

ACT Women's Health and Wellbeing - What matters to you?

The content of the Women's Centre for Health Matters' Strategic Plan 2008–2012 is due to expire at the end of June 2012. A significant program of work was identified and delivered under the Plan and we want to make sure that the review of the Plan for the next 4 years picks up emerging issues or changes in the strategic environment.

We are keen to get your input to help us shape the Plan and to ensure that it reflects ACT women's views of what the organisation should look like at the end of the next 4 year period, and what should be the priority areas we focus on.

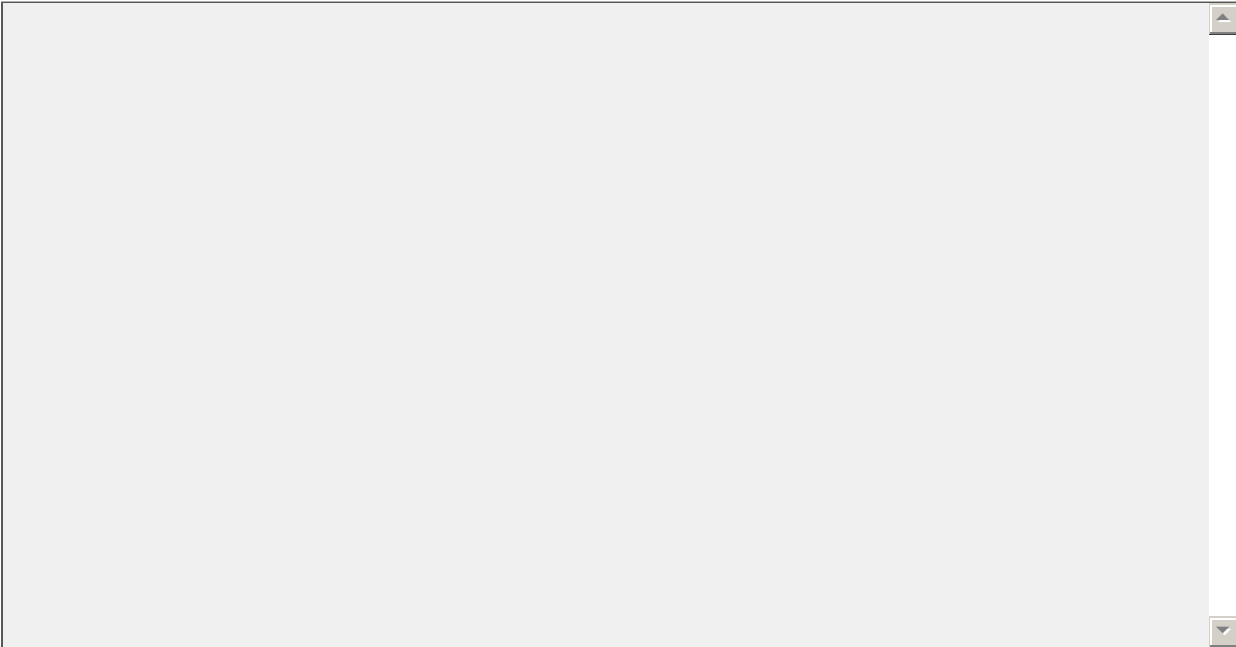
We would therefore appreciate your consideration of the following questions about the content of the WCHM Strategic Plan. We would also welcome any other comments, ideas or views you might have.

ACT Women's Health and Wellbeing - What matters to you?

The current focus of the Women's Centre for Health Matters Inc (WCHM) Strategic Plan 2008–2012 is in 4 Key Areas:

1. Unmet need - identifying the health and wellbeing needs of women that are not fully understood or are unmet or inadequately responded to by current policy and service responses, and using this evidence to inform practice and influence policy over time.
2. Social isolation and marginalisation - better understanding the impact of isolation and marginalisation on specific populations of women; and working to inform responses that will promote authentic social connectedness.
3. Increasing women's access to gender-sensitive health and wellbeing information - in a manner that supports women in making informed health and wellbeing choices.
4. Prevention of Violence Against Women - work with government and services to better support women escaping violence, build a solid evidence base and establish the frameworks and approaches that will achieve the attitudinal and behavioural change that is necessary for preventing violence against women.

