2024-2025

Annual Report

CASA CENTRE AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT CENTRAL VICTORIA

Acknowledgment Of Country

We acknowledge that the Centre Against Sexual Assault Victoria is on Dja Dja Wurrung Country; with CASACV delivering services across Central Victoria on lands belonging to the Traditional Owners of Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung, Yorta Yorta and Wurundjeri peoples.

We pay our respects to leaders and Elders past, present and emerging for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture, and the hopes of all. We acknowledge the strength and resilience of all Aboriginal people, their strong living culture, and the unique role they play in the life of this region. We are sorry for the ongoing impact of colonisation, and support self-determination and justice.

We express our gratitude in the sharing of this land, our sorrow for the personal, spiritual, and cultural costs of that sharing and our hope that we may walk forward together in harmony and in the spirit of healing.

Sovereignty has never been ceded. We remember that upon the land on which we stand, this was and always will be Aboriginal land.

Acknowledgement of Victim/Survivors

We acknowledge all survivors of sexual harassment, assault, and abuse, relational violence, and violence at the hands of partners, family members, trusted people and people unknown to them. We acknowledge those who have lost their lives through sexual assault and family violence. We also acknowledge the ongoing resilience, strength, and determination to not be defined by their experiences.

We extend our respect and gratitude to all the people who walk through our doors and trust us with the privilege of bearing witness to their healing and recovery.

Inclusion statement

CASACV is committed to supporting inclusion and diversity. We celebrate different abilities, sexual orientations, gender identities, ethnicity, and faith. Everyone is welcome and supported at CASACV.

Our Philosophy

Centre Against Sexual Assault Victoria (CASACV) is committed to ensuring access to equitable, supportive and timely services for all gender identities, ethnicities, race, sexual orientation, religions, ages and people with disability who are recent and past victim/survivors of sexual assault to address the individual, and often complex, impacts they experience.

CASACV is committed to advocating for change by educating and empowering the community to dispel prevailing myths and attitudes that perpetuate violence and power inequities. To work towards a safer community, CASACV will encourage and promote changes to address inequities and the abuses of power.

Sexual assault is a violation of human rights and a crime against the individual and society. While acts of sexual assault are always the responsibility of the perpetrator of the assault, it is the responsibility of the whole community to work towards the prevention of sexual violence.

Our Vision

Our vision is a community where all people live free from sexual violence and feel safe, respected and empowered.

Our Purpose

To provide high-quality, sensitive and responsive services to people who have experienced and been impacted by sexual and family violence within the Loddon region.
To design and implement evidence-based education programs and initiatives that create systemic and social change to prevent gendered violence.

Our Values

At the heart of our work is feminism, which guides our commitment to gender equality and champions the rights of children, young people and adults to live free from sexual violence and harm as a fundamental human right. Through this lens, we uphold the following values:

Message from the Chair and CEO

It is with great pleasure that we present the 2025 Annual Report for CASACV. The past year has been one of growth, consolidation, and achievement—marked by high-quality program delivery, strengthened community engagement, and significant organisational review and development.

As a specialist sexual assault service, we are deeply concerned about the impact of cyber abuse, the rise of the online manosphere, the pervasive influence of pornography, increasing reports of sexual exploitation, and the alarming reports of institutional abuse within childcare settings and schools. We continue to support the community to understand and manage these issues, and actively support the safety, wellbeing, and development of children and young people in this ever-changing context. With sexual offences being the highest rate recorded in thirty years our ongoing priority is to ensure that all our programs are robust, trauma and violence informed, and responsive to the changing nature of online and offline sexual abuse and violence.

A key milestone for CASACV in 2024–2025 was the introduction of our new Strategic Plan, a transformative and forward-looking framework that articulates a clear and cohesive vision for the future—one that embraces inclusive support and practice, fosters impactful partnerships, and elevates the voices of lived experience as central to everything we do. The plan was developed through extensive consultation with survivors, stakeholders, staff, and Board. It reflects both ambition and compassion, ensuring responsiveness, and continuous improvement remain at the forefront of our work. CASACV is committed to bringing the Strategic Plan to life through collaboration to ensure service accessibility, advocacy and engagement, as well as exploring innovative approaches for our services in Central Victoria.

Through the development and implementation of our new Enterprise Agreement, we have reinforced our commitment to accountability and fairness—ensuring that our staff are supported, empowered, and equipped to deliver accessible, client-focused services of the highest standard. CASACV remains committed to being an employer of choice that values people, purpose, and equity. Our workplace culture is grounded in integrity, respect, and transparency.

