

# **Exposure Draft Justice Legislation Amendment (Domestic and Family Violence) Bill 2023**

August 2023



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# **Our Commitment to Inclusion**

The Salvation Army Australia acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet and work and pay our respect to Elders, past, present and future.

We value and include people of all cultures, languages, abilities, sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions and intersex status. We are committed to providing programs that are fully inclusive. We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of people of all ages, particularly children.

Our values are:

Integrity

Compassion

Respect

Diversity

Collaboration

Learn more about our commitment to inclusion: <salvationarmy.org.au/about-us>

The Salvation Army is an international movement and our mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in his name without discrimination.

More information about The Salvation Army is at **Appendix A**.









# **Executive Summary**

The Salvation Army welcomes the opportunity to provide this submission to the Department of the Attorney General and Justice in relation to the Exposure Draft Justice Legislation Amendment (Domestic and Family Violence) Bill 2023 (the Bill).

The Salvation Army operates family violence services in almost all states and territories across Australia. It is from the experiences of our clients, as well as those of our frontline staff, that we have approached this submission. We urge that legislative reform alone will not achieve sustainable long-term outcomes for victim-survivors of family and domestic violence.

Many of our recommendations come down to the need to keep victim-survivors at the centre, and to create a family and domestic violence sector that is well informed, resourced, accessible, and culturally competent. We urge that by building and strengthening the domestic and family violence service sector, alongside legislative reform, greater and stronger protections for victim-survivors can be ensured.

#### This submission covers:

- The introduction of a definition of coercive control. We urge the importance of coinciding education and training, increased service sector capacity, consideration of the needs of victim-survivors in rural and remote areas, and collaboration with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and organisations.
- The importance of education and training in preventing the misidentification of victimsurvivors as perpetrators of family and domestic violence.

This submission contains only a few of The Salvation Army's recommendations related to systemic reform as directly relevant to the proposed amendments in the Bill. We draw attention to our submission to the Northern Territory Department of the Attorney-General and Justice's 'Review of Legislation and the Justice Response to Domestic and Family Violence in the Northern Territory' for further recommendations that can strengthen the Northern Territory's response to family and domestic violence.

The Salvation Army has made **7** recommendations for consideration. A summary of these recommendations follows on the next page.





# **Summary of Recommendations**

#### **Recommendation 1**

1.3 The Salvation Army recommends the Northern Territory Government work alongside the Commonwealth Government to drive the development of a nationally consistent definition of family and domestic violence which encompasses non-physical forms of violence and coercive control.

#### **Recommendation 2**

- 1.18 The Salvation Army recommends that the Northern Territory Government implement training and education in order to support the intention of a definition of coercive control in the Bill. Training should include:
  - Specialist training for justice staff in coercive control and unconscious bias, and ensure this training is repeated regularly. Training should include understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' resistance to police and justice intervention and strategies to support victim-survivor cooperation.
  - The development of a comprehensive education and awareness campaign to ensure first responders and the community more broadly obtain an understanding of coercive control and its impacts on women.
  - A focus on prevention, early intervention and community education including education on financial literacy and financial abuse to empower victim-survivors, particularly those within vulnerable cohorts, to seek help.

### **Recommendation 3**

1.22 The Salvation Army recommends that the Northern Territory Government increases funding to frontline family violence services.

## **Recommendation 4**

1.23 The Salvation Army recommends that the Northern Territory Government work to increase the accessibility of housing, services, and stock of transitional and crisis accommodation – particularly in regional and rural areas where there are no, or limited, crisis options. Work must also be done to ensure that housing facilities have access to extensive security to maximise the safety of victim-survivors in high-risk family and domestic violence cases.

#### **Recommendation 5**

1.28 The Salvation Army recommends that the Northern Territory Government prioritises the voices of lived experience and grassroots organisations in developing and rolling out programs in rural areas, to ensure that the programs are tailored to the needs of a particular community.

#### **Recommendation 6**

1.34 The Salvation Army recommends that the Northern Territory Government establishes an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led taskforce to oversee responses to coercive control.

