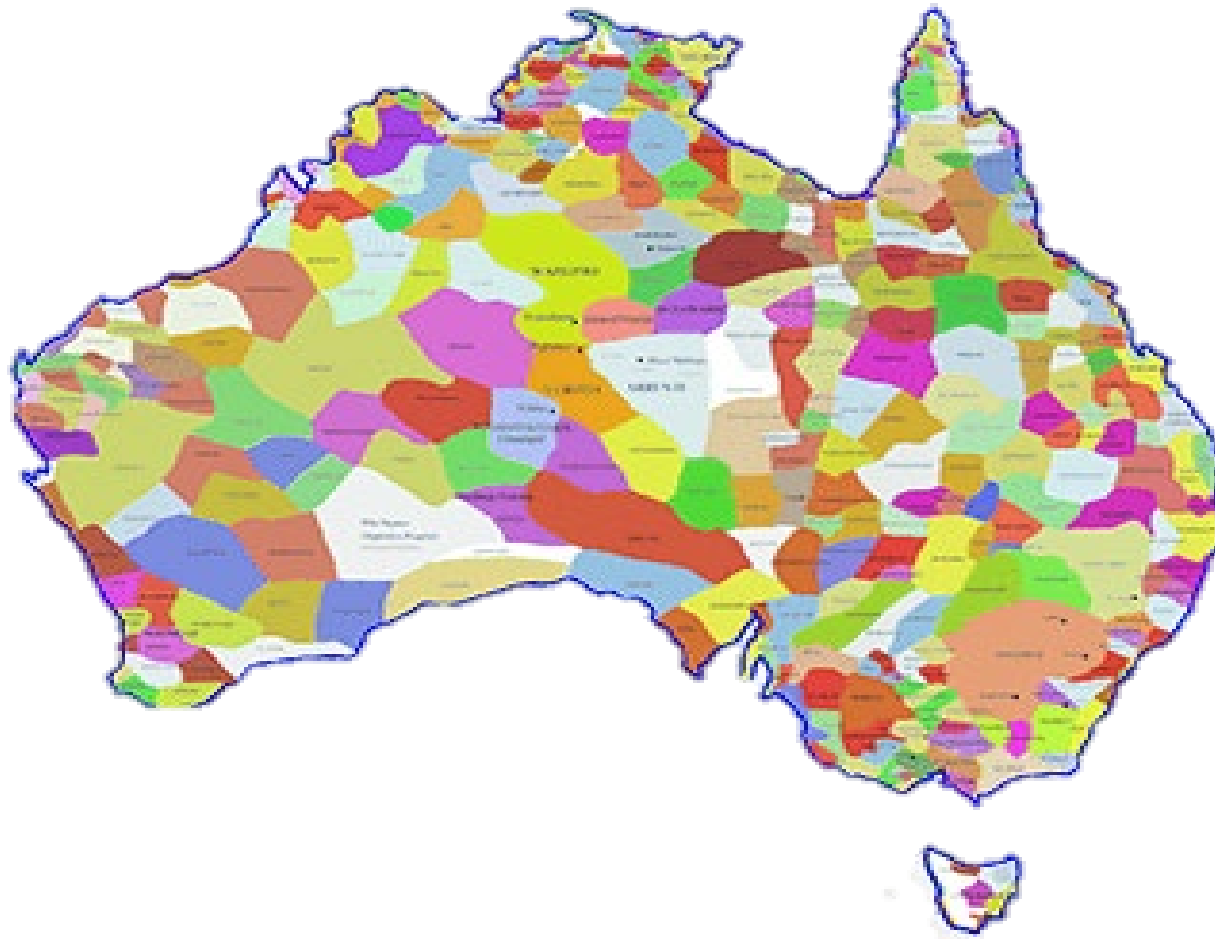


Multidisciplinary Practice: The WLSQ Story

Lulu Milne, WLSQ Social Work Practice Director

Acknowledgement of Country



WLSQ multidisciplinary origins



30 Victoria St, West End

- WLSQ first operated from the front veranda of *Women's House*
- A lawyer and a support worker rostered on each session