Our programs and service delivered a range of counselling, support and information to over 1200 children, young people, adults and professionals across the Central Victorian region. Our services receive positive feedback and make a real difference in people's lives. As our waiting lists for service reduced

we adjusted our eligibility so more people impacted by sexual violence can access our services. Our Refocus program was again not funded to keep up with demand, and we continue to highlight, to funders and policy makers, the worrying growth of harmful sexual behaviours within the regional, state and national context.

Throughout the year, our community education and prevention initiatives reached a wide range of audiences across central Victoria, including schools, community organisations, and professional networks. CASACV remains committed to raising awareness, promoting prevention, and strengthening the capacity of communities to recognise and respond to sexual violence. Through our consent projects, events, education and group work we seek to empower young people to engage in meaningful conversations about consent, relationships, and personal safety, above all challenging societal attitudes that normalise or minimise sexual violence.

We thank the CASACV Board for their commitment and vision in guiding the organisation. This year we were pleased to welcome two new members to the CASACV Board, Kevin Shanks and Liz Wright, whose combined experience and expertise will further strengthen the governance and strategic oversight required to maintain the vision, growth and quality of the organisation.

We acknowledge our exceptional staff, whose dedication, professionalism, and compassion remain the foundation of CASACV success. Their unwavering commitment ensures that our community engagement and work with clients is met with care, dignity, and respect. It is an honour to work alongside such a skilled and values-driven team whose work continues to transform lives and strengthen our communities.

Finally, we thank all the people who have trusted us with their recovery and their hopes for the future, your resilience reminds us why this work is so important.

Sonya Oper
Chairperson

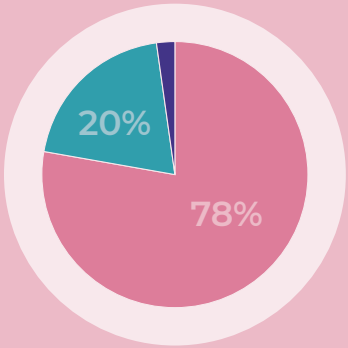
Kate Wright
Chief Executive Officer

Our Impact

PEOPLE

Adults, young people and children who accessed specialist counselling and support services with CASACV. People may have accessed more than one episode of care with CASACV. An example being someone who has been recently sexually assaulted receiving a crisis care response and then ongoing support and counselling.

