Adam Giles  
Chief Minister of the Northern Territory

Bess Price  
Minister for Women’s Policy

Praise for $100 million commitment on domestic violence

24 September 2015

The Chief Minister Adam Giles has congratulated Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull on today’s announcement of a $100 million package to deal with domestic and family violence.

“The package will improve frontline support and services, leverage innovative technologies to keep women safe and also includes $21 million for specific measures to help Indigenous women and communities,” Chief Minister Adam Giles said.

“The package will also see $3.6 million for the Cross Border Domestic Violence Intelligence Desk to share information on victims and perpetrators who move around the cross border region of Western Australia, South Australia and the Northern Territory.

“The Northern Territory will receive a further $1.4 million to extend its Community Engagement Police Officers in remote Indigenous communities.

“Up to $1.1 million will also be provided to help remote Indigenous communities prevent and better respond to the incidence of domestic violence through targeted support.

“It’s encouraging to see such strong leadership from the Prime Minister and we also need strong voices coming from all Indigenous people and leaders in Territory communities.

“Indigenous women in communities for too long have not always felt safe in homes, schools, work or on the streets and this must change.

“Today’s package recognises our uniqueness in the Territory with the announcement of Community Engagement Police Officers into remote areas providing extra protection against violence.

“The Federal Government will also hand out mobile phones to women fleeing domestic violence, to help them escape ongoing abuse, often Indigenous women will have to flee an abusive situation and take the mobile phone with them, resulting in abuse through the mobile phone.

“As part of the package there will be training for hospital staff to recognise signs of domestic violence and a duty lawyer at selected hospitals across the country to provide legal assistance.”
Minister for Women’s Policy Bess Price is looking forward to meeting the new Prime Minister through her role on the Federal Advisory Panel to reduce violence against women.

“I’ll be making it a priority to share my experiences on communities so that we can all learn and move forward from this very real epidemic in society,” Minister Price said.

“It’s unacceptable that Indigenous women are 48 times more likely to be admitted to hospital for reasons of assault than non-Indigenous women.

“Every one of us has a role to play in bringing about real change to ensure that our women and children do not grow up to be perpetrators or victims of violence.

“The Giles Government believes ‘Safety is Everyone’s Right’ and funds the Northern Territory Domestic and Family Violence Reduction Strategy that can make a real difference to victims’ lives and prevent deaths.”

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