



Supporting Women in the Sex Industry & Women Trafficked for Sexual Exploitation: Professional Development Workshops

About Project Respect

Project Respect is a not-for-profit, non-faith based support service for women with experience of the sex industry and women trafficked for sexual exploitation.

We work from an intersectional feminist framework, which positions women at the centre of our work and recognises the structural systems which underpin and perpetuate gender inequality, and are the only service of this kind in Victoria. We have been in operation for 20 years and are an accredited community organisation against the DHHS Human Services Standards and additional Governance standards.

We engage with women through our direct outreach to licensed brothels across the Greater Melbourne region and offer information and support where needed. This includes provision of case-coordination and referrals to essential services and, intensive case-management for women trafficked for sexual exploitation or women presenting with complex needs.

We advocate for women's rights against violence, trafficking and exploitation to all levels of government, lobbying for broad policy change. We ensure women's voices are heard by offering women a platform through our Women's Advisory Group to write, speak and meet directly with decision makers. Project Respect acknowledges that women's experiences in the sex industry are different - there is no clear right or wrong. Our views reflect our work and our experiences with a particular focus on violence and exploitation



Feminist

Courageous

Collaborative

Proactive

Women centred



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Training Aims

The aim of this FREE training is to enhance knowledge and skills within the community sector to ensure frontline staff are informed of and responsive to the issues and experiences of women in the sex industry and women trafficked for sexual exploitation.

These aims support the broader goal of enabling women in the sex industry to access community support services without experiencing stigma and discrimination.

Session Info:

For all sessions, click the link provided and fill in your personal details. In the address section, please type your organisation's name then click:

Send RSVP

Learning Outcomes

At the end of the professional development workshop, participants will be able to:

- discuss Project Respect's vision, mission and services for women
- explain what constitutes sex work in Victoria, the legislation that underpins it and the nature and scope of exploitation
- explain the components of human trafficking as well as the indicators and support pathways
- discuss how family violence uniquely impacts on women in the sex industry
- describe the types of stigma and discrimination women in the sex industry face, including those from CaLD backgrounds, and how it impacts their daily lives and impedes access to services
- tailor the support you provide women in the sex industry, including those from CaLD backgrounds, by identifying appropriate referral pathways and resources available to your client/s

Pre-requisite Knowledge: Knowledge of what constitutes family violence, basic knowledge of risk assessment

FEBRUARY

MELBOURNE Session

When: Tuesday 4th February, 2020

Time: 9.30am – 4.30 pm

Where: Melbourne Multicultural Hub,
506 Elizabeth Street,
Melbourne VIC 3000

Click [here](#) for map details.

Registration: Click [here](#) to register

MONASH Session

When: Wednesday 12th February 2020

Time: 9.30 - 4.30pm

Where: Clayton Community Centre
9-15 Cooke Street, Clayton VIC 3168

Click [here](#) for map details.

Registration: Click [here](#) to register

WYNDHAM Session

When: Thursday 27th February 2020

Time: 9.30 - 4.30pm

Where: Iramoo Community Centre
84 Honour Ave, Wyndham Vale 3024

Click [here](#) for map details.

Registration: Click [here](#) to register

MARCH

MELBOURNE Session

When: Tuesday 17th, 2020

Time: 9.30am – 4.30 pm

Where: Melbourne Multicultural Hub,
506 Elizabeth Street,
Melbourne VIC 3000

Click [here](#) for map details.

Registration: Click [here](#) register

APRIL

MELBOURNE Session

When: Tuesday 21st, 2020

Time: 9.30am – 4.30 pm

Where: Melbourne Multicultural Hub,
506 Elizabeth Street,
Melbourne VIC 3000

Click [here](#) for map details.

Registration: Click [here](#) to register

MAY

MELBOURNE Session

When: Tuesday 19th, 2020

Time: 9.30am – 4.30 pm

Where: Melbourne Multicultural Hub,
506 Elizabeth Street,
Melbourne VIC 3000

Click [here](#) for map details.

Registration: Click [here](#) register

MORELAND Session

When: Tuesday 12th, 2020

Time: 9.30am-4.30pm

Where: Coburg Library Meeting Room,
26-36 Louisa Street, Coburg,
Coburg 3058

Click [here](#) for map details.

Registration: Click [here](#) to register



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Organisational Benefits

Once trained, your organisation will:

- have built knowledge, capacity and capability to provide support to a specific cohort, recognised as one of 12 diverse communities in the recently launched Victorian Government *Everybody Matters: Inclusion and Equity Statement*;
- Have developed knowledge around utilising sensitive and non-stigmatising language when supporting women from the industry;
- have an increased capacity to identify human trafficking indicators;
- be placed on our local services list that is given to women during brothel outreach and added to our referral list used in case coordination;
- have established a relationship with Project Respect and know who to contact for secondary consults regarding women in the sex industry and women trafficked to meet their unique needs and possible barriers when referring to external service providers;
- be able to use workshop towards CPD requirements pending confirmation with industry peak body;
- have a greater understanding of the licensed Victorian sex industry and some of the issues experienced by women.



Supporting Women in the Sex Industry & Women Trafficked for Sexual Exploitation: Professional Development Workshops

Our Trainers:

Rachel Reilly

Rachel Reilly is the Project Respect Executive Director. She is committed to social justice, including the protection and promotion of human rights, particularly for women and girls. She has worked in the women's rights sector for more than 9 years, both in Australia, as well as internationally with several grass-roots women's organisations in Kalimantan, Indonesia.

In her role as Executive Director, Rachel has undertaken extensive advocacy on critical issues for women who have been trafficked for sexual exploitation and women in the Victorian sex industry. She has membership of several groups including the National Roundtable on Human Trafficking and Slavery, Australian Women Against Violence Alliance Advisory Group and, Women on Temporary Visas Experiencing Violence and their Children Advocacy Group.

Rachel has a Bachelor of International Development and is currently undertaking a Master of Human Rights Law at the University of Melbourne.

Lisa Ashton

Lisa Ashton is the Intake and Assessment Worker and Outreach Coordinator at Project Respect. She has a keen interest in social justice and women's rights. She began volunteering with Project Respect in 2015, working on the submission to the *Royal Commission into Family Violence*, and has been employed by Project Respect since 2016.

Lisa's interest in social justice and women's rights was piqued during a Master of International Relations, where as part of an internship she attended the United Nations Commission for the Status of Women, in New York.

Lisa regularly presents to local government network groups and she is a member of Equality Rights Alliance and the Victorian Multicultural Commission's Regional Advisory Council.



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Our Trainers:

Amy Evison

Amy Evison is a qualified social worker who also has lived experience of the sex industry. As a practitioner, Amy is therefore uniquely skilled to support women in the sex industry and women trafficked for sexual exploitation at both a micro and macro level. Amy is keen to share her knowledge with the community sector, building workforce capacity in supporting women, understanding the complexities and need for systemic change in this space.

In 2015, Amy established Phoebe's Friends, a support group for women with experience in the industry; is a founding member of Project Respect's Women's Advisory Group which was established in 2017 to provide strategic direction and guidance to the organisation; and, in 2018, Amy joined the Project Respect team as a staff member. In Amy's role as a case worker she developed, tailored and delivered Project Respect's Breaking Barriers: Enhancing Employment Pathway's program.

Informed by Amy's personal and professional experience, she strongly believes the sex industry is a place of harm, developed and perpetuated by structural systems and inequality, requiring a gendered lens. This has been the foundation of her passion and commitment to advocate for women's rights, social justice and gender equity.



Acknowledgements

These capacity-building workshops have been made possible through the generous grants from the following local governments:

