



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2023-2024

Mr Mark Parton MLA (Chair), Ms Jo Clay MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Michael Pettersson MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Mrs Elizabeth Kikkert MLA : To ask the Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence

Ref: YWCA Budget Submission, Budget Paper 3, page 132: Further investment into frontline domestic, family and sexual violence services

Hearing Date: 19 July 2023

In relation to: YWCA Budget for Domestic Violence Support Service

- (1) YWCA Canberra report having made multiple grant applications to secure much-needed funding for their Domestic Violence Support Service. How many grant applications were received by the ACT Government from YWCA regarding this?
 - (a) When was each grant application received by the ACT Government?
 - (b) For each grant application, how much funding was requested by YWCA Canberra?
 - (c) What were the reasons for the rejection of each of the grant applications made by YWCA Canberra?
- (2) For this year and each year the past 7 years, how much funding has the ACT Government allocated to YWCA Canberra for the operation of their Domestic Violence Support Service?
 - (a) Has the ACT Government taken into account the overdemand for domestic violence support services reported by YWCA Canberra when allocating funding provided for this year?
 - (b) Is the funding provided for this year expected to be able to meet the estimated demand for domestic violence support services delivered by YWCA Canberra?
- (3) Will the ACT Government consider providing continued support for victims of domestic violence in the ACT so that they can access the Escaping Violence Payment (EVP) where federal funding has been exhausted?

MINISTER STEPHEN-SMITH on behalf of MINISTER BERRY: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

1. The Community Services Directorate has received three applications from YWCA directly related to its Domestic Violence Support Service.
 - a) This information is not publicly disclosed by the ACT Government. Individual applicants can access this information through their SmartyGrants login.

- b) This information is not publicly disclosed by the ACT Government. Individual applicants can access this information through their SmartyGrants login.
 - c) The ACT Government offers all grant applicants feedback on their applications. The ACT Government does not share information about unsuccessful grant applications more broadly.
2. In the 2022-23 Budget, the ACT Government provided \$1.05 million over three years to YWCA Canberra for the operation of its Domestic Violence Support Service. In 2020-21, the YWCA also received \$132,000 to respond to increased demand. This funding was provided from National Partnership on COVID-19 Domestic and Family Violence Responses.
- a) Yes. The YWCA's 2023-24 community budget submission stated that in 2022, the number of incoming referrals to its Domestic Violence Support Service increased by more than 15 per cent to a total of 216 referrals.
 - b) The additional funding will provide two additional full-time staff for the program, which is expected to support the service to meet the increase in demand.
3. The Escaping Violence Payment (EVP) is a Commonwealth initiative. A number of ACT Government funded services support their clients to access the EVP and other emergency payments for victim-survivors escaping violence.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2023-2024

Signature:



Date:

16 / 8 / 23

By the Acting Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA