

STOP THE EXPANSION OF THE DAME PHYLLIS FROST CENTRE

Why we should oppose the expansion of the State's maximum security prison for women

The Dame Phyllis Frost Centre (DPFC) is the State's only maximum security prison for women. On 19 March 2021 the Victorian Government announced construction of 106 new cells.

But why does the DPFC need to be any bigger? And why do more women and children need to be impacted by this expanded state incarceration?

Join us for a discussion on the how the current incarceration system impacts women and the reasons why we should stop the expansion of the Dame Phyllis Frost Centre.

VWL is fortunate to be joined by a panel of speakers including **Vicki Roach**, **Jill Prior**, **Sara Stilianos** and **Karen Fletcher**, who will be sharing their experiences and insights into our current prison system and its impact on women.

DATE: Wednesday, 20 April 2022

TIME: 12pm - 1 PM

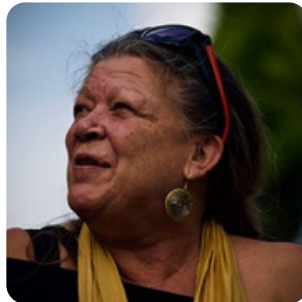
COST: Free. Guests are invited to make an optional donation to Flat Out Inc's *Build Homes not Prisons* Campaign

REGISTER:

<https://vwl.asn.au/events-3/>

FORMAT: Digital webinar -

Registered attendees will receive a Zoom link via email



Vickie Roach is a Yuin woman, who along with her mother, were both members of the Stolen Generation. Vickie, who left school in year 7, went on to gain a Masters degree in Writing from Swinburne University while in prison. Notably, also while in prison, Vickie participated in the 2007 High Court challenge that succeeded in striking out legislation which banned prisoners who were serving three years and under from voting. In the same year she, along with Charandev Singh, were named joint winners of the Tim McCoy Human Rights Award. Currently Vickie devotes her time to activism and advocacy around issues concerning First Nations women in prison, violence against women and deaths in custody. Vickie is especially energised by current conversations around the dismantling of the prison industrial complex and the defunding of police. Vickie is a writer, a poet, a public speaker, and an activist and advocate for women, particularly Aboriginal women, who have been caught up in the criminal justice system.



Jill Prior is the inaugural Principal Legal Officer of the Law and Advocacy Centre for Women (LACW). Prior to establishing LACW, Jill was the Acting Principal Legal Officer at the Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention and Legal Service Victoria. Jill was also previously the Principal Legal Officer at the Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service (VALS) where she worked for over 10 years. Jill's unyielding commitment and dedication to her work has made her a well-known and respected public figure, in and outside legal circles.



Sara Stilianos is driven toward social change and abolishing the carceral (prison) system, dismantling current destructive systemic structures which are destroying lives. These systems continue perpetuating further harm/violence due to the systems commitment to exert power and control of society. Sara stands in solidarity with all oppressed women and will continue to fight the good fight for our women, our children, and our rights. Sara's goal is to completely dismantle the system that is based of the idealised Patriarchal notion that has been socialised to render women powerless. As a strong woman, Sara will be taking back her power for good!!



Karen Fletcher is a lawyer and the EO of Flat Out, a community organisation that supports women and trans and gender diverse people to get out and stay out of prison. She has worked as a prison advocacy lawyer at Fitzroy Legal Service and Prisoners Legal Service QLD and as a public health lawyer in both government and non-government agencies.