

# TOWARDS 2024

## YWCA Canberra's 2020 ACT election platform

### Safe, secure, and affordable housing

- Invest in building capacity for appropriate services and supported housing to assist gender and sexually diverse persons escape family and domestic violence.
- Fund specialist and culturally appropriate housing and homelessness services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women escaping domestic violence.
- Upgrade Canberra's existing refuge housing stock to ensure access for women with disabilities who require crisis housing.
- Remove the 100-property limit on the land tax concession scheme for investors who rent properties through a community housing provider and make this scheme a permanent feature of the ACT's housing strategy.
- Lift the supply of family homes available through the Affordable Home Purchase Program to better meet market demand.

### Valuing early childhood education

- Create an ACT Early Childhood Educators Professional Development Fund to support ongoing professional development in the sector.
- Lobby the federal government to support equal pay for educators.
- Fund the extension of universal access to early childhood education and care to three-year-old children.
- Re-establish the Early Childhood Advisory Council to streamline sector insight and advice to the relevant Minister.

### Preventing violence against women

- Collect and publish data relating to workplace sexual harassment and develop annual reporting of sexual harassment in Canberra workplaces.
- Collect and publish gender-disaggregated data on women's perception of personal safety and intersectional experiences of harassment in public.
- Lobby the Australian Government to adopt the legislative reform recommendations of the Australian Human Rights Commission Respect@Work report on workplace sexual harassment.
- Include the prevention of sexual harassment in workplaces, educational and public settings as a priority area in the implementation of the ACT Women's Plan and Fourth Action Plan.
- Amend the Crimes Act (ACT 1900) to include the concept of positive consent.
- Establish the cross-government, cross-sector working group to advise on how prosecution outcomes for victims of sexual assault can be improved.
- Broaden the scope of the Family Safety Hub to respond to violence that occurs between intimate partners who do not constitute a family unit.
- Implement Respectful Relationships Education for all staff and students from P-12 and tertiary education, including students in special needs schools.

