from PiP activities? Which workers has PiP failed to engage with?</p> <p>Which geographic regions have accessed PiP activities? Have any missed out?</p>	<p>records for all PiP events</p> <p>List/ knowledge of Victorian youth VAW programs and practitioners and other potentially relevant organisations</p> <p>Location of network members</p>	<p>attendance at each meeting/ event</p> <p>EWG/reference group brainstorm</p> <p>Stakeholder interviews as above</p> <p>Analysis of project records</p>	<p>20 minutes at EWG meeting 20 minutes at Ref Grp meeting</p> <p>Analysis of records – 2 hours</p>
Ownership/ community development	<p>How many network members have been involved in project working groups and committees?</p> <p>Do network members feel that the project has operated with open and accountable processes?</p> <p>To what extent has the project generated a community of practice?</p>	<p>Working group/ committee attendance</p> <p>Key informant interviews with network members to inquire about their perception of project processes/ network contacts independent of PiP activities</p> <p>Focus group with network members</p>	<p>Meeting minutes</p> <p>Interviews as above</p> <p>Focus group as above</p>	Data analysis - 2 hours
Emergent factors	<p>What questions may have been missed by this evaluation plan?</p> <p>What other benefits/ short comings do participants see in the project?</p>	<p>Key informant interviews with network members that include open ended inquiry</p> <p>Focus group with network members</p>	<p>Interviews as above</p> <p>Focus group as above</p>	

Critical factors in undertaking the project	<p>What have been the critical success factors and barriers to achieving the objectives and impacts? Was the community ready for this project? Where to from here?</p> <p>According to PiP network members, which project activities have had the biggest impact on workers' and the sectors' capacity?</p>	<p>Records of involvement in different aspects of the project</p> <p>Interviews with project staff and stakeholders</p> <p>Workers' views on relative merits of each project activity</p>	<p>Project worker to collect attendance/involvement information</p> <p>Interview with project coordinator and DVRC/VicHealth/govt staff</p> <p>Online survey as above – with comparative questions</p>	<p>Collation and analysis of data – 3 hours</p> <p>Carry out interviews – 3 hours</p> <p>Collation and analysis of data – 6 hours</p>
Data Analysis	The project coordinator will be responsible for the transcription, collation and analysis of all data in consultation with the Research Practice Leader – PVAW (VicHealth)			Transcription – 65 hours, external contract
Report writing	The project coordinator will write a report based on evaluation findings in consultation with the Research Practice Leader, drafts will be presented to the PiP network focus group participants for input and comment.			<p>Report writing – 60 hours</p> <p>Consultation – 2 hours</p> <p>Redraft – 5 hours</p>
Dissemination	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The evaluation report will be launched at the Partners in Prevention annual forum (May 2011) and hard copies will be made available to all participants 2. Hard copies of the report will be sent to all stakeholders 3. The report will be distributed to the PiP network email list in pdf format and uploaded to the PiP webpage 4. Findings will be presented at relevant conferences throughout late 2010/early 2011 5. Journal article to be co-written by project coordinator and Research Practice Leader PVAW 			<p>Printing/layout/design 200 copies of report - \$3000</p> <p>Electronic distribution – 1 hour</p> <p>Journal article – 10 hours</p>

Partners in Prevention Phase 2 Logic Model

Aim

The Partners in Prevention project seeks to reduce violence against women by creating an enabling environment for youth –targeted violence prevention activities in the state of Victoria.

Objectives

- Capacity Building**
Increase the ability of individuals and organisations to deliver youth VAW prevention initiatives through the development of a community of practice supported by effective communication.
- Resource development**
Support the practice of youth-targeted primary VAW prevention initiatives by individuals, organisations and the community through the provision of a suite of resources consistent with VicHealth’s preventing VAW framework.
- Advocacy**
Generate an enabling policy environment for youth VAW prevention initiatives in schools and more broadly across the community through the development of new partnerships with youth stakeholders.

