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State Budget 2024-25 – Embolden response

Embolden is the **peak body for domestic, family and sexual violence services in South Australia** and represents 23 organisations delivering specialist women's safety services statewide.

In its 2024-25 State Budget, the South Australian Government has announced the following targeted domestic, family and sexual violence measures:

- \$3.292 million in 2024-25 for 'continuation of critical domestic, family and sexual violence services'. Embolden has been advised that this funding is to extend for one year four pilot programs under the *National Partnership Agreement for Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Responses (2021-27)*. These programs provide holistic supports for Aboriginal families, earlier and trauma-informed services for victim-survivors and earlier intervention for boys and men at risk of or using violence. The extension of these programs is welcome.
- \$1.5 million over two years for a response unit within the State Government for the Royal Commission into domestic, family and sexual violence services.

Quotes attributable to Mary Leaker, General Manager, Embolden

South Australia's Royal Commission into domestic, family and sexual violence commences in July and will give our state a blueprint for transformative change that targets investment where it will have the most impact; across prevention, early intervention, crisis response, recovery and healing.

The domestic, family and sexual violence services sector has always been clear that we need both a Royal Commission and urgent funding for crisis domestic and family violence services. The State Budget did not deliver this.

In the context of significant national media attention on domestic and family violence, our crisis services are seeing big increases in demand and this is expected to grow further with the Royal Commission and coercive control legislation in South Australia.

It is really important that anyone needing help and support is not deterred from contacting services but the reality is that one in five calls to the statewide Domestic Violence Crisis Line go unanswered. Without additional funding for crisis responses, some South Australians experiencing violence will not get the support they need.

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