#### **Recommendation 7**

2.5 The Salvation Army recommends that the Northern Territory Government deliver training to police and justice staff specific to non-physical and coercive forms of family violence, and the





misidentification of parties to support the intention of the Bill to reduce victim-survivors misidentification.





# 1 Considering Coercive Control

## **National Consistency**

- 1.1 The Salvation Army welcomes the Northern Territory's adoption of a state-wide definition of family and domestic violence which includes non-physical forms of violence and encompasses coercion and control.
- 1.2 There is no national definition of family and domestic violence that includes coercive and controlling behaviours. The Salvation Army believes a nationally consistent approach to family and domestic violence would help avoid ongoing confusion within the community as to what 'defines' both physical and non-physical forms of violence, facilitate consistent responses to perpetrator accountability (for example, compliance with orders), and facilitate referral pathways and trauma-informed support that ensures that victim-survivors are not disadvantaged due to locality or situation.

#### **Recommendation 1**

1.3 The Salvation Army recommends the Northern Territory Government work alongside the Commonwealth Government to drive the development of a nationally consistent definition of family and domestic violence which encompasses non-physical forms of violence and coercive control.

# A Definition of Coercive Control

- 1.4 The Salvation Army welcomes the addition of a definition of coercive control in the Bill, and the recognition of coercive control as a 'pattern of behaviour.' We are hopeful that the definition as drafted will allow for the consideration of a wide variety of coercive and controlling behaviours and acknowledgement that experiences of coercive control are not homogenous.
- 1.5 The Salvation Army hopes that the Bill's definition of coercive control allows for the consideration of a broad range of situations, cultural influences, and cohorts experiencing vulnerabilities. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:
  - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women may not seek help or report violence because they fear retaliation by the perpetrator, isolation from community and family connections, racism, and a lack of understanding by support services in their region. As Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women often live in tight-knit communities, our experience is that the whole community can be affected by family violence and a shared sense of shame can reinforce the unspoken understanding to keep silent. This is especially true within the historical context of colonisation and the continuing impacts of





loss of traditional roles and status within communities.<sup>1</sup> Other victim-survivors may have to leave the community and their spiritual connections to the land, creating trauma for both women and their children. Due to this sense of loss of community, land and family, many women leave family violence services and often return to unsafe and violent relationships.<sup>2</sup> Some Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women have also mentioned to our staff that there is a lack of culturally appropriate family violence services that enable victim-survivors to safely disclose and build trust.

- Our experience through the Moneycare program shows that women living in regional and remote areas experience higher rates of financial abuse. Isolation limits access to help and support when needed and without access to a vehicle or transport many are unable to leave relationships, even when staying becomes dangerous.
- There are also cultural influences on controlling behaviours, which our Trafficking and Slavery Safe House particularly observe. These include the use of shame, family reputation and family pressure as forms of coercive control as well as threats and manipulation around visa status, migration, and risk of early and forced marriages.
- Many women and children from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds remain isolated within Australian communities due to language barriers and a lack of community connection outside of their culture. Cultural differences can sometimes mean that victim-survivors from CALD backgrounds had not associated the behaviours they were experiencing with abuse. Women on temporary visas can face added threats of deportation by the perpetrator and many are told they will not be able to take their children with them. Our services have also encountered cases where the victim-survivor is not aware that they have a working visa as the perpetrator keeps this information from them as a mechanism of obtaining further control. It is only when they engage with a service that they are made aware of their visa status. Financial abuse is also often used against women from CALD backgrounds who due to language barriers are often isolated, have a limited understanding of their rights or the law, and are scared to leave as they have no access to money for themselves and their children.
- 1.6 The Salvation Army acknowledges that the Bill's clear intention to develop a definition of coercive control which is workable and comprehensive. We believe this definition has the potential to allow for the capturing of instances of coercive and controlling behaviours and abuse which were not previously captured in the Northern Territory's Courts, and ultimately has the potential to uphold the safety and protection of victim-survivors.