Activities

- Consultation/ referral
- Quarterly network meetings
- Present information on PVAW with yg ppl
- Annual forum
- Evaluation Working Group
- Monthly PVAW e-bulletin
- PIP Website
- PVAW Library
- When love hurts website
- Develop partnerships
- Facilitate consultation with govt
- Facilitate involvement in conferences

Outputs

- Increase in number/quality of PVAW projects
- Improved worker knowledge/skill
- Formation of partnerships
- General increase in discussion of PVAW/ knowledge of current projects/best practice
- Improved worker knowledge of evaluation and increase in project evaluation
- Improved communication across the Victorian PVAW sector
- Improved access to information/research on PVAW with young people
- General increase in recognition of PVAW as a relevant issue for young people
- Develop leadership within PVAW sector
- Network involved in development of govt policy

Outcomes

- Higher levels of support, increased knowledge/skill and better retention of workers in the PVAW field
- Increased evidence base for effective PVAW practice with young people
- Increase in quality of PVAW projects targeting young people
- Funding and policy initiatives that support PVAW with young people

Impact

Increase in young people’s participation in healthy relationships, reduction in violence against women

Partners in Prevention

Evaluation Needs Survey

Workers involved in the PiP network have consistently identified evaluation as an area where they would like support. The outcomes of this survey will be used to guide the PiP project coordinator and the Evaluation Working Group in delivering support for program evaluation in the field of gender-based violence prevention. Results will be collated by the project coordinator and reported anonymously.

Current position:

EFT (focused on violence prevention):

1. Please outline your project's current reporting requirements (frequency, length, type):

2. How important do you think it is to evaluate the programs you are involved in (please circle)?

Not important

Moderately important

Very important

Why?

3. What do you hope to achieve from program evaluation?

4. How would you rate your experience in program evaluation (please circle)?

None

Medium

High

5. Do you feel you need support to improve the evaluation of the programs you are involved in (please circle)?

No, none

Yes, a little

Yes, a lot

6. How confident do you feel about evaluating your program/s (please circle)?

Not confident

Moderately Confident

Very confident

7. What kinds of evaluation have you been involved with in the past?

Formative evaluation <input type="checkbox"/>	Needs analysis <input type="checkbox"/>	Pretesting <input type="checkbox"/>	Observation <input type="checkbox"/>
Process evaluation <input type="checkbox"/>	Satisfaction survey <input type="checkbox"/>	Attendance records <input type="checkbox"/>	Debriefing <input type="checkbox"/>
Outcome evaluation <input type="checkbox"/>	Post testing <input type="checkbox"/>	Immediate <input type="checkbox"/>	Long-term <input type="checkbox"/>
Action research <input type="checkbox"/>	Focus groups <input type="checkbox"/>	Interviews <input type="checkbox"/>	None <input type="checkbox"/>

List any others:

8. What training, books, resources, skills etc have assisted you to evaluate programs thus far?

websites (please name) _____

books (please name) _____

training (please name topic or organisation) _____

other _____

9. What kinds of evaluation would you like to learn more about?

Formative evaluation <input type="checkbox"/>	Needs analysis <input type="checkbox"/>	Pretesting <input type="checkbox"/>	Observation <input type="checkbox"/>
Process evaluation <input type="checkbox"/>	Satisfaction surveys <input type="checkbox"/>	Attendance records <input type="checkbox"/>	Debriefing <input type="checkbox"/>
Outcome evaluation <input type="checkbox"/>	Post testing <input type="checkbox"/>	Immediate <input type="checkbox"/>	Long-term <input type="checkbox"/>
Action research <input type="checkbox"/>	Focus groups <input type="checkbox"/>	Interviews <input type="checkbox"/>	None <input type="checkbox"/>

List any others:

10. What specific program outcomes would you like assistance in evaluating? (eg. changing school staff attitudes to X, ...changing students' knowledge/behaviour about Y)

11. What barriers hinder your evaluation efforts in your current role?

12. What skills, knowledge or resources might assist your evaluation efforts (eg written resources, standard student/school surveys, workshops, access to professional evaluators, school culture assessment tools)?

13. What would you like to see the PiP project do to support your evaluation efforts?

14. Any further comments?

Please bring your completed survey to the next PiP meeting or fax to 9486 9744

For more information contact PiP coordinator Kiri Bear 9486 9866 or kbear@dvrcv.org.au



Evaluation tip sheet

Dipping a toe in the current literature on program evaluation can quickly lead to a sense of overwhelm. The **Partners in Prevention Evaluation Working Group** put this tip sheet together to help guide network members on the evaluation journey.

Look at similar projects both in terms of evaluation and more generally – How does your work fit with what others are doing locally, regionally, state-wide or nationally?

Program theory – Define the theory behind your project, identify exactly what you are trying to change (objectives) and how you are going to change it (activities) - consider the impacts of all aspects of your project (on students, teachers, communities, attitudes, behaviours, policies, responses, etc.)

