



July 2020

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## Contact Us



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## COVID-19

Like many organisations and individuals Zonta House was required to adapt overnight to the COVID-19 pandemic in WA and the nation. Our immediate priority was our staff and the women in our services were safe and well. Zonta House continued to operate our two 24/7 Crisis Centers and provide essential support to women and their families in the community. Our outreach programs and administration functions remained in operation virtually with staff working from home.

The team adapted well with the implementation of daily Zoom meetings with several special guests who dialed into give the staff words of encouragement and support including **Heidi Anderson, Natalie Barr, Monika Kos, Jess Hill, Hon. Simone McGurk MLA** and **Jolleen Hicks**.

"Our priority is ensuring our staff are well, the women we work with are safe and well and we support the community during this time to manage the pandemic. We consider the continued operations of our services to support women at high risk of harm as essential. Additional to the advice from the state and federal government we have put in place internal controls to attempt to minimise the impact of COVID-19.

We are concerned about the impact the pandemic and potential self-isolation may have on people experiencing or at risk of family and domestic violence in their own homes and urge people to seek support and refuge if you need to. We also ask friends, family, neighbours and colleagues who are concerned about someone to please continue to reach out and offer support. We plead that perpetrators or people at risk of perpetrating do not choose abuse or use violence and choose to seek help and support." - **Kelda Oppermann CEO**

Please reach out if you need support by calling **1800RESPECT** (1800 737 732) who are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for confidential support. Crisis Care is a telephone information and counselling service for people in crisis needing immediate help please call 08 9223 1111 or 1800 199 008.

"This is an opportunity for our community to band together for the greater good of protecting people who are vulnerable and helping one another. Seeing other community services agencies supporting each other with information and resources has been so wonderful." - Zoe, Safer Pathways Case Manager



## COVID-19

### and self-isolation

If you have to stay at home with a violent partner, here are some key points to consider:

#### 1 IDENTIFY SAFE AREAS

Identify safe areas of the house where there are ways to escape, if possible.

#### 2 CHARGE YOUR PHONE

If possible, have a phone charged and accessible at all times with numbers to call.

#### 3 CAR & FUEL

Make a habit of backing the car into the driveway and keeping it fuelled.

#### 4 TRUSTED SOURCES

Let trusted friends and neighbours know of your situation and develop a plan and visual signal for when you need help.

#### 5 CONTACT POLICE

Call the police on 000 if things escalate and you are concerned for your safety. Notify the police if there are any Covid-19 concerns on site.

#### 6 IF YOU MUST LEAVE

Your life and your children's lives are important. If you must leave for safety reasons, then do so. If you have been exposed or you are sick ensure you park in a safe location and stay in the car while contacting a GP or hospital nearby to organise to get tested and to discuss quarantine options.

## Introduction of New Legislation

Zonta House welcome the new legislation which have been passed by The Hon. Mark McGowan MLA and the WA State Government to protect victims and their families.

The changes will make it easier for survivors to access restraining orders and harsher penalties for preparators who breach them.

The new legislation includes:

- two new offences under the Criminal Code, namely non-fatal strangulation and persistent family violence;
- Allowing the court to impose a requirement that an offender be subject to electronic monitoring under Conditional Suspended Imprisonment Orders and Intensive Supervision Orders.
- Permitting a judicial officer to include, as a home detention bail condition, a direction that an accused be subject to electronic monitoring.
- Improving access to restraining orders, including enabling restraining order applications to be lodged online.
- Creating a separate offence for breach of family violence restraining orders, increasing the penalty to \$10,000 from \$6,000 and extending the limitation period for prosecuting breach of restraining order offences to two (2) years.

Allowing the Family Court and Children's Court to issue interim restraining orders on an ex-parte basis, in the same way the Magistrates Court is permitted to do so.

**Everyone should be safe  
in their own home.**

**Now and always.**

## A Message of Support

Department of Communities launched their online message of support video to those suffering family and domestic violence.



Zonta House were honoured to take part in the campaign and thank our supporters for answering the call to submit their own message of support.

Please share this video and messages of support on your social media platforms to help spread these important messages. The video can be found on our Facebook and Instagram

accounts as well as on YouTube which you can find here <https://youtu.be/vdopT8G-xGg>

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Do you follow Zonta House on Instagram?

@zontahouse #zontahouse



Follow us on Facebook too!