Who is accessing CASACV

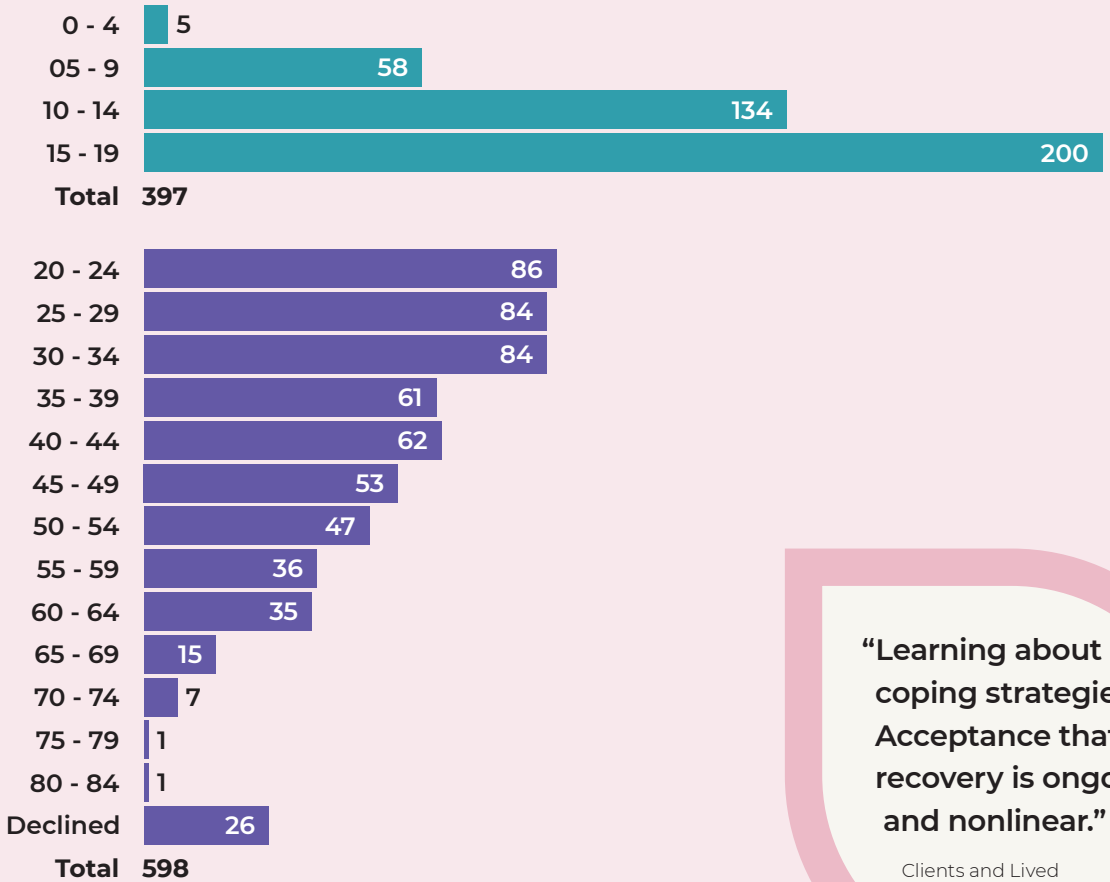


777	Female
198	Male
20	Gender diverse, prefer not to define
995	**Total**

14% Aboriginal/ Torres Strait Islander

1.5 % People needing language support

Age of Clients



> "Learning about coping strategies. Acceptance that recovery is ongoing and nonlinear."
>
> Clients and Lived Experience Feedback

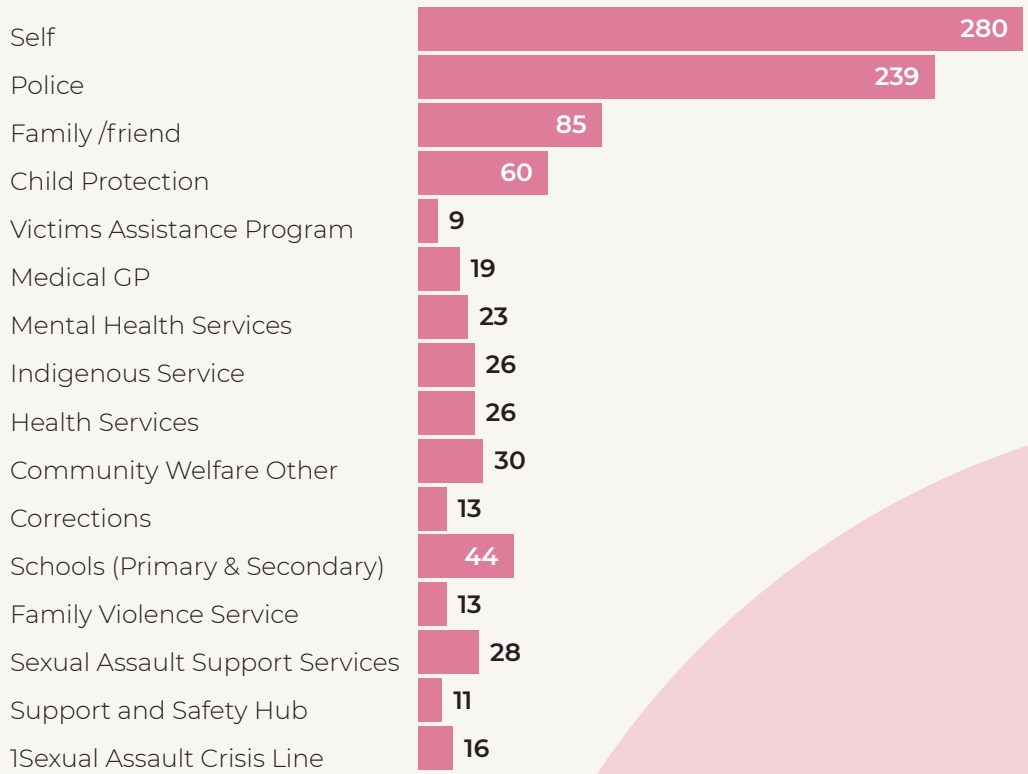
Our Impact

> **"Not my shame, not my blame, I will not shrink, I will shine."**
>
> Clients and Lived Experience Feedback

REFERRAL SOURCES

As in previous years, the main sources of referrals continue to be self-referrals, police, and family or friends. A concern for CASACV is the low number of referrals from primary and secondary schools, GPs, Victim Assistance Programs, and Family Service organisations. We know that children, young people, and adults disclose abuse and sexual violence in a variety of settings, and we would like to see higher referral rates from these key services.