Build in evaluation from the beginning – include it in your project work plan so you can allocate resources and ensure that you are collecting the right data as you go. Look out for opportunities to use evaluation to develop new skills or reinforce your project objectives. If your project has passed the planning stage, work with what you have, the sooner you can start the better.

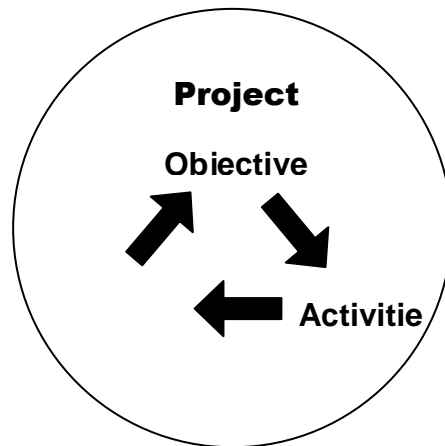
Use evaluation guidelines – such as www.health.vic.gov.au/healthpromotion/steps/evaluation.htm

Be clear about why you are evaluating your program – To see how you are going? To improve what you are doing? To show others that your approach works? To satisfy stakeholders? To produce a publication? Be aware of what you hope to gain from evaluating your project and make sure your evaluation activities will take you there.

External contributors – Once you have defined the change you are trying to create, consider whether there are external factors that might contribute to it. Be prepared to investigate them by asking participants what things outside the program have helped bring about any change.

Take small steps first – start with small and manageable evaluation activities, reflect on what you are already doing and try to capture information as you go e.g. phone logs, facilitator notes, meeting minutes etc. Add one new evaluation activity each program cycle.

Expect the unexpected – Include questions that allow for unintended outcomes and emergent issues.



Reflective Exercise

- Imagine that the project you are working on has finished. Write a one-page report or journal entry describing what was achieved.
- What will success look like? What is the least change needed for success?
- Has the project generated any outcomes that can't be measured? Can they be

Gendered analysis – How will your evaluation investigate the impact of gender on participants' responses to your program?

Be realistic– about 10% of project resources in terms of time and money is a reasonable amount to spend on evaluation activities.

Professional development – Access evaluation training opportunities. Most major universities deliver evaluation short courses or you can contact the Australasian Evaluation Society www.aes.asn.au

Evaluation is a skill – Be prepared for an ongoing process of development, expect to make mistakes and learn from them. Asking questions and consulting with experts are great ways to build your own skills.

Share your learning – we are all interested in finding out what works and what doesn't work. There are a variety of options available for sharing your learning from your agency's newsletter to a published report to an academic paper. The way you plan to share your learning may impact on how you evaluate.

Mentor scheme – The Partners in Prevention (PiP) project runs a mentor scheme to put violence prevention practitioners in touch with experienced evaluators. Contact the PiP coordinator on the number below for details.

For more information visit www.dvrcv.org.au/pip or contact the PiP coordinator at the Domestic Violence Resource Centre Victoria on (03) 9486 9866.

Evaluation Mentor Scheme

- ☛ Do you have questions about evaluation?
- ☛ Got an evaluation plan but want feedback about the details?
- ☛ Wondering if you have drawn valid conclusions from your data set?
- ☛ Confused by technical jargon?
- ☛ Perhaps you feel like you've got it figured but just want to check that you're on the right track.

The Partners in Prevention Evaluation Mentor Scheme can help.

PiP's Evaluation Mentors are volunteers from a variety of fields such as academia, state government and the community sector.

They can give advice and offer ideas over the phone or via email about workers' evaluation efforts based on their interest and prior experience in project evaluation.

Background

The Evaluation Mentor Scheme has been set up by the Partners in Prevention project to help build the capacity of PiP network members to evaluate their projects. The scheme was initiated in response to a needs analysis survey of PiP network members that indicated many workers wanted occasional contact with people who have evaluation expertise.

Are there any conditions?

Evaluation mentors are expected to answer no more than one phone call or email in any given week. Mentors are volunteering their time to assist PiP network members. Thus the support they provide is necessarily limited and must be taken in a spirit of gratitude. Mentors cannot be held responsible for the outcome of particular project evaluations.

How do I get in touch with a mentor?

