

[View this email in your browser](#)



## **2018-2019 Annual Report to Members**

### **Activities during the year**

#### **Reports from Members**

**As in the past, we asked members to let us know about their activities in Family Safety during the year. This serves two purposes – in the first place, we wish to share ideas, concepts and models throughout the Group to stimulate new projects and show what can be done. Secondly, each year in September we report to R.I. and on the basis of the report R.I. decides if the group will continue. There is turnover every year, and not all groups remain accredited.**

**We received reports from 4 districts in two countries, out of the more than 40 countries where we are represented. We know there are more projects happening. Please tell us about them and allow us to share your success - or your learnings, if**

**things did not turn out as expected. That can be useful to share with any members who have a similar idea but do not know of your experience. (It can be done quietly, not necessarily in these reports).**

## **Education Project in California**

**By the Rotary Club of Sebastopol**

**A District Grant (5130) was obtained to begin implementation of a Social Emotional Learning Program (SEL) at the preschool level. After 3 years of working with Domestic Violence Awareness Agencies in our area to educate club members and the general public about what Domestic Violence is and the stories of survivors, our committee has turned its attention to prevention through education of our youngest citizens. We believe that effective SEL programs in schools and in communities will be the way forward in eliminating abusive behaviours of all kinds, including domestic violence and sexual assault. You can read more about this program at [this link](#) .**

**By teaching 150 children and 250 parents techniques for calm behaviour and non-violent resolution of conflict we can raise a generation who will be less quick to resort to violence, more aware of the needs of others, more respectful to others and more resilient when they experience violence against themselves. This program is one of a group of programs in education that we are evaluating via pilots to see which can be offered more widely - i.e. in countries where such**

**programs do not yet exist. This program is an example of our Strategic Initiative for Building Safer Communities.**

**This program started in the last Rotary year will begin showing its results in the current year.**

**Other Family Safety activities run by this Club :**

- **We provided funding for a local high school for a one day workshop for the athletes and their coaches on gender equality, compassion, and resiliency. From all accounts, the athletes were very motivated to monitor their behaviors on and off campus.**
- **We are still handing out the posters educating the public and announcing the crisis hot line number. These posters are posted in business work rooms, public bathrooms, bulletin boards and front windows.**
- **Our members continue to give Rotary talks to clubs in our District. The emphasis is always on what one thing can your club do to help prevent domestic violence and all types of abusive behaviors in your community.**
- **presentation at a regional rotary conference with that emphasis**

### **Healing the Hurt Project in Victoria, Australia**

**Led by Pam Brown, Psychologist and a Member of the RAG, who leads our Therapy initiatives.**

**This is the third in a series of trainings she has organised. This one had a special focus.**

**This training focussed on Treating Sexual Abuse perpetrated by Clergy, Professionals and those in Fiduciary Roles (Day 1) Using EMDR Therapy with Complex PTSD and Dissociation (Day 2) and Adapting EMDR Theory for different clinical populations (Day 3)**

**The Trainer, Dr Derek Farrell, is involved in a number of Humanitarian Trauma Capacity Building programmes in Asia, Europe and the Middle East; Derek is currently developing capacity in Iraq working with the Free Yezidi Foundation and the Jiyan Foundation for Torture and Human Rights. His PhD in Psychology was researching survivors' experiences of sexual abuse perpetrated by clergy and consequently he has written several publications on this subject matter over 20 years. (More detail in the flyer below).**

**The project trained 56 experienced practitioners in these specialised protocols to upskill them and help them to deal with the many survivors coming forward as a result of the Royal Commission and the jailing of the senior Catholic Archbishop in Australia as a further result. These practitioners will be able to treat many more survivors appropriately as a result of this training.**

**The curriculum was as shown on the flyer reproduced below:**

## TREATING SEXUAL ABUSE PERPETRATED BY CLERGY, PROFESSIONALS AND THOSE IN FIDUCIARY ROLES

USING THE AIP FOR COMPLEX TRAUMA & DISSOCIATION

EMDR Advanced Training  
with Dr Derek Farrell

7-9 June 2019 | 9:00am - 4:30pm

PARKROYAL Melbourne Airport  
Arrival Drive

Hotel bookings may be made separately by contacting the hotel directly on (03) 8347 2027. Quote code #1135725 for conference rate.