1. Do you think the 4 Key Areas of the Plan are still relevant for the next 4 years?



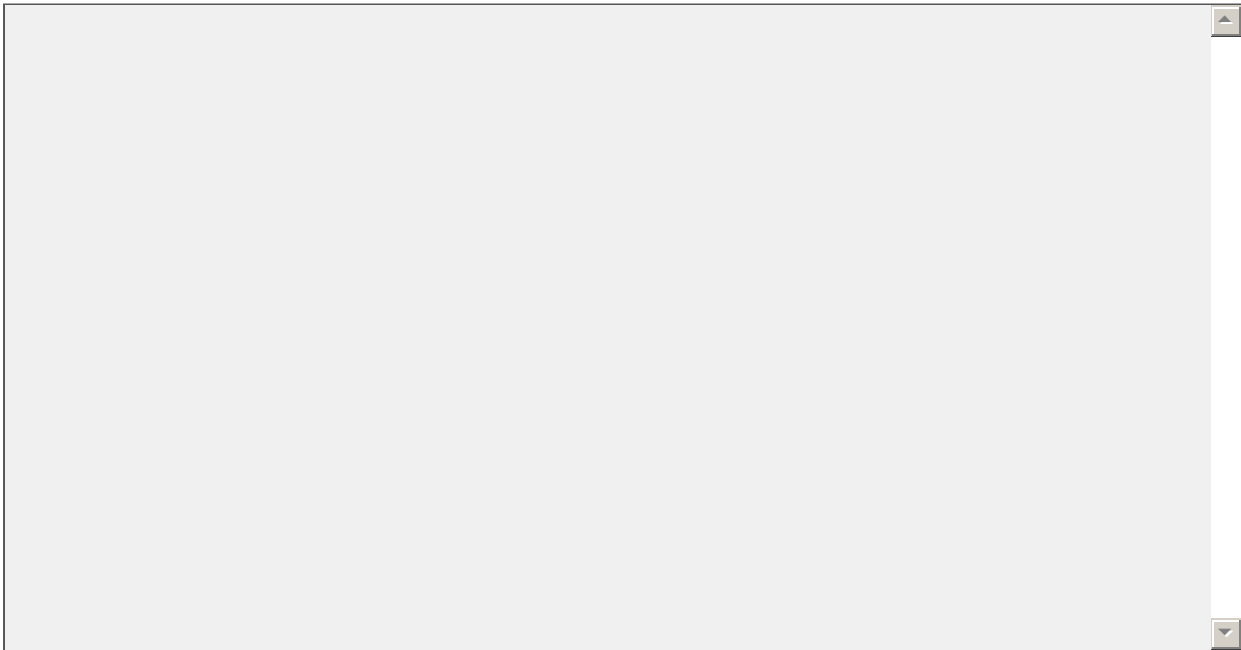
2. For Key Area 1 (Unmet Need), WCHM prioritised three areas of unmet or inadequately met need to work on over the lifetime of the current Strategic Plan:

1.1 Women's access to women-sensitive health practitioners;

1.2 Mental health service system's response to women; and

1.3 Capacity building and organisational support for small non-government organisations and peer-led support groups that are involved in addressing issues related to the health and wellbeing of women.

Are the current 3 priority areas of unmet or inadequately met need still relevant for the future? Are there others that should be considered?



3. For Key Area 2 (Social Isolation and Marginalisation), are the following 5 population groups still relevant for the next four years when recognising the significant adverse impact on health and wellbeing of social isolation and marginalisation? Are there others that should be considered?