Those interested in connecting with a mentor can contact the PiP project coordinator on (03) 9486 9866 or email kbear@dvrcv.org.au. Some effort will be made to match the needs of individual workers with the expertise of potential mentors.

We are always interested in improving the PiP project and would be grateful for any feedback you may have about this or other PiP initiatives.



Working with young people to prevent violence against women

PiP Bulletin #40 February 2011

Hi Everyone! This bulletin is a joint effort by Kiri and her replacement as PiP coordinator Amy Webster. To hear a little more about Amy and to find out what Kiri will be doing next visit the [PiP website](#)

1. PiP Network Meeting MARCH

The next PiP meeting will be 3 March 2011 from 1-4pm. The meeting will feature a presentation from Mel Heenan (VicHealth) on the National Community Attitudes Survey. Venue details will be sent to the list as soon as it is finalised (we promise it will be somewhere in the CBD though). Please RSVP by 24 February to secure your place.

2. New Report: Where Men Stand: Men's roles in ending violence against women

The report Where Men Stand: Men's roles in ending violence against women was released by the White Ribbon Foundation on November 25th 2010. The report is a stocktake of men's positions in relation to men's violence against women in Australia. It examines four dimensions to men's relations to violence: men's use of violence against women, attitudes towards violence, responses when violence occurs, and involvements in violence prevention. View the full report on the [White Ribbon Day](#) website

3. In the news

Sushi Das, The Age, [Pink deluge a lesson in inequality](#)
AP, The Age, [Andre Agassi offers charity auction bidder a peek at Steffi Graf naked photo](#)
Juniper Glass, Ascent, [Ingredients of Love](#) (interview with bell hooks)
Natalie O'Brien, The Age, [Tables turn as outspoken feminists are gummed up and set for a tongue-lashing](#)

4. Job: Program Development Coordinator - Stand Up

Stand Up: Domestic Violence is Everyone's Business is a workplace-based approach to the primary prevention of violence against women. In order to consolidate learnings and implement mid to long term goals, Women's Health Victoria is seeking a committed, competent and dynamic woman to lead the Stand Up program development process. Closing date: 5pm, Thursday 10 February 2011

For more information and to download the position description, please visit the [Women's Health Victoria](#) website

5. Call for Research Participants - Emotional/Psychological Abuse on Women

A research study about emotional and psychological abuse on women is being done as part of a PhD thesis at RMIT University. The research aims to better understand the lived experiences of women aged over 18 years who identify themselves as emotionally and/or psychologically abused in their current or past heterosexual intimate relationships. All information will be treated confidentially and participants are free to withdraw from the study at any time should they change their minds.

If you are interested or have any questions please contact Alissa Lykhina on 03992 59914/0450 720 899 or email alissa.lykhina@student.rmit.edu.au.

6. New DVRCV training calendar now online

Our January to June Calendar of training events, and the Registration Form for training are available now online – just go to [Training-registrations](#) page on our website.

7. New schools package PVAW (US)

[Respect WORKS!](#) is a comprehensive teen dating violence prevention model for schools incorporating 4 elements - Teen dating Violence policies with *Model School Policy Toolkit*, Educate youth with the curriculum *Safe Dates*, Reinforce the learning with the DVD [*Ending Violence*], Activate youth leadership with *Speak. Act. Change*.

This resource is currently on order for the DVRCV library, contact the [DVRCV librarian](#) if you are interested in having a look at it.

8. Evaluation reports on PVAW (US)

The Chicago Taskforce on violence against girls and young women has released two new papers on local violence prevention efforts. [A Culture of Safety](#), by Scheherazade Tillet, Salamishah Tillet and Leah Gipson, provides evaluation of the Girl/Friends Summer Institute, a program in N. Lawndale. [The Sooner the Better](#), by Brenda Arsenault, shows how abuse prevention education for K-8 students makes high school education on the issue more effective.

9. Resource for young adults on domestic violence (UK)

This booklet, from the Leicester Domestic Violence Forum Partnership, has comprehensive info on domestic violence as it relates to young adults. It also has some useful prevention information on healthy relationships and respect. [Download the booklet](#)

You are receiving this email because you have shown interest in the Partners in Prevention project. For information on upcoming events, past network meetings and links to violence prevention projects please visit our website at www.dvrcv.org.au/pip

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Our mailing address is:

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[Add us to your address book](#)

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This report was produced by the *Partners in Prevention* project at the Domestic Violence Resource Centre Victoria in August 2011. For more information contact us by
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