# **Prioritising Education and Training**

1.7 To ensure the legislated definition services its intended purpose to allow for effective consideration of coercive control and prioritisation of victim-survivor safety, we believe it must be accompanied by significant education and training. To ensure understanding of, and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service. (2017). *Strong Families, Safe Kids: Family violence response and prevention for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families* (Policy paper). https://www.snaicc.org.au/wpcontent/uploads/2017/09/Strong\_Families\_Safe\_Kids-Sep\_2017.pdf.
<sup>2</sup> Ibid.





- appropriate response to coercive control is prioritised, we believe that education and training should be delivered across the judicial system, general service system, and wider community.
- 1.8 We believe that this training must be in addition to the guidelines as outlined to be developed by the Department of the Attorney-General as outlined in Section 91C of the Bill.
- 1.9 In the Northern Territory, The Salvation Army has significant concerns regarding the lack of understanding and almost acceptance of non-physical forms of family and domestic violence. It is important that coercive control is included and understood across service and justice systems to ensure that instances of violence are correctly interpreted. Understanding the true nature of family and domestic violence will provide the health, social and legal systems with a more accurate means to understand the impacts of the offences collectively and respond appropriately.

## Training Justice and Frontline Services

- 1.10 Due to the nature of coercive controlling behaviours, police or justice staff will not always be the first responders for victim-survivors. For this reason, it is critical that all frontline staff employed or volunteering in an organisation have access to specialised training to correctly identify people in need of protection and respond with meaningful support options for both adult and child victim-survivors and perpetrators.
- 1.11 There is a need to increase understanding about coercive control within the mainstream service system. Our services report a higher tolerance of violence in the Northern Territory. Many of the services that victim-survivors interact with do not have sufficient training, education, and awareness to understand that non-physical forms of abuse are as harmful as physical violence.
- 1.12 There is a further need to enhance understanding of barriers which disempower victimsurvivors and prevent them seeking help or disclosing violence. A significant barrier to engaging with support is the fear of child protection responses, which is evidenced to be a barrier particularly for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women.<sup>3</sup> Barriers can also include insecure housing, financial reliance, and distrust of state agencies and services.<sup>4</sup>
- 1.13 We call on the Northern Territory Government to deliver consistent and mandatory specialised training to identify and respond to coercive and controlling behaviours. This training must be available for police officers, judicial officers and prosecutors, and workers in the family and domestic violence, health care, housing, education, financial and child protection sectors. Training must also extend to the identification of barriers to disclosure and other high-risk factors of violence, in particular the understanding that family and domestic violence is a pattern of behaviours as opposed to a one-off event of violence.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Australian National Research Organisation for Women's Safety. (2020). *Improving family violence legal and support services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples: Key findings and future directions.* (Research to policy and practice, 25-26/2020). Sydney: ANROWS.



<sup>4</sup> Ibid.



## Community Education

- 1.14 Our frontline experience is that many victim-survivors living with coercive behaviour do not realise that what they are experiencing is a form of family and domestic violence. Many community members only come to this realisation for the first time when speaking to our family violence case workers, Moneycare financial counsellors, Doorways case workers or when presenting at one of our Doorways emergency relief centres.
- 1.15 As a community, we need to continue to empower all victim-survivors to identify all forms of abuse and to address discrimination, disadvantage and entrenched gender bias and exploitation in the home, in relationships and in the workplace. We wholeheartedly support the Our Watch 'Change the Story' policy approach to prevention and education.<sup>5</sup> We also advocate greater support for community-based violence prevention and better awareness raising to ensure that every individual in Australia considers themselves active bystanders.
- 1.16 We must continue to educate the community to recognise and call out disrespectful, coercive and controlling behaviours as unacceptable. Importantly, the National Community Attitudes towards Violence against Women Survey (NCAS) highlights that 'violence-supportive attitudes can influence social norms and expectations. This includes excusing perpetrators, minimising violence against women and mistrusting women's reports of violence.<sup>6</sup>
- 1.17 Education on healthy relationships, particularly in relation to respectful relationships within primary schools and healthy peer-to-peer and early intimate relationships in high schools is critical. We call on the Northern Territory Government to educate children and youth on the dangers and use of technology-facilitated abuse. This education must take care to demonstrate how the use of social media can 'blur' young people's ability to navigate online peer relationships and the appropriate use of technology. This is particularly important considering the exponential use of intimate photo and video sharing and GPS monitoring of women and children since 2015.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety. (2018). *Are We There Yet? Australians' attitudes towards violence against women & gender equity* (Summary findings from the 2017 National Community Attitudes towards Violence against Women Survey). https://20ian81kynqg38bl3l3eh8bf-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/300419\_NCAS\_Summary\_Report.pdf. Woodlock, D., Bentley, K., Schulze, D., Mahoney, N., Chung, D., and Pracilio, A. (2020). *Second National Survey of Technology Abuse and Domestic Violence in Australia*. WESNET. https://wesnet.org.au/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2020/11/Wesnet-2020-2nd-NationalSurvey-Report-72pp-A4-FINAL.pdf.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Our Watch. (2015). *Change the Story.* https://www.ourwatch.org.au/change-the-story/



