MEDIA RELEASE

South Australians take a stand against domestic, family and sexual violence at Walk for Respect 2026.

South Australians are being encouraged to come together on Saturday 7 November 2026 for the fourth annual Walk for Respect, a peaceful community march sending a powerful message: Say NO to domestic violence and YES to respectful relationships.

South Australian Rotary Clubs will bring together community organisations, frontline support services, first responders, government representatives and everyday South Australians, united in their commitment to ending domestic, family and sexual violence, as a part of their Walk for Respect.

Following the success of the 2025 event, which attracted more than 1,000 participants, organisers are hoping to see even more South Australians take to the streets in 2026.

This year's event will also shine an important spotlight on sexual violence, with Mary Leaker, Chief Executive Officer of Embolden, among the key speakers addressing the importance of collective responsibility and community action.

“Rotary's annual Walk for Respect is a great example of what we need to drive change in our communities. It provides an important opportunity for South Australians to come together, raise awareness and reaffirm our collective commitment to ending violence.

“The Royal Commission makes clear that our whole community must be part of the solution. This means ensuring that everyone in our schools, workplaces and businesses understands domestic and family violence, and knows where people can get help and support,” Ms Leaker said.

The Hon. Alice Rolls MP, Minister for Child Protection and Minister for Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence will be in attendance and believes the Walk for Respect brings the community together to stand against domestic, family and sexual violence and build a safer South Australia.

“Preventing violence is everyone’s responsibility. We all have a role to play in building a culture of respect and equality across our families, workplaces, schools and sporting clubs. I am proud to join Rotary, specialist services, emergency services, businesses and community organisations at this year’s Walk for Respect. Together, we can show our commitment to ending violence and creating a safer future for all South Australians,” Minister Rolls said.

Chair of the Rotary Domestic, Family & Sexual Violence Prevention Committee, Paul Della, said the annual walk continues to demonstrate the strength of community collaboration in addressing one of Australia's most significant social challenges.

“Every year, we see more South Australians coming together to say that domestic violence has no place in our homes, relationships or communities. By walking together, we are helping to build awareness, encourage conversations and reinforce the importance of respectful relationships across every generation” Mr Della said.

A SAPOL Family and Domestic Violence Section spokesperson believes the Walk of Respect is an important initiative for the community as the event also recognises the critical contribution of South Australia's frontline organisations and first responders who work with individuals and families experiencing domestic and family violence.

“Addressing domestic, family and sexual violence requires a coordinated response from police, government agencies, frontline services and the wider community. Through initiatives such as the Multi Agency Protection Service, SAPOL works closely with partner organisations to identify risks, share information and provide support to those experiencing violence.

“Events such as Rotary's Walk for Respect are an important reminder that everyone has a role to play in preventing violence. By standing together, raising awareness and challenging attitudes that allow abuse to continue, we can help create safer homes, relationships and communities across South Australia,” the SAPOL spokesperson said.

The Walk for Respect welcomes individuals, families, workplaces, community groups and organisations to participate and all South Australians are encouraged to take part.

Community members are welcome to attend the Walk for Respect. Advance registrations appreciated or turn up on the day.
https://reg.planetreg.au/2026-Rotary-Walk-For-Respect-Registration

Walk For Respect Details
When: Saturday 7 November 2026 Where: Victoria Square from 9:00am- 11:15am (King William Street to Elder Park)

Available for Comment:
-Mary Leaker, Chief Executive Officer, Embolden
-2026 SA Women of Impact Award- Impact on ending Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Award winner, Stacey Nelan.
-Bill Marles and Paul Della Rotary District 9510

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