

1st ALERT: RED ROSE RALLY / MEDIA EVENT

Campaign for funding the Victorian Systemic Review of Family Violence Deaths

TUESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2012
1.00- 2.00PM - PARLIAMENT HOUSE STEPS



THE RALLY:

Since February this year, a number of organisations concerned with violence against women have urged the Attorney General, Robert Clark, to commit funding to sustain the Victorian Systemic Review of Family Violence Deaths (VSRFVD). We believe it is a critical part of Victoria's efforts to reduce family violence deaths.

We wrote to the Attorney General in February this year, and to date have had no response to our letter. Opposition MPs have supported our campaign for funding, through questions in Parliament and at the Public Accounts and Estimates Committee hearings in May. Our efforts have so far failed to convince the Attorney General to commit required funding of \$250,000 a year to allow the VSRFVD to continue. The recent release of the Baillieu Government's Action Plan to Address Violence Against Women and Children relegates mention of the VSRFVDs to a single sentence under 'Other elements..'

We are planning to hold a Red Rose rally and media event to draw attention to the urgent issue of funding for the VSRFVD.

The event will draw attention to the critical need to fund the continuation of the VSRFVD. It will involve the laying of red roses to symbolise the murders of women and children. Red Rose rallies have been held in other states for a number of years to commemorate and draw attention to domestic homicides.

We have invited the Attorney General to respond to our concerns.

We have also invited Shadow Attorney General Martin Pakula, and Greens MP, Colleen Hartland, to speak and they have accepted our invitation. Both have lobbied through the Parliament on this issue over the past year.

WHO IS ORGANISING THE RALLY?

We are an alliance of peak bodies and specialist family violence services who are members of a Reference Group supporting the Victorian Systemic Review of Family Violence Deaths in the Coroners Court.

Our agencies are:

- Domestic Violence Resource Centre Victoria
- Federation of Community Legal Centres
- Domestic Violence Victoria (DV Vic)
- No To Violence Male Family Violence Prevention Association
- Women's Legal Service Victoria
- Women with Disabilities Victoria
- Women's Domestic Violence Crisis Service
- inTouch Multicultural Centre against Family Violence
- Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention & Legal Service

We'd like to invite you attend the rally, and to share information about the rally among your networks.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

- **Libby Eltringham** at the Domestic Violence Resource Centre Victoria on 03 9486 9866
email: leltringham@dvrcv.org.au; or
- **Chris Atmore** at the Federation of Community Legal Centres on 03 9652 1506
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