




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES

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ADJOURNMENT

Greenslopes Electorate, Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Services

 **Mr KELLY** (Greenslopes—ALP) (7.10 pm): I rise to provide a brief update on the Greenslopes Domestic Violence Prevention Network. It is a group of people who came together following a series of round tables that we held in the community to talk about what we could do to prevent domestic violence. The network has done a few things this year. It held an information session at the Holland Park State School fete.

More recently, we decided to offer domestic violence prevention training for people who work in the hair and beauty industry. In visiting every hairdresser and beautician in my electorate I was joined by a mighty lady named Carolyn Robinson. I met Carolyn through the domestic violence network. She is an amazing person. She started an organisation called Beyond DV. I want to talk about Beyond DV and how it started.

Carolyn's daughter was affected by domestic violence. As I have seen many times since being elected, many people who are affected by tragedy manage to turn that into triumph. This is certainly one of those situations. I was really pleased that Carolyn came to meet with me. I quickly realised the strength of her ideas and what she was proposing. I suggested that she have a meeting with the minister. I would like to acknowledge and thank Minister Farmer for taking the time to meet with Carolyn. She has been a great supporter ever since.

Beyond DV is an amazing organisation that has two main programs that I would like to outline. I have seen directly the benefits of one of those programs. The first program is the Bright Start program. This program recognises that, when people are affected by domestic violence, children often have to change schools several times. Families do not necessarily tell the schools that they are affected by domestic violence. This organisation draws on Carolyn's experience as a 30-year veteran of being a teacher in Education Queensland and works with the families and the schools to smooth that transition. This program makes sure that those children stay in that school and are supported properly by that school.

The other program is the Time Out program, which is designed to provide women with the confidence and skills they need to rebuild their lives after being affected by domestic violence. I was really pleased to meet with the women who had gone through this program when I joined them at a lunch. They told me the difference that this program had made in their lives.

Beyond DV is a great organisation. I would like to finish this speech by reading their motto—

We should reach back and gather the best of what our past has to teach us so we can achieve our full potential as we move forward. Whatever we have lost, forgotten, forgone or been stripped of can be reclaimed, revived, preserved and perpetrated.

Carolyn Robson and Beyond DV are certainly helping people to reclaim, revive and preserve their lives. I wish her all the best with that.