



# IMPACT OF INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE ON WA POLICE AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHANGE.

Superintendent Kim Massam



**JANE**



# WA POLICE IDENTIFICATION & RESPONSE PROCESS

- WA Police attended 59,408 incidents of Domestic Violence in 2015/16.
- Mandatory attendance at all incidents.
- Strict pro intervention policies including arrest.
- Significant investment (three layers) in quality assurance of attendance.
- Multiagency triage and referral process
- Frontline police are gate keepers to help



# WE KNOW THERE IS MORE

- Most victims do not report, many seek advice or support from family members, friends or community services.
- 74 per cent of women had confided in someone about violence experienced while only 20 per cent had reported it to the police. Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), [\*Personal safety survey Australia 2012\*](#), op. cit.
- What can we do?



# THE COMMUNITY FRONTLINE

- The community hospital ED and the frontline officer deal with the same issues albeit from different perspectives.
- Police often seeking judicial outcomes and immediate victim safety. What do ED/Medical staff focus on?
- There are opportunities for improvement



# JANE PART 2



# WHAT DOES 'GOOD' LOOK LIKE

- A strategy which has a holistic approach to the health and safety of the victim and promotes positive intervention with the perpetrator.
- A structure whereby the system carries the load and individuals are not required to manage either the victim or the perpetrator alone.
- A system of communication and reporting that ensures relevant information is shared between agencies.



# OUR PEOPLE AS VICTIMS AND OR PERPETRATORS

- Internally WA Police have about 6000 sworn staff
- Heightened awareness of what IPV looks like.
- Proactive action – adherence to policy.
- Internal Investigations.
- Counselling / Support.
- Early intervention