

Special Children's Program Edition

'Van Go Moorabool'

WRISC is thrilled to announce that it has secured a share in the Victorian Government's \$22.87 million investment in therapeutic responses to family violence. This looks beyond crisis response to long term support for survivor-victims. WRISC is partnering with Moorabool Shire to deliver a mobile therapy program for children affected by family violence called **Van Go Moorabool**.

On Wednesday May 17, WRISC representatives attended the announcement by Families and Children Minister Jenny Mikakos of the successful programs in the Central Highlands region.

Van Go Moorabool has been the vision of our creative therapy staff for more than 15 years. It gathers evidence informed creative therapies such as play and art therapy and wraps that around the children in the Bacchus Marsh region. Access to services is addressed through the use of a therapeutic van.

WRISC will be working in partnership with Moorabool Shire, in particular the Darley Early Years Hub to deliver the Van Go Moorabool program.

I know I am not alone—ten year old boy after he engaged in group work

Drawing is like putting my mind on paper – 10 year old girl after art therapy.



ABOVE: WRISC staff celebrate with a special "Van Go Moorabool" cake. The van in the photo was presented to Minister for Families and Children, Jenny Mikakos, as a token of our appreciation.



RIGHT TOP: L to R Karen Heap (BADAC), Andrew Lowth (Berry Street) and WRISC EO Libby Jewson in front of the Van Go Moorabool banner.



RIGHT BOTTOM: L to R Andrew Lowth (Berry Street), Karen Heap (BADAC), Jenny Mikakos (Minister for Families and Children), Libby Jewson (WRISC EO) and Geoff Howard (Member for Buninyong)

WRISC is recruiting!

WRISC is excited to be recruiting for a number of exciting and innovative positions within the Children's Program. Please refer to the advertisements below and the [WRISC website](http://www.wrisc.org.au) where full details and relevant downloadable documents can be found.

Make A Difference



Team Leader / Creative Therapist - Re-advertised

Part time - 0.8 EFT

WRISC Family Violence Support is seeking a Team Leader experienced in the provision of children's therapeutic services.

This is an opportunity to join our dynamic and committed team based in Ballarat. We are seeking an energetic, enthusiastic and experienced team leader to join our feminist agency. We are seeking a woman committed to the rights of children, passionate about creativity who would like to make a difference in the Family Violence sector.

Administration and Office Manager

Part time - 0.8 EFT

WRISC Family Violence Support is seeking a highly experienced woman to support the commencement of the **Van Go Moorabool** Pilot Project. This new position is based in Bacchus Marsh within a therapeutic team.

This is an opportunity to be a part of the Bacchus Marsh team complementing the dedicated Family Violence teams in Ballarat. We are seeking an energetic, enthusiastic administrative office manager to join our feminist agency. You will be involved in the initial office set up, and will support the development of this exciting, inaugural project.

Salary sacrificing, employee wellbeing program and flexible work conditions are features of these positions.



It is a requirement for these roles that applicants be female (EEO exemption number A75/2013)

*Full details on our website www.wrisc.org.au
Applications close midnight Wednesday June 7th*

Exciting Opportunities!



VAN GO MOORABOOL

Art and play on the move

Clinical Lead - (0.8 EFT)

Creative Therapists:

Art, Play, Music, Movement - (4x0.6 EFT)

Children's Single Session Therapist - (0.6 EFT)

Children's Therapeutic Case Worker - (0.8 EFT)

WRISC Family Violence Support is seeking team players to be a part of the establishment of the Van Go Moorabool Pilot Project. These new positions are based in Bacchus Marsh and will be an integral part of the implementation of a mobile child centred service within a creative therapies team.

This is an opportunity to be a part of the Bacchus Marsh team complementing the dedicated Family Violence teams in Ballarat. We are seeking enthusiastic, flexible team players to join our feminist agency. You will be an integral part of the establishment of this exciting 12 month pilot project. Salary sacrificing, employee wellbeing program and flexible work conditions are features of these positions with a current Victorian driver's license.

It is a requirement that applicants be female (EEO exemption number A75/2013)



Full details on our website www.wrisc.org.au

*Applications close
midnight Wednesday June 14th 2017*

Please note:

- The Team Leader/Creative Therapist (re-advertised) position is based in Ballarat and applications close June 7.*
- The Administration & Office Manager position is part of Van Go Moorabool and is based in Bacchus Marsh. Applications close June 7.*
- All other positions are part of Van Go Moorabool and are based in Bacchus Marsh. Applications close June 14.*



WRISC FAMILY VIOLENCE SUPPORT GRANTED \$3,980 TOWARDS CHILDREN'S PROGRAM BROKERAGE

Thank you to STREETSMART Action Against Homelessness for their support of children and their families experiencing family and domestic violence in the Central Highlands region of Victoria.

Research clearly shows that experiencing family violence has a significant impact on children's relationships, development, wellbeing and ability to learn. WRISC believes children should be able to be children – they should be able to say “I am free to be me”. These vital funds will assist WRISC to make a long-term difference in the lives of many children and families.