Main referral sources for sexual assault and family violence counselling:



Our Impact

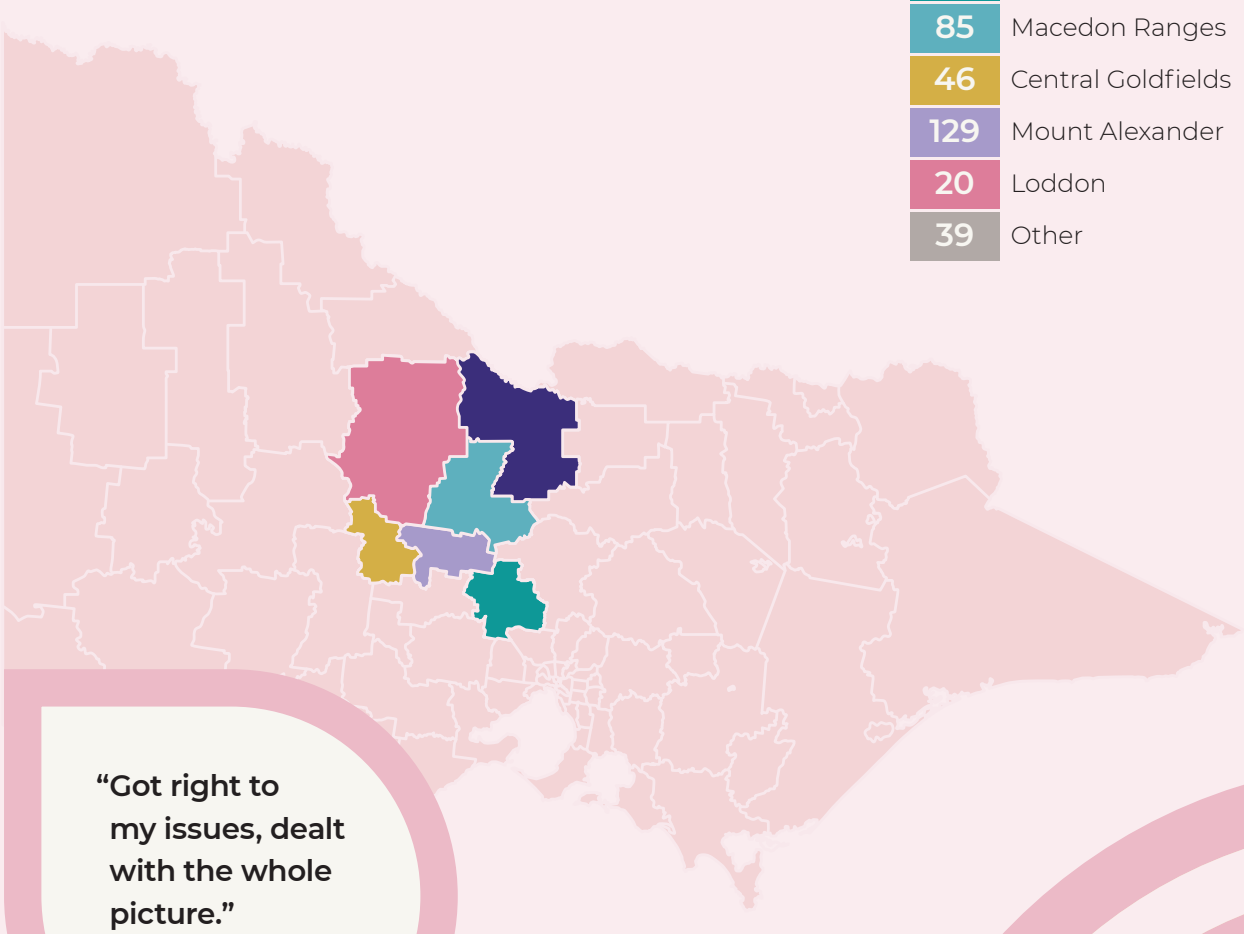
THERAPEUTIC SUPPORT AND COUNSELLING PROGRAMS

Sexual Assault Support Service	850
Better Pathways (Tarrengower)	68
Refocus	111
Safe Thriving and Connected (Family Violence)	50
Groupwork	10
TOTAL	**1,079**

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS

CASACV's main office is in Bendigo, and we also provide services in Echuca, Marybourough, Kyneton, Kyabram and Tarrengower Prison.