## **Recommendation 2**

- 1.18 The Salvation Army recommends that the Northern Territory Government implement training and education in order to support the intention of a definition of coercive control in the Bill. Training should include:
  - Specialist training for justice staff in coercive control and unconscious bias, and ensure this training is repeated regularly. Training should include understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' resistance to police and justice intervention and strategies to support victim-survivor cooperation.
  - The development of a comprehensive education and awareness campaign to ensure first responders and the community more broadly obtain an understanding of coercive control and its impacts on women.
  - A focus on prevention, early intervention and community education including education on financial literacy and financial abuse to empower victim-survivors, particularly those within vulnerable cohorts, to seek help.

# Improving the Capacity of the Family Violence Sector

- 1.19 Consideration of and increased awareness of coercive control will inevitably increase demand and need for infrastructure to support victim-survivors. We urge that amendments introduced by the Bill must be accompanied by sufficient funding and resources for specialist family and domestic violence services and victim support services to ensure all victim-survivors can access the support they require.
- 1.20 In our experience, the Northern Territory does not currently have the systems in place to manage an increase in victim-survivors seeking assistance. Not only is there insufficient safe accommodation for parents and their children, but current social housing waitlists in metropolitan, regional and rural areas are also at an all-time high. Most concerningly, the absence of affordable housing means that many victim-survivors of family and domestic violence feel they have no option but to return to the residence of the perpetrator.
- 1.21 High-risk cases of family and domestic violence require substantial infrastructure and support in the form of case work, ongoing outreach, and extensive security. Consideration also needs to be given to ensuring victim-survivors' safety when attending work, running errands, and taking children to school. Service providers ought not be in a position where high-risk cases of family and domestic violence are denied a service because the service does not have the funding or facilities to keep them safe. Increased infrastructure to support victim-survivors is needed to achieve acceptable outcomes as demand will inevitably increase with increased awareness.





## **Recommendation 3**

1.22 The Salvation Army recommends that the Northern Territory Government increases funding to frontline family violence services.

#### **Recommendation 4**

1.23 The Salvation Army recommends that the Northern Territory Government work to increase the accessibility of housing, services, and stock of transitional and crisis accommodation – particularly in regional and rural areas where there are no, or limited, crisis options. Work must also be done to ensure that housing facilities have access to extensive security to maximise the safety of victim-survivors in high-risk family and domestic violence cases.

## Ensuring Women in Regional and Rural Areas Have Access to Services

- 1.24 While The Salvation Army acknowledges the Bill's consideration of victim-survivors in rural and remote areas in the context of hearings and court appearance venues related to DVO's, we do not believe that this measure alone will ensure equitable support and protection for this cohort.
- 1.25 Our experience is that disclosure is more difficult and riskier for victim-survivors of family and domestic violence in smaller towns and tight-knit communities. A lack of support and services also elevates the risk for women and children. The Salvation Army has the benefit of operating services in metropolitan, regional and rural areas of Australia. This allows us to see the disparity in services available. It is our experience that there are currently few family and domestic violence services available in rural and regional areas. This means that victim-survivors often must travel great distances to access a women's shelter, financial service, or health or legal centre. Or worse, go without.
- 1.26 For victim-survivors in coercive and controlling relationships this lack of available services has detrimental consequences. Our services frequently see victim-survivors who have been forced to travel great distances to access a service and escape a coercive and controlling relationship. It is not uncommon for these victim-survivors to later return to violent relationships due to the financial pressures and lack of social supports associated with moving to a new area. It is often the case that the perpetrator's control only increases after a victim-survivor returns and her safety put to greater risk.
- 1.27 The Northern Territory Government needs to prioritise the voices of lived experience and members of a particular community. The most effective way to reduce family and domestic violence in rural areas is to allow grassroots organisations to lead the response in a manner that is tailored to their community. Responses in rural and remote communities need to be