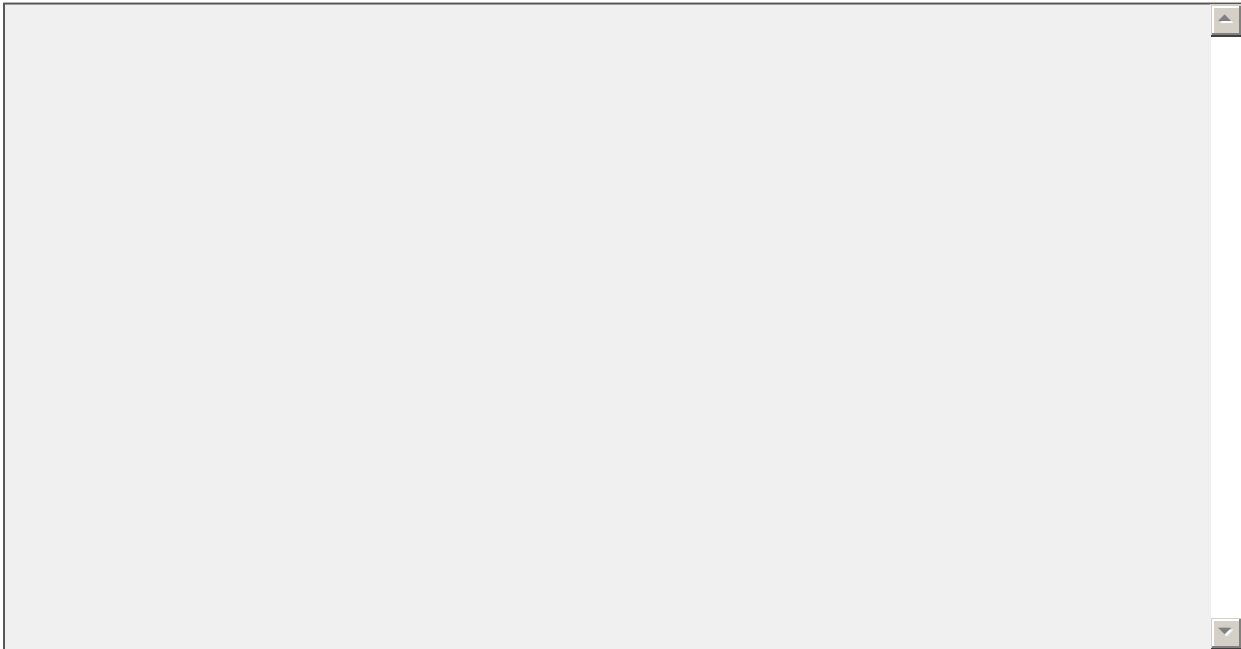
2.1 Women with disabilities

2.2 Institutionalised Women

2.3 Women living with mental health issues

2.4 Women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds (CALD) communities (with a particular focus on women who are recently arrived to Australia or first generation Australians)

2.5 Older women



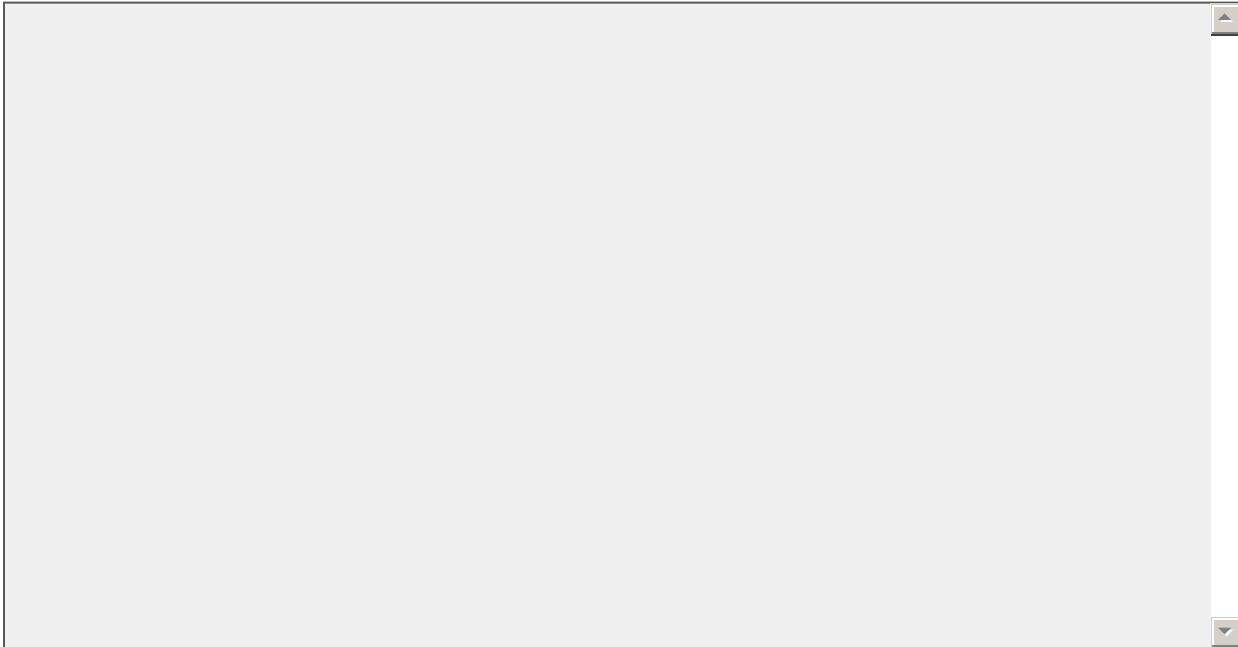
4. For Key Area 3 (Increasing women's access to gender-sensitive health and wellbeing information) are the following four priority areas still relevant for the next four years? Are there others that should be considered?