562	Greater Bendigo
114	Campaspe
85	Macedon Ranges
46	Central Goldfields
129	Mount Alexander
20	Loddon
39	Other



"Got right to my issues, dealt with the whole picture."

Clients and Lived Experience Feedback

Our Impact

SUPPORT, COUNSELLING AND ADVOCACY

Service Hours

Over the past year CASACV provided **over 19,000** service activities to as part of our direct service response for, and with, clients. These services activities include counselling, report writing for court, brokerage support, advocacy, specialist information provision and consultation with other services.

Crisis Response

The after-hour crisis response is for children, young people and adults (of all genders) who have experienced a recent (within 72 hours) sexual assault. CASACV provides support and assists the person to navigate and understand the legal options and medical support, including forensic medical examinations, when seeking support for a recent sexual assault.

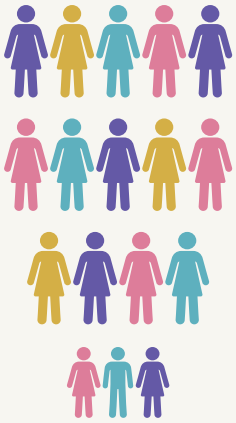
Specialist Information, Advice and Guidance

CASACV provided specialist advice, guidance and information to other professionals and community members regarding sexual violence, statutory requirements, a response to something they witnessed or experienced and service information.

CASACV provided crisis response to

14
Women

3
Children



307
contacts

898
hours of specialist support provided to stakeholders.

An example of call received by CASACV

A Principal or School educator call to complete a de-identified consult regarding a sexual abuse disclosure by a student at school and requesting support on what the next steps should be. Discussion with CASACV outlines and confirms responsibility to report to Child Protection and SOCIT to ensure adequate safety for child/children involved. This occurs frequently relating to sexual abuse by adults in their lives, or harmful sexual behaviours being used on them by other students or young people.

Our Impact

REFERRAL REASONS

The data indicates that individual's access CASACV services for a wide range of reasons related to sexual assault and abuse, including both recent and historical experiences.

The main reasons people accessed CASACV services:

384 for sexual assaults that occurred over 12 months ago

113 for recent disclosure of childhood sexual assault

172 for sexual assaults that occurred within the last 12 months

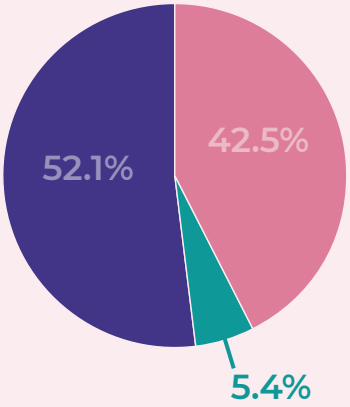
139 for sexual assault in the last 14 days

113 for sexually abusive or harmful sexual behaviour (under 18 years of age)

Other referrals were received for issues such as concerning online behaviour or communication, witnessing sexual abuse, or seeking support following a family member's experience of sexual assault or violence.

WHO IS PERPETRATING SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND ABUSE

CASACV collects information regarding the perpetrator of the sexual assault. The data has highlighted over many years that between 50 – 60 percent of sexual harm and violence is perpetrated by a family member or partner (or ex partner). Over 40 percent of sexual violence is penetrated by someone known to the victim/survivor and a small proportion by a stranger or unknown person.



426 are family members, partner or ex partner

347 are known but not related – friend, acquaintance, neighbour, teacher, health worker, work colleague

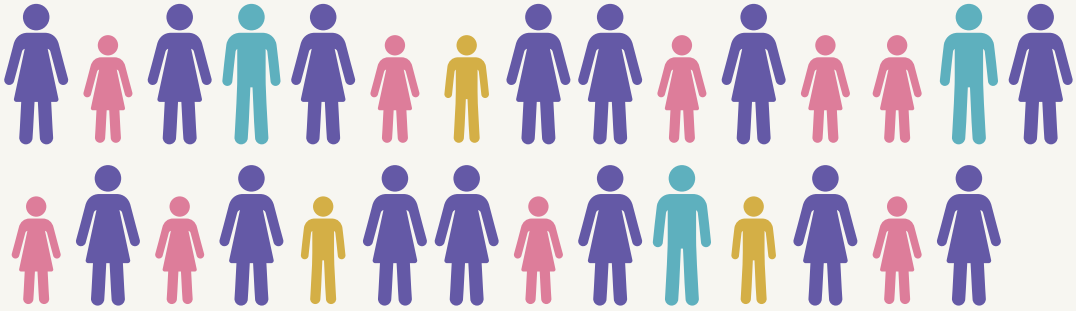
44 are strangers or unknown

Our Impact

LEGAL ADVOCACY AND SUPPORT

CASACV supports people with legal reports and support in relation to legal requests for client files, victims of crime compensation reports and subpoenas for confidential counselling records in relation to criminal and family court matters.

