

Media Release



Tuesday 9 April 2019

Council helps open the door to sexual assault support

Camden Council is proudly supporting the NSW Health Rape Crisis' 'Dunny Door' initiative, which will help provide support to victims of sexual assault or domestic violence.

Mayor of Camden, Cr Peter Sidgreaves, said Council has installed stickers, with a 24/7 sexual, family and domestic violence counselling number, on the back of toilet doors in a number of Council-owned facilities.

"We're sending two very strong messages to our residents. Firstly, Camden will not tolerate violence of any sort – it's just not acceptable," Cr Sidgreaves said.

"Secondly, if you're a victim of violence or assault, or are supporting someone who is, there is help available to you – and Council can help connect you to this help.

"Everyone deserves to feel safe in their home, at their school or workplace, in their neighbourhood and while interacting with the people in their community.

"As a White Ribbon Accredited organisation, and one that stands up for what's best for our residents, Council is dedicated to doing whatever we can to make that a reality."

NSW Rape Crisis Centre Executive Officer, Karen Willis, said Council's participation was vital in assisting people to consider their situation and supporting them to achieve safety, recovery and justice.

"Some of the many trauma impacts of experiencing sexual assault or domestic violence are feelings of shame and exposure," Ms Willis said.

"For this reason, many will not pick up a pamphlet or 'risk' being seen reading a poster. Of course, for those who are living with domestic violence, such actions could be the excuse for further violence.

"So, the 'Dunny Door' campaign allows people to review details in safety and make a decision about contacting support services when they are ready and when it is safe."

Council is also a proud member of the Camden-Wollondilly Domestic Violence Committee, that works to prevent family and domestic violence and improve service delivery to women and children.

For more information, or to order the stickers for your organisation's facilities, visit rapedvservices.org.au and search 'Dunny Door'.

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