Aims and Predicted Outcomes for grant money:

- By removing some of the “barriers” to accessing therapy sessions for a child (eg lack of therapist availability, transport, distance from services etc.), children will be able to attend therapeutic appointments and begin the journey of freedom from family violence.
- Greater family connections through enabling quality “family time” and special outings - fostering, improving and repairing relationships within the home.
- More flexibility to assist children and families affected by violence in the home.

Some stories which show how the money is spent to support children and their families:

‘Riley’ attended a ‘single session’ appointment with his mum at WRISC. His mum had separated from Riley’s dad due to the dad’s substance use which was affecting the family. ‘Riley’ was still seeing his dad for access and was very conflicted about his feelings for him after the separation. ‘Riley’ spoke about his confusion to the counsellor and his mum was able to hear his experience. A plan was made with the family, which included ‘Riley’ attending some sessions with a play therapist. StreetSmart funding paid for the counselling, and ‘Riley’ and his mum called in at WRISC some weeks later and ‘Riley’ presented as more settled, happier, and his mum said she was no longer so worried for him.

‘Marlie’, her younger brother ‘Seth’, and their mum came to a single session at WRISC following a family violent incident at home. In the session ‘Marlie’ and ‘Seth’ spoke about their fear, and their wishes for their family. ‘Marlie’ said she felt she was “walking on a tightrope” at home, and that she wasn’t able to talk to any of her friends at school about what was happening in her family. Both ‘Marlie’ and ‘Seth’ chose to participate in a therapeutic group conducted at WRISC, where participants meet other young people who have experienced family violence. ‘Marlie’ attended an Art Therapy group and Seth a boys Drumbeat group. The children’s mum wasn’t able to transport them to the group because she didn’t have a car, so taxis were organised each week so that they could attend. This would not have been possible without the StreetSmart funding.

NILS Loans now available at WRISC

WRISC is the contact agency for NILS (No Interest Loans Scheme) for women in the Central Highlands region who have experienced family violence. Please see the poster below for eligibility and contact details:

**THE
NO
INTEREST
LOAN**



wrisc
Family Violence Support

**WANT MORE
information?**



205 Dana Street, Ballarat, VIC 3350
Ph: (03) 5333 3666
Fax: (03) 5332 7778
alisonc@wrisc.org.au
www.wrisc.org.au
PO Box 92, Ballarat, VIC 3353



NILS
No Interest Loan Scheme
Good Shepherd Microfinance

Information for women on
how to obtain a loan for essential
household goods and services.

WRISC Family Violence Support is now offering women who have experienced family violence access to NILS (No Interest Loan Scheme).

What is NILS? The No Interest Loans Scheme (NILS) provides women on low incomes access to safe, fair and affordable loans for up to \$1,200.

Are you eligible? Any woman who has a health care or pension card, is living in the Central Highlands and has experienced domestic/family violence in the past twelve months may be eligible.

What are the loans for? Loans are generally available for the purchase of essential goods and services. These may include:

- Household items like fridges, washing machines, stoves, freezers and some furniture
- Some medical and dental services
- Educational essentials such as computers, course fees and text books
- Some other items as requested

Please ring Alison at WRISC on 5333 3666 for more information.

Have you thought about volunteering at WRISC?

- ♦ Would you like to become more involved in the work of WRISC?
- ♦ Would you like to contribute to WRISC in a more meaningful way?
- ♦ Do you have skills and expertise which you would like to share with WRISC and support women and children in your community?

WRISC is currently recruiting enthusiastic and committed female* volunteers to fill the:

Reception/Administration role

- 1pm—5pm shifts available
- Knowledge of Microsoft Outlook essential
- Reception experience welcomed
- Working With Children Check (WWCC) required
- *WRISC is looking for volunteers who are able to commit on a medium to long term basis*

For further information please contact Sandra on 5333 3666 Monday—Thursday.

*Equal Opportunity Act (2010) Exemption A75/2013

Thank you to all our donors/ sponsors

Kind and generous donations from organisations, private philanthropists and various grants enable us to continue to service the increasing number of requests for help. We sincerely thank our loyal and generous supporters.



Can you help?

If you would like to make a contribution, our bank details are:

BSB: 063-507 Acct: 10042491

Name: WRISC Family Violence Support

OR

Donate online via PayPal [here](#).

Donations of \$2 or more to WRISC Family Violence Support are tax deductible.

What do you think?

WRISC appreciates communication and feedback regarding the content of this newsletter. If you would like to make contact, please email the Communications Officer:

alisonc@wrisc.org.au



WRISC exists to change the lives of women and children affected by family violence. We promote safe homes, strong families and respectful relationships.

205 Dana St, Ballarat
www.wrisc.org.au

(03) 5333 3666 wrisc@wrisc.org.au
Facebook: [@wriscfamilyviolencesupport](https://www.facebook.com/wriscfamilyviolencesupport)