REGISTRATION:

All three days: \$500  
Any two days: \$400  
Any single day: \$250

TRYBOOKING CODE: BBIYC

*Dr Derek Farrell is a Principal Lecturer in Psychology and convener of the MSc EMDR Degree at the University of Worcester (UK). He is an EMDR Therapy Europe Accredited Trainer and Consultant and an Accredited Psychotherapist with the British Association of Cognitive & Behavioural Psychotherapies (BABCP). Derek has held many positions including President of the EMDR UK & Ireland Board and President of Trauma Aid Europe. He is involved in a number of Humanitarian Trauma Capacity Building programmes in Asia, Europe and the Middle East; Derek is currently developing capacity in Iraq working with the Free Yezidi Foundation and the Jiyan Foundation for Torture and Human Rights. His PhD in Psychology was researching survivor's experiences of sexual abuse perpetrated by clergy and consequently he has written several publications on this subject matter over 20 years.*

FRIDAY 7 JUNE: TREATING SEXUAL ABUSE PERPETRATED BY CLERGY & THOSE IN FIDUCIARY ROLES

Sexual abuse perpetrated by those in fiduciary positions (professionals entrusted with guiding and care-taking roles) breach legal and ethical relationships of trust. This workshop will feature treatment for clergy abuse while also considering the prevalence and treatment needs related to abuse by other authority figures. Distinctive forms of sexual traumatology generate unique trauma characteristics not accounted for by existing PTSD classifications (DSM5/ICD11). The breach of a fiduciary relationship has significant implications often generating persistent symptoms in areas of safety, trust, secrecy, shame, alienation and moral injury. Trauma focused psychological treatment is critical.

This workshop will use the Adaptive Information Processing (AIP) model which is the basis of EMDR Therapy to explore six considerations:

1. Psychoeducation	4. Intensive Trauma Treatment
2. Trauma Stabilisation	5. EMDR Group Interventions
3. Trauma Confrontation	6. Post-traumatic Growth and Resilience

SATURDAY 8 JUNE: USING EMDR THERAPY WITH COMPLEX PTSD AND DISSOCIATION

1. Complex PTSD and personality disorders
2. Dealing with abreactions tailored to needs of client
3. Cognitive interweaves
4. Using intensive therapy

SUNDAY 9 JUNE: ADAPTIONS TO THE EMDR PROTOCOL

- EMDr Restricted Processing
- Blind to Therapist
- Flash-forward
- OCD, Panic Disorders, Phobias
- Adapting EMDR Therapy for different clinical populations

**THIS WORKSHOP IS ORGANISED BY THE ROTARIAN ACTION GROUP FOR FAMILY SAFETY INC. AN AUSTRALIAN REGISTERED CHARITY ACTIVE GLOBALLY. ANY PROFIT WILL GO TO THE "HEALING THE HURT" PROGRAM - TEACHING THERAPISTS TO TREAT TRAUMA BY FUNDING PROJECTS WHICH HELP INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES HEAL FROM VIOLENCE AND EXPOSURE TO TRAUMA WITH EVIDENCE BASED TREATMENTS.**



## Survivor Relief Project in Louisiana, USA

Rotary Club of Mid City New Orleans

**As in previous years, members organised a cocktail event for International Women's Day, where the participants packed basic clothing and toiletries, together with notes of encouragement to donate to survivors via the New Orleans Family Justice Center. 250 packs were completed during the event.**

## **Champions of Change Project Victoria Australia**

**Rotary Clubs of Maryborough, Portland, Portland Bay and Horsham**

**The Rotary Club of Maryborough launched a "Champions of Change" project in February 2019. The purpose of this project is to introduce the issues of gender equity within our businesses (starting with Rotarians) and agencies (i.e. government and NGOs in the area(s) so that we have long term cultural change. Over 40 local business and agencies attended the launch, and are working with the Clubs involved to have this project operational by November this year. The Portland Rotary Club and the Horsham Rotary Club have also driven the introduction of the project within their communities. These three medium size towns are points in a triangle covering 165 X 218 X 286 kilometres enclosing a significant part of the State of Victoria.**

**Local agencies are involved as follows (example from Portland Clubs):**

**"SayNO2FamilyViolenceGlenelgShire is a Project that is Managed by the Rotary Clubs of Portland and Portland Bay, in Partnerships with The Glenelg Shire, Portland District Health, Portland Aluminium, LLEN (Education Dept.) and Victoria Police. Our Local Community is no different from any other Local Community around the World, Family Violence is a Global Problem everywhere. Our SayNO2FamilyViolenceGlenelgShire Team believes that focusing on our Local**