3.1 Developing a better understanding of the ways in which (different groups of) women prefer to access health and wellbeing information

3.2 Identifying gaps in health and wellbeing information as well as barriers to accessing information

3.3 Advocating to increase the availability and accessibility of gender-sensitive information

3.4 Working in ways that will assist women to build their own capacity to seek and access the information necessary to support informed health choices. Our approach may involve direct engagement with capacity building initiatives in order to demonstrate innovation and useful practice transferable into other health and community settings.



5. For Key Area 4 (Prevention of Violence Against Women) is the focus of work still relevant for the next four years? Is there anything else that should be considered?

WCHM work will focus on collecting and collating local data, experiences and research to inform service responses to women experiencing violence; using that evidence to inform advocacy initiatives and policy input; changing community attitudes by working on the underlying causes which can lead to violence; and informing initiatives which work with the population as a whole.



6. Over the period of the current Strategic Plan, WCHM identified and addressed the following priority areas to build its organisational capacity to deliver on the Plan, and to build its credibility and reputation whilst making a difference to the health and wellbeing of women living in the ACT:

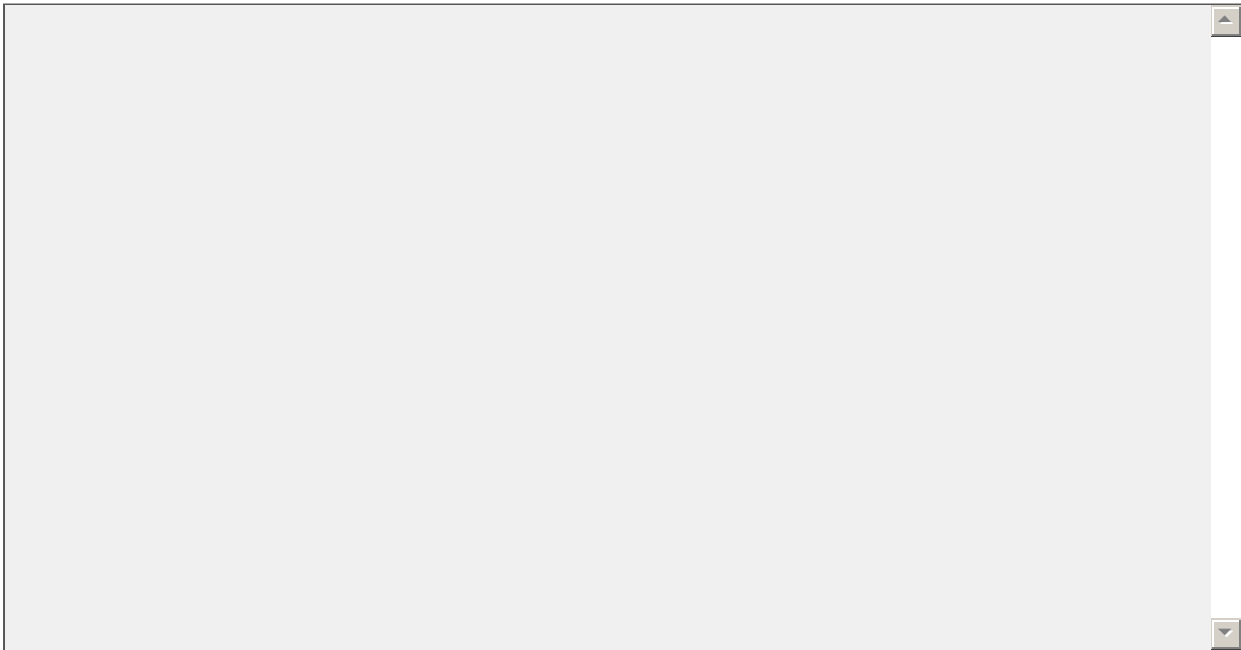
§ approach to membership;

