

Our mission statement

We provide shelter and safety, while walking alongside resident families to empower them: to build dignity, self-esteem, practical life skills and the ability to move back into the community safely.

We utilise crisis and early intervention programs to support vulnerable families in the community to forestall or reduce the effects of domestic and family abuse.

Through advocacy and support, we aim to educate our community to reduce the incidence and effects of domestic and family abuse and other causes of homelessness.

We cohesively work with other local support services to reach the best outcomes for all our residents and community clients.

Our vision: To empower and educate our local community to reduce domestic and family violence and homelessness.

Our purpose:

To support vulnerable women and children at risk of domestic and family violence - and/or homelessness by providing safety, shelter, and support.

We aim to empower our clients with strength, dignity, and courage.

Our values:

Social and community responsibility
Empowerment
Confidentiality
Compassion
Growth
Dignity
Social Justice



How to reach us

Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm

02 6555 9835 - Office phone

0400 919 184 - Office mobile

0473 187 226 - Crisis Support

admin@glws.org.au

intake@glws.org.au (for referrals)

Find us on Facebook and Instagram

www.glws.org.au

P.O Box 4387 Forster NSW 2428



GREAT LAKES
Womens
Shelter

WOMEN'S
COMMUNITY
SHELTERS



We acknowledge the traditional owners of this land that we work and play on: the Worimi people.

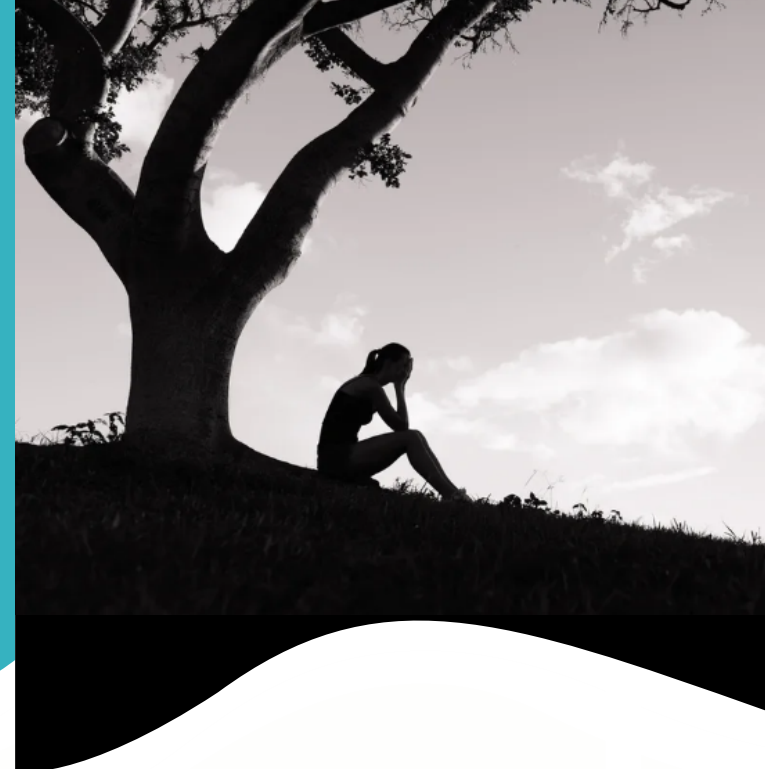
We pay our respects to their Elders, past present and emerging

GLWS is committed to reconciliation between all Australians



ABN: 18 94 99 34 199

CFN : 24523



GREAT LAKES
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Shelter

WOMEN'S
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Providing the gift of safety to those who need it most

We support women over 18 years of age who are homeless and/or escaping domestic or family violence with our without dependent children.

Services Provided:

- Crisis short-term, supported shelter accommodation with Case workers and Children's Case Workers for women and children
- Crisis Outreach Support is provided to women in community who need help with preventing homelessness, Domestic violence support or other housing supports, without the need to come into shelter.
- Information and referral assistance to access Housing Support, and advocacy to obtain rentals and other housing options
- Crisis support and referrals as needed including counselling, medical, legal aid, court support, financial planning, parenting support and mothers' groups
- Assistance in managing challenges faced by women and children in crisis
- Individual client centred case management plans
- Life skills to encourage independence and self-esteem



What is Shelter life like?

The Great Lakes Womens Shelter atmosphere is as close to an ordinary home as possible.

We have our brand new wheelchair accessible, 10 bedroom shelter now in operation in Forster.

Each woman has her own room to share with her children, with shared living, dining and bathrooms.

Residents are asked to respect the conditions of stay which are designed to promote safety and security within the home for all residents and staff.

Residents attend regular house meetings which helps to maintain stability within the shelter.

Case Workers work with residents to engage and formulate a case management plan to address residents individual needs such as referrals for financial help, housing support, parenting and family support and rental applications.

Residents are required to pay a shelter contribution whilst in shelter accommodation

Case workers will support women to find appropriate housing and to re-establish routines that provide a strong and secure foundation for their children. The establishment of daily routines are vital for feelings of security, especially during crisis.

Outreach support is offered to all residents after their shelter stay to help re-engage in community, maintain tenancies and other safety supports.

Case workers aim to support our Community with education and development programs, as well as offering Outreach Support groups for all of our current and previous residents to build social connectivity, promote good health and wellbeing and build self-esteem.

**Due to the nature of our service, we are unable to accept women into shelter with unmanaged mental health or drug and alcohol addictions, we can however offer Outreach support to link in with other services.

Crisis Housing support -

LINK 2 HOME: 1800 152 152

Domestic Abuse Support -

1800 RESPECT: 1800 737 732

DV Hotline: 1800 656 463

Emergency: 000