

## **Strengthening Hospital Responses to Family Violence**

## Family Violence Vision Statement

Swan Hill District Health Services recognises that family violence across the life span is a complex and serious community issue, most commonly experienced by women and their children. It has both immediate and long-term impacts on the physical, psychological and social health and wellbeing of those affected.

As a health service we are in a unique position to identify people at risk, sensitively inquire if we can help and make referrals to specialist family violence services if required. In doing so, we will help reduce the incidence of family violence and its impact on individuals, families, the community and the health system.

We will support our staff both professionally and personally in relation to family violence to ensure their wellbeing and safety.

Our vision is a future where our community is free from family violence and where healthy, respectful relationships between women and men are the norm. As a health service we can make a significant contribution to achieving this vision and contribute to changing behaviours and community attitudes through our clinical practices, education and advocacy programs.