different from those in urban communities. Our experience is that many programs in rural areas are currently administered by either the government, or large-scale non-government organisations, and do not always value or respect community knowledge, skills, relationships and connections. Implementing a place-based response is critical. Different communities will have different strategies that they believe are effective and investing in these will enable the most effective response to family and domestic violence. The Salvation Army points the Northern Territory Government to the work of the Tangentyere Women's Family Safety Group operating in Alice Springs. This group is an example of best practice in developing and administering a program in an organic manner that prioritises the knowledge and lived experience of community members.

## **Recommendation 5**

1.28 The Salvation Army recommends that the Northern Territory Government prioritises the voices of lived experience and grassroots organisations in developing and rolling out programs in rural areas, to ensure that the programs are tailored to the needs of a particular community.

# Collaboration with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People and Organisations

- 1.29 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people represent 26.3 per cent of the Territory's population.<sup>8</sup> As such, it is crucial that the Northern Territory Government considers the cultural and geographical needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities when deciding on any legislative changes. It is well documented that in Australia, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women are the most at-risk group of experiencing family and domestic violence and that the prevalence and severity of this violence increases with remoteness.<sup>9</sup> The Salvation Army's internal data also reflects the alarming reality of violence being perpetrated against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women. At The Salvation Army's Catherine Booth House in Palmerston, 65.8 per cent of women accessing crisis accommodation identified as Aboriginal and 5.9 per cent identified as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander.
- 1.30 Consideration needs to be given to forms of coercive and controlling behaviours that are pertinent to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. Our staff report that different tactics of abuse are utilised by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perpetrators. We see women isolated from their community, land and extended family. After being cut off from their support structures, the victim-survivor is dependent on the perpetrator's family and community. Our services report that some perpetrators exert control with the assistance of family members and the broader community. This community monitoring is often what makes

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Productivity Commission, Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage Key Indicators 2014 Report, Australian Government, 2014 https://www.pc.gov.au/research/ongoing/overcoming-indigenous-disadvantage/2014/key-indicators-2014-report.pdf.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2022, July 1). Northern Territory: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population summary. ABS. https://www.abs.gov.au/articles/northern-territory-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-population-summary..



- victim-survivors flee the area, as the network of informants to the perpetrator endangers the safety of the victim-survivor and their children.
- 1.31 The Salvation Army's services have also seen instances of perpetrators repeatedly threatening to report mothers to child protection services. This is a form of abusive behaviour that preys upon the fear of many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women of losing their children as a mechanism for maintaining control.
- 1.32 The Salvation Army reiterates the importance of consulting with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander victim-survivors and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led organisations to ensure that any structural changes to legislation and the justice system recognise their cultural and geographical needs, and the differing nature and prevalence of violence in those communities. It is essential that grassroots Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are given the opportunity lead and develop projects and that projects that are led by non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are only supported when they can demonstrate deep consultation and co-design processes that do not further marginalise or 'other' these voices.
- 1.33 To ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices are heard, the Northern Territory Government should consider establishing an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led taskforce to oversee the responses to coercive control. This taskforce should have oversight of any potential draft legislation, consultation process and the implementation process, including system and cultural reform, as well as training and ongoing monitoring and evaluation.

#### **Recommendation 6**

1.34 The Salvation Army recommends that the Northern Territory Government establishes an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led taskforce to oversee responses to coercive control.





