

MEDIA RELEASE

25 November 2016

OUTLOOK ACHIEVES WHITE RIBBON WORKPLACE ACCREDITATION

Social enterprise Outlook, an organisation which supports people with disabilities to live and work in their community, has achieved White Ribbon Workplace Accreditation.

The announcement was made at an event on White Ribbon Day, on 25 November which is also the UN International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

Brian Paynter MP, Member for Bass spoke of the need to eliminate men's violence against women while former Outlook CEO and White Ribbon Ambassador Tony Fitzgerald made the announcement. The event was hosted by incoming Outlook CEO Sam Sondhi.

"By working towards and achieving White Ribbon Workplace Accreditation Outlook has shown the ongoing commitment of the Board, CEO, Senior Management Team, all staff and volunteers to the elimination of violence against women," said Sam Sondhi.

In September 2015, Outlook commenced their journey to becoming a White Ribbon Accredited Workplace by making a formal commitment. Guided by a Steering Committee which included the CEO and key staff, Outlook has ensured that staff at all levels have been able to participate, including supported employees.

Staff at all sites have completed training which included understanding the gendered nature of violence against women and why it is a workplace issue. It has empowered staff to identify and respond appropriately to all forms of violence against women and to say that they don't like inappropriate behaviour without fear, knowing that other staff have their backs.

"Being a White Ribbon workplace has perfect synergy with what we value at Outlook. Outlook has always had a very strong Code of Conduct, which spells out the requirement for all staff to make a commitment to ensure that there is no bullying, sexual harassment or discrimination," said Sam



Outlook firmly believes that by working collaboratively with the community is a key to change, and staff and clients have participated in community events which have highlighted the need to eliminate violence against women, such as the Together We Can events run by our community partner, the Shire of Cardinia.

Outlook will continue to work to eliminate all forms of violence.

If you are experiencing violence or suspect someone else is, please contact 1800 RESPECT for advice and support. In an emergency, call the police on 000.

ENDS

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