WLSQ multidisciplinary origins

- Common purpose
- Shared values
- Role clarity
- Mutual respect
- Collaboration

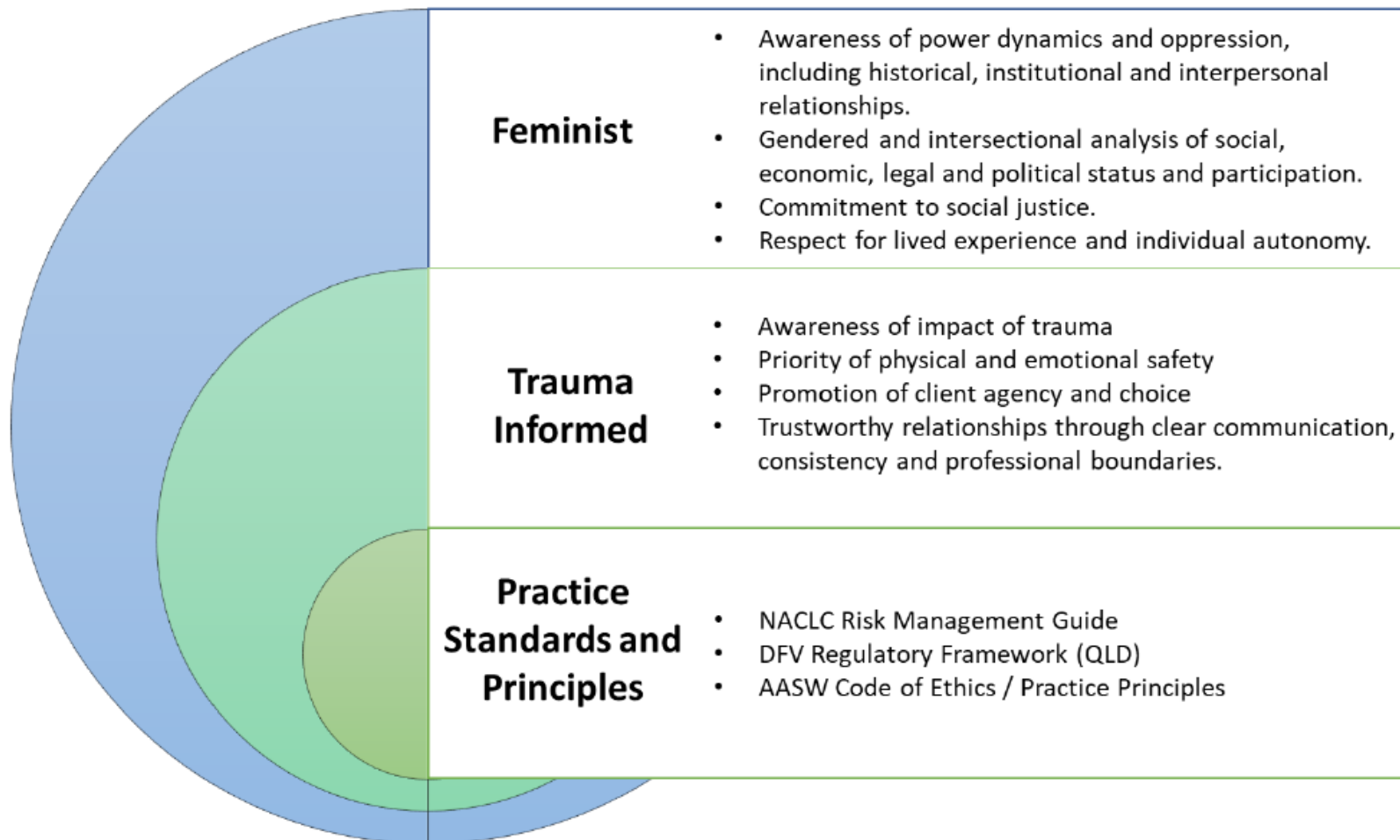


Holistic Service Delivery: DFV context



- Victim-survivors experience a range of social, financial, and practical concerns impacting their legal issues.
- Legal steps can increase safety risks.
- Timely access to support increases engagement with legal options.
- Best practice DFV response requires coordination from range of services.

WLSQ Social Work Practice Model



WLSQ Social Work Model

- Internal allied service
- Dedicated Social Workers in DVU teams for collaborative casework (Caboolture and Gold Coast)
- Social workers available across the programs (Brisbane)
- Referrals are made by solicitors (following legal advice)
- Information is shared between disciplines
- Social Work and Legal files are separate (but accessible)
- Social Workers enter services into CLASS (discrete or ongoing non-legal support service)

Social Work Scope of Service



- DFV Risk assessment, safety planning, emotional and practical support
- Referral and advocacy for housing, financial assistance, health services.
- Applications for DVOs and LAQ.
- Coordination with external services.
- Working with solicitor for ongoing support of clients engaged in special programs

WLSQ Financial Abuse Prevention Unit

- Specialist DFV Financial Counsellor + Financial Capability Worker
- Negotiating with lenders, utility providers, SPER etc re debts Financial literacy and budgeting support
- Escaping Violence Payment (EVP), Victim Assist (VAQ) applications.
- Referrals for No Interest Loans
- **May 2023 – \$2.5 Million waived**



