

Multicultural and settlement services supporting women experiencing violence (MuSeS)

The Multicultural and Settlement services Supporting women experiencing violence project (MuSeS) aimed to address research gaps in understanding the barriers and challenges relating to current practices of workers and volunteers from settlement and multicultural services in working with migrant and refugee women experiencing violence.

The project used a mixed methods design that included a literature review, surveys, and in-depth interviews

Key recommendations include:

- Recognise multicultural and settlement services as an integral part of the family violence system.
- Build the bilingual/bicultural workforce within the family violence sector.
- Within multicultural and settlement services, embed protocols for risk assessment, ensure training for staff and volunteers, and address stress and staff turnover.
- Strengthen collaboration between the family violence sector and the multicultural and settlement services sector.

A practice studio in which a DFV service partners with settlement and multicultural services to develop and deliver training to each other and work to establish shared risk assessment frameworks and referral protocols could be developed in response to these recommendations. This practice studio would require partnerships or collaborative working relationships between a DFV service as the host and settlement and/or multicultural services. As such, organisations seeking to nominate to host this practice studio should be able to demonstrate their ability to work collaboratively with such services.

Further reading:

[Multicultural and Settlement services Supporting women experiencing violence Key findings and future directions](#)

[What we know: how multicultural and settlement services support women experiencing violence Factsheet](#)