# 2 Preventing Misidentification of Parties

- 2.1 The Salvation Army welcomes the Northern Territory Government's acknowledgement and commitment to reducing misidentification of protected persons in the context of Domestic Violence Orders (DVO's). Whilst we welcome the introduction of certificates which outline criminal and DVO history, it is critical that this measure be complemented by training for frontline justice staff including police officers and prosecutors. We maintain that particularly in the instance of court DVO's, where this certificate is not required to be submitted with the DVO application, that misidentification will remain a concern without adequate training of and understanding by justice staff.
- 2.2 The misidentification of victim-survivors as perpetrators of family and domestic violence can occur in a range of contexts, but it primarily occurs where victim-survivors are misidentified on a domestic violence order or face criminal charges. Our services in the Northern Territory continue to report a high number of women being misidentified as the perpetrator. Many of our community members report that the misidentification impacts their trust in the police and justice system and often makes them reluctant to report further instances of violence.
- 2.3 Beyond undermining confidence, treating victim-survivors of violence as perpetrators denies victim-survivors appropriate support. The Northern Territory should prioritise educating police and justice staff about how family and domestic violence is a pattern of behaviours as opposed to a one-off instance of violence. Any training that aims to reduce the misidentification of victim-survivors needs to include ensuring there is an understanding of the neo-colonial context of violence, particularly in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women's violent resistance and reluctance to cooperate with police and justice staff during investigations.
- 2.4 The Salvation Army notes the commencement date of 16 October 2025 for amended DVO measures regarding misidentification and anticipates that this timeframe is designed to allow for the rollout of frontline training alongside justice reforms.

## **Recommendation 7**

2.5 The Salvation Army recommends that the Northern Territory Government deliver training to police and justice staff specific to non-physical and coercive forms of family violence, and the misidentification of parties to support the intention of the Bill to reduce victim-survivors misidentification.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Nancarrow, H, Thomas, K, Ringland, V & Tanya, M. (2020). Accurately identifying the 'person most in need of protection' in domestic and family violence law. Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety. https://20ian81kynqg38bl3l3eh8bfwpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Nancarrow-PMINOP-RR.3.pdf.





# 3 Additional Systemic Reforms to Support the Bill

- 3.1 In considering the Bill and its included amendments, The Salvation Army urges the need for significant systemic reform across the Northern Territory to improve overall response to family and domestic violence.
- 3.2 Whilst we acknowledge that many of these recommendations may be outside of the scope of this inquiry, we propose that they are critical in supporting the amendments and intentions of the Bill in improving responses to family and domestic violence.
- 3.3 We draw attention to The Salvation Army's Submission to the Northern Territory Government Department of Attorney-General and Justice's Review of Legislation and the Justice Responses to Domestic and Family Violence in the Northern Territory for further recommendations regarding critical reform.





# 4 Conclusion

- 4.1 The Salvation Army thanks the Department of the Attorney-General and Justice for the opportunity to provide a written submission to the Exposure Draft Justice Legislation Amendment (Domestic and Family Violence) Bill 2023.
- 4.2 The Salvation Army would welcome the opportunity to discuss the content of this submission should any further information be of assistance. Further information can be sought from <a href="mailto:government.relations@salvationarmy.org.au">government.relations@salvationarmy.org.au</a>.

The Salvation Army Australia Territory

August 2023





# Appendix A About The Salvation Army

The Salvation Army is an international Christian movement with a presence in more than 130 countries. Operating in Australia since 1880, The Salvation Army is one of the largest providers of social services and programs for people experiencing hardship, injustice and social exclusion.

The Salvation Army Australia provides more than 1,000 social programs and activities through networks of social support services, community centres and churches across the country. Programs include:

- Financial counselling, financial literacy and microfinance
- Emergency relief and related services
- Homelessness services
- Youth services
- Family and domestic violence services
- Alcohol, drugs and other addictions
- Chaplaincy
- Emergency and disaster response
- Aged care
- Employment services

As a mission-driven organisation, The Salvation Army seeks to reduce social disadvantage and create a fair and harmonious society through holistic and person-centred approaches that reflect our mission to share the love of Jesus by:

- Caring for people
- Creating faith pathways
- Building healthy communities
- Working for justice

We commit ourselves in prayer and practice to this land of Australia and its people, seeking reconciliation, unity and equity.

Further information about The Salvation Army can be accessed at: < https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/>

