HOT 34 Family Violence

# Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to support residents, tenants and employees to identify and deal with family violence.

# Scope

This policy applies to all directors, external committee members, staff, contractors and volunteers of YWCA (Employees).

# Policy Statement

YWCA Housing has a zero tolerance to family violence. YWCA Housing will work with residents or tenant/s who are experiencing family violence, or whose relationships have broken down, to find appropriate housing solutions.

This may be through referral to other agencies, an inter-organisational transfer or approving an early exit to a tenancy if appropriate.

# Policy Implementation

YWCA Housing will prioritise and assess the changing support needs of a resident/tenant experiencing family violence.

Where required YWCA Housing will also prioritise the rehousing of residents/tenants experiencing family violence according to need and the availability of stock.

If a resident or tenant of YWCA Housing is experiencing family violence, YWCA Housing will support the resident/tenant to seek appropriate support services, making referrals where and when necessary.

Information will be shared with external agencies and internal stakeholders as required upholding the information sharing as prescribed under the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management (MARAM) Framework and the Child and Family Violence Information Sharing Schemes (FVISS and CISS). This includes information relating to perpetrators of family violence.

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| Document Control Data | |
| Policy Framework | |
| Responsible Body | General Manager, Housing |
| Accountable Officer | General Manager, Housing |
| Application | YWCA Employees involved in tenancy management |
| Supersedes | All previous documentation |
| Associated documents | Family Violence Procedure  Information Sharing Forms |
| Legislation | [Residential Tenancies Act 1997 (Vic)](http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/viewdoc/au/legis/vic/consol_act/rta1997207/)  [Housing Registrar (Vic): Performance Standards](http://www.housingregistrar.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/publications/performance-standards-and-evidence-guidelines/current-performance-standards.pdf)  [NRSCH: Evidence Guidelines](http://www.nrsch.gov.au/publications/nrsch-operational-guidelines/evidence-guidelines) |

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| Approval and Amendment History | | | |
| Review period – 2 years | | | |
| **Approval Date** | **Version** | **Amendments** | **Next Review** |
| 30/06/2021 | 1.0 |  | 2 years |