



Domestic Violence Homicides continues to rise in WA!

This year 18 people - aged from *two months to 81 years* - have been killed because of family or domestic violence (FDV) this year in Western Australia. This year's total marks an increase of four, or twenty per cent, compared with 2015 figures. Women's Council Chief Executive Officer Angela Hartwig said,

"Family and Domestic Violence does not discriminate because of age, ethnicity or geographical area."

"This year, among the people killed was *a two-month old baby, a seven month old baby, two children aged three and five years old and two seniors.*"

"In the last three years there have been *48 domestic homicides in WA*. Many of these killings involved ongoing violence from a partner or an ex-partner who was known to authorities. These deaths are often predictable and preventable.

"One death is one too many, so the killing of 18 Western Australians, at the hands of loved ones, is alarming."

Ms Hartwig said for every one killing, the lives of hundreds and sometimes thousands were impacted forever.

"When a family member is killed, not only does the immediate family become traumatised, entire communities are affected," Ms Hartwig said. No one in Australia should think they are immune to the devastation of family violence. We all have a role to play in making our systems safer and reducing the high levels of violence against within our community."

*On Friday, 25 November the WCDFVS (WA) invites all community members to attend the **26th Annual Silent Domestic Violence Memorial march**. The event will remember and honour all those who have lost their lives as a result of domestic homicide.*

Media spokespersons:

Angela Hartwig, WCDFVS, Phone # 0409 207 264

Helen Creed, CLCWA, Phone # 0400 175 874

Facts about the event:

Date: Friday, 25 November, 2016

Place: Stirling Gardens (cnr Barrack & St Georges Tce)

10.00am Free Morning Tea and Information Stalls

11.00am Rally with Speakers

12:00noon Silent march through the streets CBD.

For further information about the event please contact Leanne on 9420 7264

Facts about domestic and family violence

- Every week at least one woman is killed in Australia because of domestic and family violence.
- In 2015-16, WA Police attended 53,550 call outs to a domestic and family violence incident. 22,182 children were present at the time.
- One in four children and one in two Aboriginal children are exposed to FDV in their childhood.
- A women is at higher risk of being killed when she leaves her abusive partner.
- 70 per cent of people seeking assistance, from specialist homelessness services cited domestic violence as the reason.
- One in four women have experienced at least once incident of violence since the age of 15.