

Domestic and Family Violence Innovation Fund – Round One

Leaving Prison/Leaving Violence Community Restorative Centre

85% of women in prison have experienced violence and abuse.¹

Many women, on release from prison will often be forced to return to violent situations. *Leaving Prison/Leaving Violence* will help to disrupt cycles of violence.

Commencing in September 2017 *Leaving Prison/Leaving Violence* will support 200 women per year over three years in the Sydney metropolitan area.

The program will, through the Miranda Project Women's Hub, provide access to:

- a range of specialist support services immediately upon release from prison, such as women's health services, housing support, FACS services, and family violence workers, and
- a specialist *Leaving Prison/Leaving Violence* Worker.

The *Leaving Prison/Leaving Violence* worker will address post-release issues that impact on the likelihood of returning to a violent situation. This may include practical considerations (housing and financial resources), establishing links to positive relationships and communities, as well as support to address complex trauma.

The program is the first of its kind to address the experiences of violence for women on release from prison, whilst also providing the specialist support required to rebuild a life in the community after prison. Women can be referred to the program from women's correctional facilities or local courts.

For further information regarding *Leaving Prison/Leaving Violence*, contact the Community Restorative Centre at info@crcnsw.org.au

1. Kilroy, D. 2016 Women in Prison in Australia *Current Issues in Sentencing Conference*.