



Government of Western Australia  
Department of Communities

# Someone to sit beside us

Talking to community  
about an FDV Hub for Broome





## What happened?

In Winter and Spring 2022 the Department of Communities with help from Innovation Unit and Kyalie Moore, talked with lots of people across Broome, Derby and Bidyadanga about how an 'Family and Domestic Violence (FDV) Hub' could work in Broome.

An FDV Hub is a service that helps families who are dealing with violence to get support, before things get out of hand. FDV Hubs are already open in Perth and Kalgoorlie, with the next one planned for Broome.

### We talked to:

- women and men who had an experience of violence
- Elders in Broome, Derby and Bidyadanga
- services who help people with family violence.

This pamphlet tells you what people said about how a Hub in Broome should work.

## A safe place

### People said...

There needs to be place away from the drama, that gives a space to heal.

### So...

The FDV Hub should include a women's safe place with a creche, to give women time to focus on themselves and their family.



## Trusted people

### People said...

They get the best help from people they already trust. You go to them for advice.

### So...

The FDV Hub should work closely with health services that people already know, and it should hire people from the community.



## Someone to sit beside you

### People said...

It's hard to find the right help, and it can be confusing.

### So...

The FDV Hub will have advocates who can walk alongside women and families, to make sure that the right support is provided.

Lawyers and counsellors should also be there, so that everyone is working together.



## The whole family

### People said...

To fix family violence, we have to heal the whole family; men, women, children and the extended family.

### So...

Some advocates should have special skills in working with whole families, and they should work closely with men's services to make sure everyone is talking to each other.



## Supporting each other

### People said...

It's powerful when women are able to connect and support each other.

### So...

The Hub should have cultural activities and opportunities for women to do things together.



## Culture and Country

### People said...

Culture and Country are essential for healing. Communities and families have to say that family violence is wrong.

### So...

The Hub should work with Elders, and create traineeship roles to help run cultural activities. Giving families time on-Country should be part of what helps healing. Money will be available to make these activities happen.



## Start with young ones

### People said...

We have to start early to prevent family violence. Some young people are already starting to think violent relationships are normal.

### So...

Workers from the Hub should go out to schools and youth centres. Some of the advocates will work specifically with teenagers and should have youth work skills.



## Break the cycle

### People said...

You need long term things like education, work and housing, so that you are strong enough to break the cycle of violence.

### So...

After people are out of violent situations, the advocates in the Hub should help people to think about their longer term dreams and plans for a good life.



## Aboriginal leadership

### People said...

It will be very hard to make a Hub that is right for Broome without strong Aboriginal leadership.

### So...

An Aboriginal organisation needs to be involved in running the Hub. Also Elders and people who have been through family violence should be part of reference groups.



## Help the helpers

### People said...

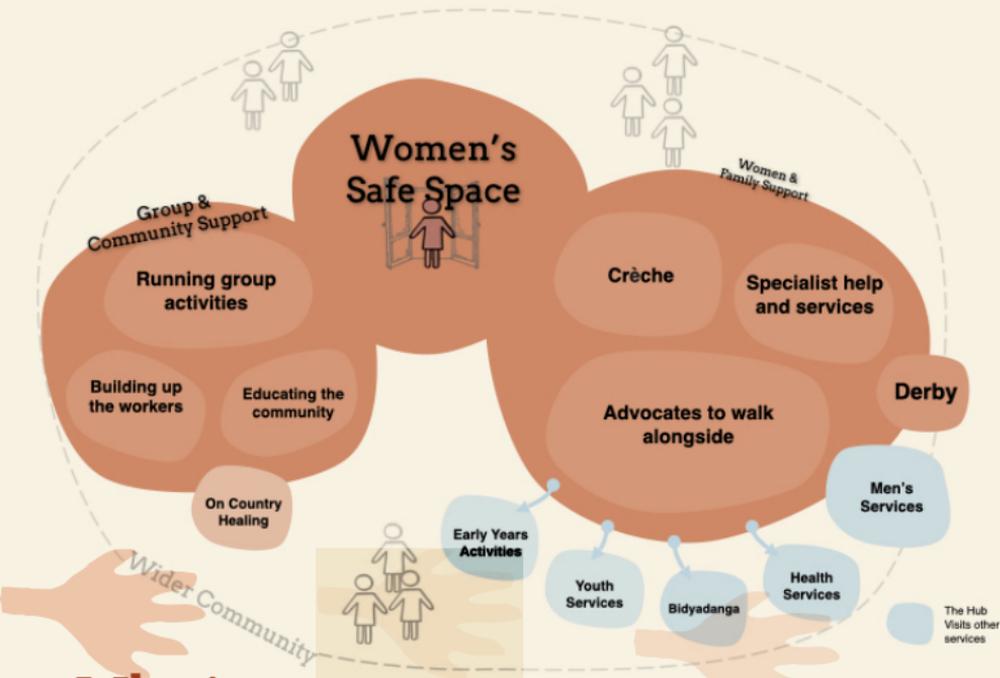
It can be hard to find the right staff, and for workers to maintain their own strength, when they are dealing with very stressful situations.

### So...

Special roles will be included in the Hub to support the staff, and help them learn and develop. Another worker will help to grow and educate the local workforce, so that more people understand family violence and how to help.



# The Broome FDV Hub



## What's next...

### The next steps are:

- The State Government will confirm the funding for the Hub.
- Department of Communities will look for organisations who are interested in delivering the Hub services.
- The Broome Hub is expected to open in 2024.

**For more information on the Broome FDV Hub**  
go to <https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/departement-of-communities/family-and-domestic-violence-one-stop-hubs>



**Full report**