



Coroners Court of Victoria  
Level 11, 222 Exhibition Street  
Melbourne 2000

20<sup>th</sup> March 2013

Dear Sir/Madam

**Re: Investigation into the death of Rebecca Lazarus. Court Ref COR 2007 002529**

The Domestic Violence Resource Centre Victoria (DVRCV) welcomes the findings of the Coroners Court into the death of Ms Rebecca Lazarus and endorses the recommendation that "...*the Department of Health, in consultation with the Domestic Violence Resource Centre (Vic) and Women with Disabilities Victoria, incorporate a family violence training module into the current supported residential service training schedule.*"

DVRCV, together with Women with Disabilities Victoria (WWDV), met with the Department of Health in December 2012 and at that meeting suggested that training on family violence not only be provided via the *supported residential service training schedule* but should also be extended to include Department of Health Authorised Officers, Community Visitors and residents. DVRCV & WWDV will meet with Department of Health in 2013 to further develop this training.

At the December meeting, the Department of Health advised of their plan to include information about family violence in the February edition of the SRS Newsletter. DVRCV & WWDV provided background information for this article which has since been distributed to SRS proprietors and staff.

DVRCV is committed to eliminating violence against women, particularly in the context of domestic and family violence, and we look forward to working with the Department of Health to improve the safety of women in supported residential services.

Yours sincerely

Virginia Geddes  
Executive officer  
Domestic Violence Resource Centre Victoria

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