

## Identifying and Responding to Family Violence Policy Template

The Victorian Government worked with Government Agencies and community organisations to develop the Family Violence Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management (MARAM) Framework legislated under the Family Violence Protection Act 2008 (Vic) (the FVPA).

Community Housing Organisations are a key component of the coordinated and multi-agency response to family violence.

*(Name of Organisation)* recognises that family violence can happen to anyone, regardless of social background, disability, age, gender, religion, sexuality or ethnicity.

*(Name of Organisation)* acknowledges that particular groups experience family violence in different ways, e.g. Aboriginal people, LGBTIQ people, people with disabilities, children and young people, older people and people from diverse communities. Staff apply this knowledge during service delivery, and wherever possible, seek to tailor services to these cohorts.

*(Name of Organisation)* takes family violence seriously and is committed to providing a sensitive response to anyone approaching us for assistance in cases of family violence. *(Name of Organisation)* complies with all relevant legislation relating to family violence.

*(Name of Organisation)* is committed to building our skills, capacity and practice to identify indicators of family violence and to work with victim-survivors to assist them to manage their housing and support situation.

*(Name of Organisation)* acknowledges the right of victim-survivors to live in safety and free from violence and will take appropriate action that balances the rights and wishes of the victim-survivor with the responsibility of the landlord to protect the property and the safety and wellbeing of all household members and neighbours.

*(Name of Organisation)* does not prevent perpetrators from accessing services, unless this is necessary for victim-survivor safety. However, we will never condone or collude with their use of violence.

*(Name of Organisation)* recognises that responding to family violence requires a multi-agency response and is committed to working collaboratively with other services to ensure perpetrators are kept in view and accountable for their use of violence.

This policy covers all tenants and applicants of *(Name of Provider)*.

Policy number	
Policy name	
<i>Identifying and responding to family violence</i>	
Scope	
Version	
Date approved	
Date Reviewed	
Specific responsibilities	

### References

- Family Violence Protection Act 2008 (Vic) (FVPA)
- Family Violence Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management (MARAM) Framework
- Ministerial Guidelines Family Violence Information Sharing Schemes (FVISS)
- Residential Tenancies Act (VIC)