**Community will make a measurable difference for our Local people's lives. Family Violence is an Ancient Problem that exists in our local community, we are committed to helping our Community's ongoing stand against Family Violence.**

**Our SayNO2FamilyViolence GlenelgShire Project has identified, over a 2 year period, a need to inform our Local Community of the reality of Family Violence, and through continuous messaging, educate them of the availability of Local Services that can help Victims to work towards positive outcomes. Links to our SayNO2 message through Signage, Websites, Forums, Business connections, Sporting events etc.etc. are designed to keep our Local Community linked to these Local Services. Our SayNO2 Team has been together for 2 years now and have built up a wealth of Local knowledge and made many important Local contacts through our Partnerships with the Glenelg Shire, Portland District Health, Victoria Police etc.etc. This access has enabled us to connect and develop relationships that are consistent with our Core Values of Messaging and making recommendations that help to coordinate, raise awareness of and advocate best practice strategies for reducing the harm of Family Violence. Our SayNO2FamilyViolenceGlenelgShire Team has declared Family Violence UNACCEPTABLE. "**

**We are looking for durable change in attitudes in businesses and agencies to respect people as individuals and overcome stereotypes, leading to better behaviour in workplaces.**

**RAG members have brought the 3 Clubs together to cooperate on the project. It is one of a number of projects that will be 'packaged up' in our next Strategic Plan as models for customising in other parts of the world, as part of our 'Building Safer Communities' initiative.**

**Other Family Safety projects run by RC Maryborough during the year included:**

- a Legal Forum attended by over 100 people and in which other members from Rotary Club of Melbourne participated, along with GoGoldfields (Community coordinating body), the Loddon Campaspe Legal Service , The Centre for Non-Violence and ARC Ventures.
- Our Maryborough District Health Service has established a Governance Board as part of its “Hospitals Response to Family Violence”. We have a seat at the “table” along with Vicpol, GoGoldfields, Centre for nonviolence, service providers and MDHS staff. Our Health service is the only service in Victoria that has this program and at the recent Victorian Community Health Awards received the Secretary’s Special Commendation for its work in this field. We have also seen the appointment of two family violence support workers through CNV, who are located at the Hospital and also do work at our Children’s centre and the Police station. In addition we have seen the “Tipping the Scales” project continue to provide legal support to victims of family violence and as recently as this month, have seen the appointment of an additional two support workers who will be located in Maryborough. These are great achievements in which our Project has played a major role. These services and programs didn’t exist a couple of years ago and through collaboration with other groups in our community, we will continue to make a major contribution to improving local services to women and children victims of family violence.
- Your RAG Board Member Garry Higgins has also been appointed the second Chair of the “Committee for Maryborough” that was established in 2018 with a grant of \$50,000 from the State Government to “make a positive impact on the economic and social well-being of the region”, responding to challenges around economic development and community resilience. (Interviews with key individuals and agencies in Maryborough are available in the Resources section of the RAG’s website).

## **"Rotary Safe Families" 'bystander' training Project, Victoria Australia**

### **Rotary Club of Melbourne**

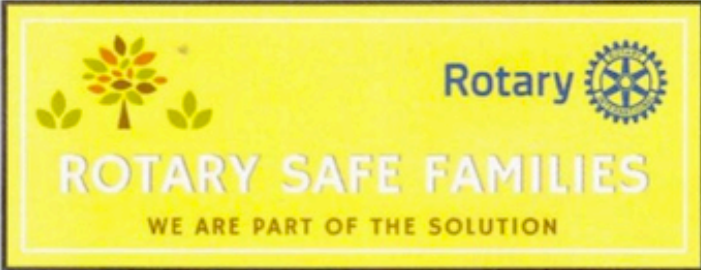
**RAG members participated in the trial trainings for this ambitious project, which we have supported since inception, and which we intend to make available widely through the RAG’s network. There are two components to the training: a module on**




**general abuse of children and women and how to respond safely to suspected abuse and disparaging conversations, and a module on Elder Abuse, which is also a growing problem with the aging of the population.**

**The training is delivered over two 2 hour sessions and backed up by a resource booklet which lists locally relevant resources for Rotarians and Survivors. We hope that RAG members will undertake the task of customising the contents (if necessary) to local cultural norms, and also editing the Directory of local contacts.**

**This flyer**



**Rotary** 

**ROTARY SAFE FAMILIES**

WE ARE PART OF THE SOLUTION

**What would YOU do if your elderly neighbour was being intimidated by his/her family?**

**Rotary Safe Families** is a program that will assist Rotarians to be “part of the solution” and to spread “NO” to Family Violence across your community, your Club, and throughout Australian Rotary. It covers different aspects of family violence and addresses a number of questions raised by Rotarians including:

- What constitutes Family Violence?
- How can Rotarians be “part of the solution”?
- What can I do?


