Community Ideas to Prevent Youth Sexual Violence and Abuse



Partnered with QLD Department of Justice and Attorney-General



Undoubtedly, youth sexual violence and abuse (YSVA) is a long-standing problem in Australia. Between 2014 and 2019, young people under the age of 18 years made up 63% of the sexual assault victims recorded by police in Australia. There is much to be done to make our communities a safer place for young people.

The Office for Women and Violence Prevention in the Department of Justice and Attorney-General (DJAG) funded two place-based projects in Toowoomba and Bundaberg. In 2021, Social Marketing @ Griffith led the community co-design, informing Community Action Plans to prevent YSVA. Our team worked with over 600 young people, parents, carers and representatives from government and non-government stakeholders across Toowoomba and Bundaberg. People came together to co-design local strategies to address YSVA. We learned what people think about current programs, the sort of experiences those seeking help have had, and the many ideas that members of communities want to see implemented. These ideas have now been collated into two reports. Information in the reports prepared by our teams informs the development of DJAG's Toowoomba and Bundaberg Community Action Plans to prevent YSVA.

Preventing YSVA in our communities is a shared responsibility. Ideas expressed in these reports may be used by any interested party to build business cases, apply for grants and other philanthropic funding to initiate activities. You can partner with our team to create pilot programs, improve program delivery and more. Together, we can co-create a better future for all.

Toowoomba Community Ideas Report

The nine key ideas expressed in the report were endorsed by the Young Voices United Committee, an advisory group established to ensure young people played a leading role in the co-design process.

Click here to read the full report.



Bundaberg Community Ideas Report

Key ideas expressed in the report are a result of consensus processes involving young people and other interested parties in Bundaberg.

Click here to read the full report.