



# Women's Health Loddon Mallee

## Statement of Philosophy

*Our statement is drawn from the feminist, health promotion and social justice frameworks.*

1. WHLM recognises that women's health is determined by the complex relationships between the physical, social, emotional, cultural, environmental and economic aspects of their lives WHLM recognizes that both sex and gender influences health, resulting in specific outcomes for women and need for a gendered response to health service provision.
2. WHLM recognizes that women are a diverse group and have a variety of needs, circumstances and aspirations that affect their lives and their health. We understand and respect the differences caused by age, culture, ability, sexuality, geography, religion/faith, politics, class, education and other circumstances.
3. WHLM aims to improve the health and wellbeing of women through providing opportunities for women's voices to be heard loudly and proudly/in civic space.
4. WHLM also aims to celebrate women's strengths and contributions to history and the community through providing opportunities for women's achievements to be visible.
5. WHLM fosters and encourages women's participation in leadership and management roles.
6. WHLM focuses, most on its resources on understanding and working towards building health rather than curing illness. The focus is therefore on prevention.
7. WHLM recognizes its role to be an agent for change through advocacy that enhances the health and status of women. Services, programs and resources are directed towards those who are disadvantages and marginalized.
8. The Service has a commitment to working towards more equitable distribution of power and resources to women.
9. WHLM works with health and other agencies, business, governments and community to meet the health needs of women through a partnership model based on networking, co-ordination, co-operation and collaboration.
10. A major focus on the work of the service is working toward change of the existing health system so that it better meets the needs of women. WHLM employs the DUAL Strategy of providing and modelling specific women's service and works with other agencies to address the health needs of women.