**Rotary Safe Families involves:**

- “empowering” YOU to be “part of the solution” in the prevention of family violence;
- “skilling” YOU and your Club members to understand that violence is NOT just physical, can happen in **any** family, **any** street and **any** community;
- “informing” and providing YOU with the skills and confidence to safely “call it out”!
- “giving” you access to appropriate support agencies and referral.

**How does Rotary Safe Families achieve this?**


Two interactive workshops with case study discussion, group work and professional presenter;

- Workshop 1: Overview of Family Violence in Australia; Family Violence Women & Impact Children.
- Workshop 2: Elder Abuse
- Education to dispel the myths about violence and the many ways violence can impact on women, children, teenagers, males, elderly, siblings, step-families, in-laws;
- Manual, Toolkit, Wallet Card, Badge;
- Referral and support via agencies and organisations.



Rotary Safe Families provides the “**tool kit**” for YOU to be skilled to undertake that “sensitive” conversation with someone at risk!

Rotary Safe Families informs YOU not only about family violence but the impact of family violence on Children and the covert under-reported abuse of the elderly. Why not invite your friend, family member to be part of Rotary Safe Families? This can be your Club’s initiative!




If you are interested and would like your Club to be “**part of the solution**” to stamp out family violence, contact: **Dorothy Gilmour** – Rotary Melbourne - [gilmour.dorothy@gmail.com](mailto:gilmour.dorothy@gmail.com)

**gives an outline of the program as launched at the Victorian Multi-District Conference in February 2019.**

**A further Healing the Hurt project, under the banner of “Child Trauma Relief” was run by Pam Brown for the Rotary Club of Melbourne in December 2018. At this training 18 metropolitan specialists of the Foundation for Survivors of Torture, whose main client group is comprised of refugees who have come to Victoria, were given training in advanced therapies to deal with complex PTSD. Derek Farrell (see first project above) was again the trainer. Here is the explanatory flyer for this program, also shared at the district conference:**

**THIS IS A ROTARY 100 CENTENARY INITIATIVE**



# CHILD TRAUMA RELIEF


**How Does a Child Become Traumatized?**

Psychological Abuse Physical Abuse Sexual Abuse Emotional Neglect Physical Neglect	Loss of a Parent (any form of loss) Mother treated Violently Substance Abuse Mental illness Criminal behaviour in home
--	--

**What is the Impact of Trauma on Children?**


Children who live with family violence and trauma develop the symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) which interferes with their ability to concentrate, learn, and develop good social skills. Adults who have been exposed to long term toxic stress in childhood are:

- Four times more likely to develop depression
- Twelve times more likely to attempt suicide
- Four times more likely to develop heart disease
- More likely to become the perpetrators, as well as victims, of family violence



Through the Rotary Connects process, the Rotary Melbourne Family Violence Working Group is developing a model where Rotary Clubs sponsor professional training in trauma treatment for therapists living and working in their own community. The gift of education has shown to be the most effective use of charitable funds. Once trained, therapists use these skills to work with trauma from other natural or manmade disasters.

**An Example of What YOU and Your Rotary Club Can Do?**



In 2017, the Rotary Club of Melbourne organised the training of 33 therapists (psychologists, social workers and counsellors) from 12 different not-for-profit agencies in Victoria, how to use EMDR Therapy (recommended by the World Health Organisation as successful) with children. Rotary provided the funding for academic training of therapists. Evaluation of the project showed the therapists valued their training and reported significant outcomes with their young patients. This project is

Endorsed by the Rotarian Action Group for Family Safety Inc.

**For Further Information how YOU and YOUR Club can be involved in this initiative:**

- Pamela Brown – 0408 998 749
- Norman Taralrud-Bay – ragfamsafe@gmail.com

## Member Engagement

	<b>June 2018</b>	<b>June 2019</b>
<b>Number of members</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>346</b>

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

members to think about how the RAG should operate by surveying them. We had an above-average response to that campaign, which has led to the formation of a number of Basecamp teams to develop project models for provision to Clubs and Districts.

Enquiries from Clubs have been mostly very basic, such as 'we would like to know what to do?'. So we provide ideas for how to work with their community to see where it is at and how to move forward. 10 Clubs reached out to us. We need to spread our net wider!