29 people supported



BROKERAGE APPLICATIONS

CASACV supported 361 people with brokerage grants for therapeutic supports and resources, transport costs, material needs including bills and food vouchers, safety items and learning and education supports.

"I was very nervous about my first appointment at CASACV but from the minute I walked in the door at CASACV the lovely ladies at reception made me feel calm, safe and welcome."

Clients and Lived Experience Feedback

Community Engagement and Education

EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY

CASACV has three regular training or information modules delivered, for community and professionals, throughout the year online and face to face:

InfoBites - a free snappy 30-minute sessions that aim to provide a basic understanding of some of our most used services and sought-after information. These sessions are appropriate for workplaces, community groups, students, and anyone else who would benefit from learning a bit more about CASACV and how we work.

Aware and Respond - This program is dedicated to enhancing awareness of sexual assault, fostering an understanding of affirmative consent, and the gendered drivers of violence. Recognizing the importance of a calm and supportive response to sexual assault disclosures, our training equips participants with essential skills to respond empathetically.

Refocus Training - Our comprehensive training program on problematic and harmful sexual behaviours is designed to empower individuals, organizations, and communities with the knowledge and skills needed to identify and effectively respond to these often-confronting situations. This program addresses the nuanced nature of problematic or harmful sexual behaviours, aiming to create a safer environment through awareness, empathy, and proactive intervention.

CASACV delivered ten training and education sessions in person and online and with various organisations and services. 97 people attended one or more of these sessions.

"Firstly, the presenter was brilliant. This was the best training I have done in this area and I was blown away. The concise information with a local focus was so good. There wasn't any waffle, she spoke to her slides rather than read them, the content flowed and was logical and she was very engaging."

Training and Education Participants Feedback

Community Engagement and Education

As part of **Sexual Assault Awareness Month**, we held two events focussing on pornography with acclaimed speaker and violence prevention advocate Maree Crabbe. One session was for people working in education sessions and one for community members, parents and carers. Over 150 people attended the sessions.

CASACV also participated in community events including Latrobe University Welcome Week, Pride in the Park, NAIDOC Week and Secondary Schools Wellbeing Days providing information to over 1000 people.

From left Libby Kennaugh CASACV, Maree Crabb and Mete Hoker CASACV

"Thank you so much, such approachable and knowledgeable trainers who created a really safe space."

Training and Education Participants Feedback

"I particularly liked the face-to-face training and the opportunity to talk through things and ask questions."

Training and Education Participants Feedback

Partnerships and Projects

Alcohol and Drug Facilitated Sexual Violence: Using the World Café Method for a Multi-Stakeholder Collaborative Approach to Prevention Development. Co-authored with La Trobe Rural Health School and published in the Violence Against Women Journal.

CASACV's research partnership with La Trobe contributed to advancing the understanding of how to prevent alcohol- and drug-facilitated sexual violence. The research highlighted that meaningful progress requires shared responsibility, with organisations playing a pivotal role in fostering restorative justice and facilitating accountability as well as implementing policy and place-based initiatives. This research underscores our commitment to promoting safer communities through inclusive, systemic, and restorative/ accountability approaches to prevention.

CASACV was represented on a panel discussing the above work by Mette Hotker, Manager Research, Education and Projects.

"There were a lot of helpful tips around talking and communicating appropriately with people disclosing abuse which was really helpful! Especially when working with kids."

Training and Education Participants Feedback

Group Work - Art for the Heart

CASACV and headspace co-delivered the Art for the Heart program provides a safe and supportive space for young women (15-18 years of age) to creatively express themselves while fostering connection, self-understanding, and empowerment. Through art-making participants will have an opportunity to process emotions, gain confidence and connect with each other. The program promotes equity, inclusion, and respect, encouraging young women to embrace their individuality and celebrate their voices. Nine young women participated in this eight-week program.

Sarah Kamoen, Counsellor Advocate and Mette Hotker, Manager Research, Education and Projects presented the Art for the Heart Program at the SASVic Right to Recovery Day on the 19 February 2025.

