

OUR DRIVE

Radiance Network South West Inc. is the only regional West Australian, peer-led, perinatal mental health and wellbeing community organisation. We support vulnerable families experiencing mental health distress during their perinatal timeframe (conception to 2 years of their child's life).

CHALLENGES

3,000 social media followers

> 3600 (mental) health professionals subscribed to newsletter

6

ongoing partnerships with regional organisations

- PNDA affects 1 in 5 mothers and 1 in 10 fathers in Australia, with psychological, social and physical factors increasing risk.
- Perinatal depression and anxiety (PNDA) is costing Australia \$877 million annually. Beyond this are estimated lifetime impacts of \$5.2b attributable to the increased risk of depression, anxiety and ADHD in the children of parents with PNDA, affecting wellbeing, productivity and health system use.
- South West population as of June 2023 was 374,388 with an expected 3% annual growth; the region is the most populated region outside of metro Perth and Peel. Western Australia (excluding Perth) recorded 6,780 births, up 8.0% year-over-year.²
- There are no mother/baby perinatal psychiatric in-patient options in the South West, all mothers and babies requiring admission to Mother Baby Units must travel to Perth.
- Regional clinical perinatal services acknowledge their lack of capacity to offer the extra supports required.

IMPACT SNAPSHOT

>3.080

Mums, dads and babies supported by Radiance since 2017

heartwarming testimonials from mums and dads

paid staff members with lived experience

24

support group and committee volunteers with lived experience

STRATEGY

Radiance addresses these challenges through providing five tiers of free support for parents: 1:1 in-home support; peer-led support groups; advocacy and referral pathways; education and community awareness; online resources and support services database.

FUNDS RAISED



from small fundraisers to larger grants and WA State Government funding between 2021 - 2025.

These funds have allowed us to expand to three more towns, pay 14 staff members and reach over 3,080 families (this equates to, on average \$4,65 per family)

Radiance commenced with a
Busselton based Radiance Support
Group and over the years
introduced the Mother-Baby
Nurture Program, Dads Bringing
Up Great Kids and Young Mums
groups. Approximately a quarter of
all mums and dads receive some
form of advocacy support to access
additional help outside of
Radiance.



Support groups

KEY PROJECTS

Delivery of free, peer-led, non-clinical perinatal mental health support

DETAILS

Weekly 2 hour support group sessions, delivered during school term. Sessions are led by two trained facilitators and supported by two volunteers, all with lived experience.

OUTCOME

- Countless testimonials describing the difference in mums bond with baby, mental wellbeing, friendships and connection.
- Ongoing demand from other regional towns.

Improve community awareness through education and events

Ongoing delivery of accessible community events and learning opportunities around PNDA.

- Four successful, sold-out, Radiance Perinatal and Infant Mental Health Symposiums held in Busselton.
- Annual Radiance Festival and Big Pram Walk for the community since 2017.

Radiance Outreach offering a 1:1 inhome support
service

Reaching our most vulnerable and isolated mums, who do not engage with support groups (approx. 25%), by offering 6 x 2 hour in-home visits delivered by trained peer support workers.

- Aimed to deliver help to 80 families in 14 months time, however, due to demand 165 families were supported.
- Notable improvements in mental wellbeing among clients.



We couldn't have done it without the generous support of so many partners

Thank you

Community Health and Community Mental

WA Mental Health Commission

Health Services

Mother Baby Nurture

to all our partners, friends, donors and volunteers.

Stan Perron Charitable Foundation 100 Women **Parenting Connection** Alike WA Maternity and Mother Baby Units in Perth and regional hospitals Peach Tree Perinatal Pregnancy to Parenthood GPs, obstetricians, midwives, and allied health services National and state peak perinatal bodies Anglicare, WA Women's Health, Southwest Counselling, South West Women's Health and Information Centre, Collie Child and Parent Centre, Carey Park Child and Parent Centre, Margaret River Playgroup **Rio Tinto** Local governments Regional community organisations and more

