

MEDIA RELEASE

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GRANTS TO SUPPORT LOCAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROJECTS

Domestic Violence Committees across NSW are encouraged to apply for a share of \$80,000 in grant funding to support local projects that raise awareness in their communities.

Attorney General and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence Mark Speakman said this year's Local Domestic and Family Violence Committee Grant program has increased to \$1800 per grant.

"COVID-19 has put increased pressure on domestic violence committees, so we want to ensure that there is plenty of support for this year's events and projects that coincide with the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence next month," Mr Speakman said.

"The pandemic demonstrated the vital role local communities and local services play in addressing domestic and family violence and ensuring people know how to access help."

All formally recognised Domestic and Family Violence Committees in NSW are encouraged to submit an application for the grant, which has increased from \$1200 to \$1800.

Projects could include educating people on the impacts of domestic violence, promoting frontline services and how victims can access them, and engaging local organisations to lead calls for change by rejecting violence and promoting positive behaviour.

"These grants can support numerous projects like engaging men's organisations, groups or schools to call for leadership on domestic violence and cultural change," Mr Speakman said.

Committees are comprised of government and non-government organisations in local areas that provide services to those experiencing domestic and family violence. They provide a forum in which to discuss issues and enhance inter-agency support for victim-survivors.

The Local Domestic and Family Violence Committee Grants program launched in 2014. It has previously funded projects like prevention workshops at local schools and businesses, theatre performances and the distribution of flyers promoting local support services.

To apply for a grant visit <u>www.women.nsw.gov.au.</u> Applications are due on 30 October 2020.

The 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence is a global campaign dedicated to ending gender-based violence that runs from 25 November 2020 (International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women) to 10 December 2020 (International Human Rights Day). Visit <u>www.16dayscampaign.org</u> for more information.