Partnerships and Projects

The Loop Project - The project (over three phases) involved working with victim-survivors of sexual violence as lived experience experts and service providers in partnership with CASA CV and Thorne Harbour Health (THH) to improve service user feedback systems for sexual violence services.

Affirmative Consent – Karen Young People – A co design built on innovative partnerships between CASACV and the local Karen community and resettlement organisations to work together to prevent sexual assault in the Loddon region. The project raises awareness and understanding among the Karen community in the Loddon region about affirmative consent for the Karen community. This will include the development of resources that can be used beyond the life of the program and replicable in other settings.

Preventing Violence Through Sport – The project with La Trobe University and Sports Focus developed and delivered educational social marketing materials to manage the increase in incidence reporting (already occurring). The project will also address policy and processes within sports clubs as part of member protection, taking a victim centred and trauma informed approach and the building of referral pathways. CASACV provided expertise on training content and delivery, as well as connection to local specialist services.

CASACV PHD – The final article as part of the CASACV/La Trobe University Industry PhD was published **Women's Help-Seeking and Service Experiences: Sexual Revictimization in Regional and Rural Areas** published in the Violence Against Women Journal.

While literature on sexual revictimization is extensive, data on women's help-seeking and service experiences in regional/rural areas is scarce, particularly within Australia. The paper aims to fill this gap by examining the help-seeking journeys of victim/survivors of sexual revictimization in regional and rural Victoria, Australia. Using a material feminist approach, semi-structured interviews with victim/survivors (N=11) were analysed to understand the forces shaping their service experiences. The study offers policy, practice-based, and research recommendations to ensure holistic, trauma-and violence-informed responses to revictimized victim/survivors, addressing their specific needs in underserved areas.

CASACV Strategic Plan 2025-2028

Strategic Plan Launch at Mackenzie Quarters

The CASACV Strategic Plan 2025-28 is our roadmap to guide and strengthen the support and services we provide to survivors of sexual violence, while also raising community awareness about sexual violence and harm. It reflects the evolving needs of our clients, our workforce, and the wider Central Victorian community, helping us stay responsive, innovative, and impactful. Through the plan we aim to amplify the client voice, boost our advocacy efforts, and support sustainable growth. Overall, the plan reflects our ongoing commitment to continuous improvement and our dedication to making a meaningful difference in the lives of survivors.

The Plan was developed collaboratively through extensive consultations. We spoke with our workforce to gain insights from those delivering services on the front line, who are driven by a passion for fairness, justice, and professional pride. We also listened to survivors to ensure their experiences and needs sit at the heart of our strategies. Community partners and key stakeholders shared their perspectives on our work, how we operate, and how they engage with us. The CASACV Board provided governance, oversight, and strategic direction throughout the process. From all of these valuable contributions we have shaped a plan that is robust, inclusive, and focused on creating real impact for our clients, community, and partners.

The Honourable Jacinta Allan, Premier of Victoria formally launched the Plan in April 2025 and the event was attended by over 90 people.

Advocacy

Consultation with Victims of Crime Commissioner

In February 2025, CASACV welcomed the Victims of Crime Commissioner, Elizabeth Langdon for a conversation about how the Victims' Charter Act 2006. It was an opportunity to share what we've heard directly from our clients, along with examples of the challenges they face in navigating the justice system and the new Financial Assistance Scheme.

From our clients feedback we shared how important it is for the Charter to be easy to understand, inclusive, and aligned with what people need, including a clear explanation of rights, simple language, and practical guidance. We discussed how someone in a small regional town might have to drive hours just to attend a court hearing or meet with a specialist service. We also shared stories of clients who feel lost trying to navigate the justice system because they don't know where to start and can't easily access support near where they live.

Most importantly, we emphasised that these rights need to genuinely protect survivors from additional harm, such as having to repeat their story unnecessarily or facing long delays within justice processes that cause extra stress.

We were able to provide feedback on how the new Victorian Financial Assistance Scheme (FAS) has impacted people we are working with. Some clients described feeling overwhelmed by the paperwork and unsure about what evidence was required. Others had waited long periods for updates, which adds stress at a time when they are already emotionally stretched. The online process can be confusing and may exclude people who don't regular internet access an issue that comes up for people in regional areas.

Overall, we welcomed the review of the Victims Charter 2006, ensuring the Charter isn't just a document, it is accessible and has a positive impact on people's lives.

