

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - Guidelines

DFSV Health Assist

EOI release date	1 May 2025
Deadline for EOI application submission	28 May 2025

1. Overview

Central and Eastern Sydney Primary Health Network (CESPHN) invites suitable short-term accommodation services to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) to receive free of charge place-based healthcare services at their accommodation for migrant women and children, including those on temporary visas, who have been impacted by DFSV. This service is delivered through CESPHN's Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence (DFSV) Health Assist.

DFSV Health Assist is funded by Department of Health and Aged Care (DoHAC) as part of the *Supporting Outreach Healthcare for Victim-Survivors of Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Pilot* (The Pilot). DFSV Health Assist offers migrant women and children and those on temporary visas in select refuges free health care provided by a Nurse Practitioner, and allied health and other health services as needed. By embedding health services within refuges, the pilot aims to remove accessibility barriers and meet the health needs of victim-survivors, that may otherwise be neglected due to the often debilitating challenges of escaping abuse.

Applicants must be located within the CESPHN catchment area, be able to provide an appropriate consultation space and have the capacity to collaborate with a Nurse Practitioner, Coordinator and other health practitioners. The service must have demonstrable experience in providing trauma-informed care to women and children impacted by domestic and family violence and working with culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

The Pilot is being rolled out across 6 PHN sites across Australia and will be evaluated nationally by ABT Global.

DFSV Health Assist will commence from date of contract execution and will last for two years with a review after 6 months from signing the contract. The proposed timeframe is currently July 2025 – July 2027.

2. Information about Central and Eastern Sydney PHN

What are primary health networks?

Primary health networks (PHNs) have been established with the key objectives of increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of medical services for individuals, particularly those at risk of poor health outcomes. They also aim to improve coordination of care to ensure people receive the right care in the right place at the right time. PHNs are not for profit, regionally based organisations which aim to strengthen primary care by redirecting frontline health services to improve health outcomes of the community.

Our vision

Our vision is to achieve healthy and thriving communities and we do this by enabling high quality accessible health care. Our goals are to address community health and wellbeing needs, facilitate connected and quality care and partner to address regional challenges.

Our region, our community

The Central and Eastern Sydney catchment spans 587 square kilometres. Our region stretches from Strathfield to Sutherland, as far east as Bondi, and includes Lord Howe Island. We are the second

For more information about our region visit the 'About CESPHN' page on our website at <https://www.cesphn.org.au/>

The DFSV Health Assist service model is visualised below.

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Description of scope of work for participating professionals:

The accommodation service:

- Coordination with Coordinator between Medical Centre and the refuge
- Providing rooms for clinical services at the refuge
- Promoting the service to residents
- Supporting clients to connect to local primary care providers upon leaving the refuge

Coordinator:

- Care coordination between health centre/general practice ,the accommodation service and allied health and other health services
- Contact point for accomodation service staff
- Managing Brokerage funds
- Providing updates on progress from when services will be available
- Contact for allied health and other health services

Nurse Practioner:

- Provide health screening
- Provide assessments
- Provide referrals to allied health and other health services

General practioner:

- Clinical support for Nurse Practitioner

Allied Health and other health practitioners:

- Assesment and treatment

Follow -up care:

Women and children receiving DFSV Health Assist services will be linked to other primary care providers in their local community who will support their long-term recovery upon leaving the refuge. To do so, we are exploring the potential use of existing CESPHN services, that is the position of navigators who usually support primary care professionals to link patients who have experienced or are experiencing DFSV and/or child sexual abuse into appropriate services.

4. Eligibility criteria for refuges

To be eligible to participate in the DFSV Health Assist program, services must:

- Be a refuge housing women and children impacted by DFSV, including migrant women and children and those on temporary visas
- Be located within the CESP HN region ([CESPHN catchment area by postcode](#))
- Have an available consulting room (days can be negotiated)
- Be willing to liaise with the Coordinator, Nurse Practitioner and other health practitioners and provide a primary contact liaison
- Be willing to collaborate with CESP HN, the health service providers, Coordinator and other stakeholders prior to commencement of the service to determine scope of practice and establish systems required for successful implementation of the program.
- Have robust data governance, privacy system security, policies and procedures around handling client information
- Have the capacity to establish and implement methods of communication, referral pathways and workflow plans
- Facilitate the referral of eligible patients to the Coordinator
- Adhere to the DV NSW Good Practice Guidelines
- Currently employ specialist DFV workers with extensive DFV experience and expertise, including knowledge of best-practice standards and frameworks

5. Reporting requirements

The Department of Health and Aged Care has engaged ABT Global to evaluate the Pilot across 6 PHN sites within Australia. Reporting requirements for the evaluation will be determined by ABT Global and shared at a later date.

6. Contract Term

Participating accommodation services will enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with CESP HN. The term of the contract is July 2025 to July 2027.

Attached to this EOI is a Memorandum of Agreement which will form a legally binding agreement on signing by the parties. The general practice must retain all insurances outlined in the agreement.

7. Funding

A sum of \$5000 (excluding GST) per annum will be provided to cover administrative efforts (phone calls etc) resulting from participation in this program as well as for completing reporting requirements.

8. Timeline

EOI Released	30 April 2025
Deadline for EOI application submission	28 May 2025
Applications evaluated	6 June 2025
Clarification/negotiations with preferred provider(s)	18 June 2025
Contracts awarded	2 July 2025
Implementation start date	14 July 2025

9. Submitting your application

Please read this EOI guidance and the memorandum of agreement prior to applying to participate in the DFSV Health Assist service. Applications can be submitted through the CESP HN online application form which can be accessed [here](#)

Application will close **28 May 2025**.

10. Contact us

All questions related to this EOI are to be directed to dfsvassist@cesphn.com.au