§ ways of working with key stakeholders and partners;

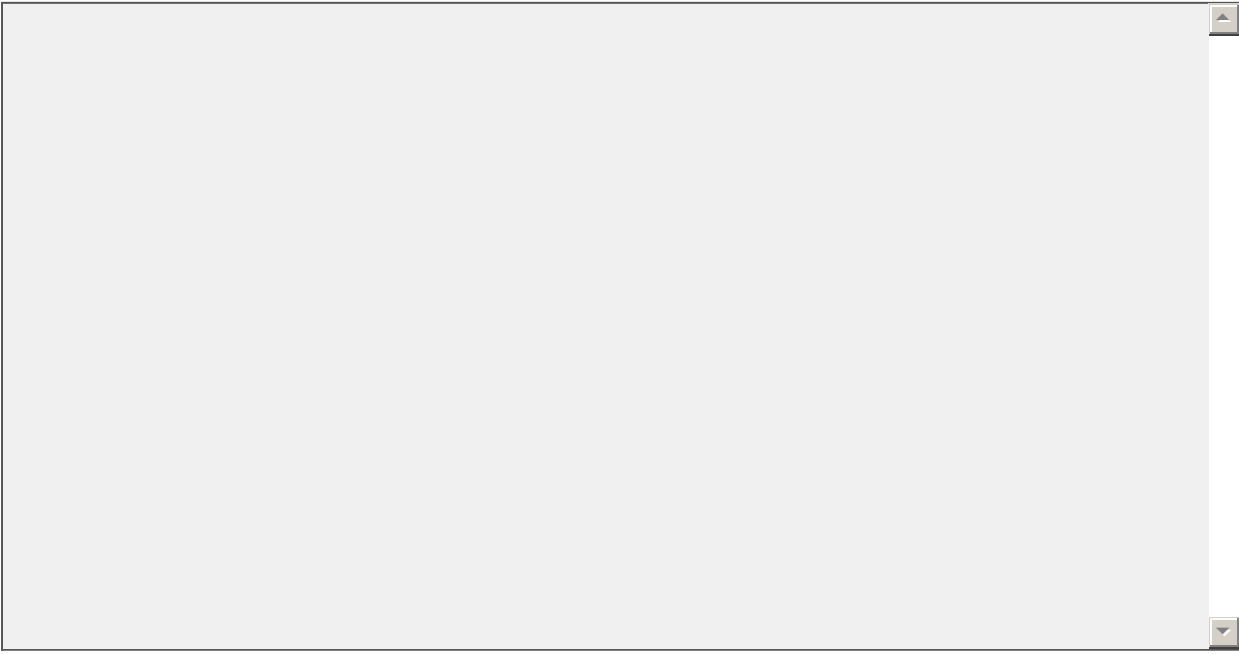
§ workforce competencies;

§ approach to good governance.

Do you have ideas for the priority areas that WCHM should focus on to develop its Organisational Capacity Building over the next 4 years?



7. Do you have any other comments or suggestions you would like to make?

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Thank you for considering the questions and providing your input.