<https://www.facebook.com/zontahouserefuge/>

## Lotterywest Grant

Zonta House welcomed Hon. Minister Simone McGurk MLA to Head Office on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020 to present our team with a certificate from Lotterywest for funding totalling \$195,125.

This vital grant is part of the Lotterywest response to COVID-19 for vital front line services. Zonta House will utilise these funds to provide emergency relief support for women across our seven services.

In addition, will support Zonta House with a new, six-month pilot program working with women in their own homes or those who are not able to access refuge, within the South East corridor. This pilot will be working in partnership with local services. Thank you to the WA community in supporting Lotterywest to provide grants that make a difference to women and families who experience family and domestic violence.



## NAIDOC Week 2020 – Save the date

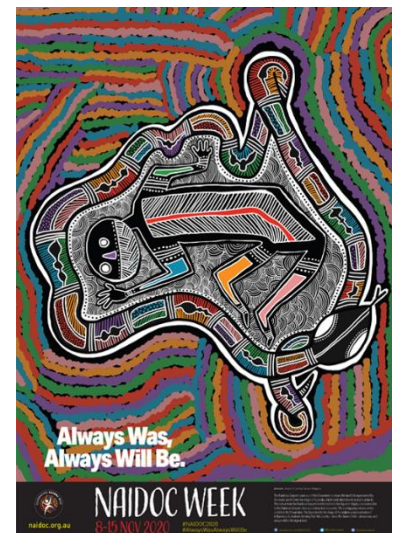
NAIDOC Week has traditionally been celebrated in June each year. Due to COVID-19 the decision was made to move the 2020 celebrations to November and this year will now be observed from 8<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> November under the theme “**Always Was, Always Will Be**” and recognizes that First Nations people have occupied and cared for this continent for over 65,000 years.



**Always Was,  
Always Will Be.**  
8-15 NOV 2020

The 2020 National NAIDOC Poster, Shape of Land, was designed by Tyrown Waigana, a Noongar and Saibai Islander man.

“Tyrown’s artwork tells the story of how the Rainbow Serpent came out of the Dreamtime to create this land. It is represented by the snake and it forms the shape of Australia, which symbolises how it created our lands. The colour from the Rainbow Serpent is reflected on to the figure to display our connection to the Rainbow Serpent, thus our connection to country. The overlapping colours on the outside is the Dreamtime. The figure inside the shape of Australia is a representation of Indigenous Australians showing that this country - since the dawn of time - Always Was, Always Will Be Aboriginal Land.”



You can get your copy of the 2020 NAIDOC Week poster here:  
<https://www.naidoc.org.au/resources/get-your-poster>

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## Donations

How can you help? You **CAN** make a difference! Monetary Donations above \$2 are *tax deductible*. Donations go towards the provision and development of our unfunded programs and services. Please contact us if you would like to chat to one of our team about donations, sponsorship options and our organisation or just want to find out more of how YOU can help. Donate at [www.zontahouse.org.au/donations](http://www.zontahouse.org.au/donations)



## Positive Pathways Update



Our Positive Pathways program adapted to COVID-19 restrictions by connecting virtually with our clients.

Online Journey allowed Vanessa to facilitate online group workshops as well as support individual women through phone or video link.

**Positive Pathways**  
A Zonta House Women's Refuge Initiative

Positive Pathways is currently looking to create a recipe book to collate all our favorite recipes and stories for everyone to enjoy. We are very excited to see what recipes the women in our services and staff member will share!

With the ease of restrictions, Positive Pathways is able to recommence face to face workshops and individual support in July. Participants can look forward to upcoming sessions such as **Fostering Healthy Connections, Keeping Safe, Building Self Esteem through Self Compassion** and much more! Term 2 will also encompass several new workshops and courses.

All workshops and courses are available for FREE at our Head Office in Willetton.

If you would like to register for any of the workshops or to find out more about Positive Pathways please email [admin@positivepathways.org.au](mailto:admin@positivepathways.org.au)

The Positive Pathways referral form and Semester timetable can be found on the Zonta House website <https://zontahouse.org.au/services/positive-pathways/>

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**Positive Pathways**

# Recipe Book & Stories

## EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Positive Pathway are looking to create a collaborative recipe book sharing stories of the connection of food and memories. This will be a joint project between staff and the women in our services.

We welcome your recipes and stories along with your favourite quote you live your life by.

Any illustrations or photos of the recipe are encouraged.

Submissions by the end of July to Vanessa via email - Thank you

[admin@positivepathways.org.au](mailto:admin@positivepathways.org.au)