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Cuts to Domestic Violence
Hospital Teams would be a mistake

Shadow Minister for Children and Families Natasha Fyles said cutting domestic violence teams in Royal Darwin and Alice Springs Hospitals will put vulnerable women at risk.

Ms Fyles said staff from the hospitals are reporting that these domestic violence teams will finish on Friday.

“Providing support to victims of domestic violence in our hospitals is vital and if Robyn Lambley scraps these important teams more women will be at risk,” Ms Fyles said.

“Tragically, hundreds of women are admitted to hospital every year having been violently assaulted.

“The majority of these bashings are alcohol related and with the CLP deciding to allow domestic violence offenders to start buying alcohol again, the number of women in our emergency departments is only going to increase.

“The CLP are turning a blind eye to domestic violence.

“The Labor Government started this program to provide support to victims of domestic violence. It worked and would have been continued under Labor, unlike the CLP who are scrapping it.

“The removal of these teams will put more pressure on medical staff in the hospitals too.

“And it is a shame that again staff are hearing about their fate in the media because the Minister is not being upfront with them.

“Under the CLP Government we are continuing to see job cuts, funding cuts and service cuts in the critical area of Children and Families.

“We know at least 47 staff have already lost their job in the Office of Children and Families since August.

“This is putting pressure on frontline services and domestic violence victims.”

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