From left: Kate Wright CASACV, Victims or Crime Commissioner Elizabeth Langdon and John Dalton Victoria Police

Our Workforce

To support CASACV's commitment to building and maintaining a competent, capable, and continuously developing workforce, employees have participated in a variety of structured study, training and professional development activities in the last year financial year.

Five employees were supported in furthering their qualifications with 156 hours of paid study leave.

In total last year CASACV employees completed a total of 521 hours of professional development in the following areas:

- Trauma, Mental Health and Therapeutic Approaches
- Adolescents and Young People (including the AIM3 training in the Assessment of Adolescents who display Harmful Sexual Behaviours)
- Neurodiversity and Development
- Sexual Violence, Victim Support and Trauma-Informed Practice
- Suicide Prevention and Psychological Safety
- Health, Safety and Professional Development
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- Giving and receiving feedback
- Employee Assistance Program
- Understanding the Karen community's history, migration to Australia, and post-settlement challenges
- Improving disability support for victims/ survivors of family violence and sexual assault
- All staff wellbeing day

Recruitment

During the year, we received a tremendous response to our job advertisements, and it was very encouraging to see so many applicants with valuable and extensive experience express a strong interest in joining the team at CASACV. During the interview process, applicants shared that CASACV has long been on their radar as a place they would like to work, due to the important and meaningful work we do.

CONSENT
IS ~~SEXY~~
MANDATORY

Male silence is complicity

it's a beautiful day to
BELIEVE SURVIVORS
today and everyday

Women will not be bullied into silence

Julia Gillard
former Prime Minister

smash
the
patriarchy

END RAPE
CULTURE

Financial Statements

Centre Against Sexual Assault Central Victoria

Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025 $	2024 $
Revenue from Operating Activities	4,377,632	3,635,641
Revenue from Non-Operating Activities	121,896	107,247
Total Revenue	4,499,528	3,742,888
Employee benefit expenses	(3,079,536)	(3,192,233)
Depreciation and amortisation	(86,466)	(81,860)
Interest expense	(11,744)	(15,222)
Accountancy and audit expenses	(42,507)	(33,400)
Administrative and other expenses	(625,048)	(433,820)
Total Expenses	(3,845,301)	(3,756,535)
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	654,227	(13,647)
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	654,227	(13,647)

Financial Statements

Centre Against Sexual Assault Central Victoria

Statement of financial position

As at 30 June 2025

	2025 $	2024 $
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	4,592,720	3,885,138
Trade and other receivables	31,920	100,894
Financial assets	907,655	868,730
Contract assets	55,250	55,250
Other assets	67,264	31,583
Total current assets	5,654,809	4,941,595
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment	331,040	142,507
Right-of-use assets	153,058	217,569
Total non-current assets	484,098	360,076
Total assets	6,138,907	5,301,671
Liabilities		
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	315,311	266,236
Employee benefits	392,418	395,967
Contract liabilities	684,482	498,351
Lease liabilities	67,771	61,798
Total current liabilities	1,459,982	1,222,352
Non-current liabilities		
Employee benefits	98,735	85,585
Lease liabilities	99,174	166,945
Total non-current liabilities	197,909	252,530
Total liabilities	1,657,891	1,474,882
Net assets	4,481,016	3,826,789
Equity		
Retained earnings	4,481,016	3,826,789
Total equity	4,481,016	3,826,789

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF CENTRE AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT CENTRAL VICTORIA

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Centre Against Sexual Assault Central Victoria (the Association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025, the statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and the Board members' declaration.

In our opinion, the financial report of Centre Against Sexual Assault Central Victoria is in accordance with Div 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, Australian Accounting Standards and the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* including:

(i) giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2025 and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year ended on that date; and

(ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2022*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the entity in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the ACNC Act and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements related to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Board Member's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Board members of the entity are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* and for such internal control as the Board members determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Board members are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process and for assessing the ability of the Association to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Board members either intend to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Other Information

Those charged with governance are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information contained in the Board's Report for the year ended 30 June 2025, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our [my] opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the registered entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by responsible entities.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the responsible entities' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the registered entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

RSD Audit
Chartered Accountants

Kathie Teasdale
Partner

41A Breen Street
Bendigo VIC 3550

Dated: 28 October 2025

CENTRE AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT CENTRAL VICTORIA

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Donations and Support

Our heartfelt thanks to our contributors and supporters who have continued to provide valuable contributions and in-kind support this year contributing to the success of our organisation.