



La Trobe University – Victorian Government Funded Project: Improving family violence support for women in prison

Researchers from The Bouverie Centre at La Trobe University have been awarded a **Victorian Government** grant for a project to improve family violence support to women in prison.

Who are we recruiting? We are inviting women to participate in this project if they:

- Were formerly in custody (remanded or sentenced) at one of Victoria's women's prisons and have been released within the last 5 years.
- Have previously experienced any kind of family violence.

How can your organisation help? During late 2022 – early 2023, the La Trobe team is engaging organisations in Melbourne to help support recruitment for this project. Because your organisation supports women who might have lived experiences of family violence and of being in prison, you may be well placed to assist with sharing invitations to women to participate. We would be grateful if you could pass on the below information to women who might be interested and eligible.

We have also provided you with an example script you can use for presenting this information to potential participants in a conversation. Where eligible women offer their verbal consent to be followed up by our team, you can pass their contact details to us, and we will then contact the potential participant directly with more information about the project.

What happens in the project? If women want to be involved, here's what will happen:

Part A

- Using the contact details provided by your organisation and with the woman's permission, a member of our La Trobe team will contact the woman to explain the project. If they consent, our team will schedule an interview. Women can choose to do the interview one-on-one with the researcher, or as part of a small group discussion with other women.
- The researcher will talk with women for 30-60 minutes. The interview would be recorded.
- Participants will not be identified in any way when we write up the results of the study.
- Women will receive **\$220.00 remuneration** for their time (a prepaid debit card).

Optional: Part B

- Women can also then help us to **interpret study findings** at a subsequent workshop where we will present the preliminary findings from our study and receive women's input.
- They will receive **another \$220.00 remuneration** for their time, at the end of the workshop.

Optional: Part C

- If women choose, they can also help us **create resources based on the findings** of our interviews. This involves attending a second workshop to discuss options for sharing project findings.
- They will receive **another \$220.00 remuneration** for their time, at the end of the workshop.

What are the benefits? The information women share will help the research team make recommendations about the family violence support given to women in prison in Victoria.

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