We have also circulated all incoming DGs to inform them about our RAG and RAGs in general - there is a lack of knowledge! (One DGE commented that we were the only RAG to write to him - is this possible?).

We plan to circulate strategic news about our programs on a quarterly basis to all DGs. From this campaign we are now able to work directly with another 6 Districts in helping them develop a program in our area.

We have also been able to source financial help for a project between two districts, where we were aware of Clubs with an interest in East Timor, and secured a 'matching contribution' of \$2,500 from a second Club to support a project of a Club that had run out of budget. This is something Members should consider. It is good to do a single Club project, but if the impact can be significant, but the budget is lacking, do not hesitate to ask us to seek further support for your project.

## Partnerships

**From our attendance at Conventions and Conferences – especially the Peace**

**Conferences – we have become aware of affiliated organisations working in the area of Peace, and we have started engaging with them.**

**As noted in the Global Networking Group presentations at the Hamburg R.I. Convention, the process of consulting a community and developing trust with other stakeholders can take up to 2 years.**

**Two organisations in particular have very complementary activities, in our opinion: The Institute for Economics and Peace ( [www.economicsandpeace.org](http://www.economicsandpeace.org)) and the Mediators Beyond Borders International ( [www.mediatorsbeyondborders.org](http://www.mediatorsbeyondborders.org) ). Both organisations are Service Partners of R.I. and have many Rotarians in their organisations. Each of them has programs to build leadership in troubled communities, and we believe there is a lot we can do together.**

**Beyond the Rotary family, we have also been building a relationship with the Geneva-based Global Initiative for Stress and Trauma Treatment ( [www.gist-t.org](http://www.gist-t.org) ) and Graines de Paix ( [www.grainesdepaix.org](http://www.grainesdepaix.org) ), an organisation that has developed a French language curriculum for teaching non-violent resolution of conflict in schools. They seek to develop English and Arabic versions of their curriculum to extend their reach to more countries.**

**In local communities Rotary Clubs where our members are active are building deep and constructive relationships for Family Safety and this trend should only intensify as we become more connected.**

**We have also promoted to Districts worldwide the [Everywoman Treaty](#) organisation, with whom we will share a booth at the California Peace Conference in January 2020, where we have been invited to present a Breakout session – see separate news item shortly.**

**If you are aware of other potential strategic partners for the RAG, please contact us.**

## **Organisation and Finance**

**With more engagement with new Clubs and Districts occurring, we do need to increase the number of Members taking an active part in responding to inquiries.**

**As a first step, we asked Members for an expression of their experience and expertise in Family Safety. From this enquiry and the Strategic Survey we have been able to group Members in Teams on Basecamp ([www.basecamp.com](http://www.basecamp.com)) to provide a private space for discussion and development of ideas. We hope that these teams will be able to assist the Board Members with their experience, particularly in countries where we do not have a Board Member.**

**Our largest country memberships continue to be in Australia and the USA, followed by the Philippines, Nigeria and Canada. Membership grew to 346 during the year.**

**We are aware of 6 Peace Fellows among our members, but only one Interactor and no Rotaractors. We may need to ask you for this information retro-actively, as we did not capture it in our early forms.**

**We are weak in Europe, and it was most unfortunate we were at the last minute denied occupation of our booth in Hamburg and could not recruit some more European Rotarians. Please put up your hand to join the Board so that your country can have a voice.**

**We opened subscriptions this year, but continue to accept members onto our mailing lists without payment. Our expenses at present are modest, as we are not directly financing projects but assisting Clubs to do so. To date only a small minority are supporting the RAG financially, meaning that Board Members are paying most of the expenses – which are all essential items like the website and Mailchimp facilities. We would welcome your financial support to spread the load**



**more evenly.**

**During the year R.I. opened membership of RAGs to Clubs and Districts. Please consider if your Club or District could also help us with a small administrative donation by becoming a member. We would suggest \$100 to \$250 per annum as a suitable amount. Please see the attached [Financial Accounts](#) for more detailed information.**

## **Board Changes**

**During the year we farewelled Helaine Campbell from California and welcomed Garry Higgins from the pioneering Maryborough club. We are in discussion with a representative from Bangladesh, and as noted above, we would like all continents to be represented on the Board.**

**Yours in Rotary**

**Norman Taralrud-Bay**

**Chair**

---





---

*Copyright © 2019 Rotarian Action Group for Family Safety Inc, All rights reserved.*

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).