

BARRIERS TO EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS

Feedback from the support agencies

A workshop was facilitated to collect feedback from workers from a range of support agencies. Participants had expertise and experience working with women who were at risk, vulnerable and experienced barriers accessing education and employment programs.



Barriers identified at the workshop

Homelessness

Low self esteem

Poor health

Battling the legal system and bureaucracies

Lack of financial support

Lack of funding in the sector

Post-traumatic stress

Social isolation

Feeling judged

Agencies invited to the consultation process

- Victoria Police- Family Violence Unit
- Improving and Promoting Community Health (IPC Health)
- Victorian Association for the Care of Resettlement Offenders (VACRO)
- Salvation Army
- Duke St Community House
- Department of Health and Human services (DHHS)
- Health West
- Brimbank City Council
- Flat Out
- Westgate Community Initiative Group Inc (WCIG)
- Cohealth
- Wyndham Community and Education Centre (WCEC)
- Comm Unity Plus Services Ltd

Suggestions/recommendations from support agencies

- Access to support services / agencies for the women at the training centre.
- Policies at the training centre / Learn Locals to improve access for women at risk
- A holistic and integrated approach through collaborations and partnerships with agencies working with women at risk
- Realistic learning outcome expectations from the learners that are not overwhelming
- An environment for the learners that makes them feel safe where their concerns addressed promptly
- Professional, well-trained staff and trainers working with clients who have multiple risks to ensure the clients do not feel judged
- Multidisciplinary professional development tailored to address the needs of the women