MEDIA RELEASE
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YWCA CANBERRA ACKNOWLEDGED AS A LEADER IN PRIMARY VIOLENCE PREVENTION

7 September 2015: YWCA Canberra has today been announced as an ACT winner of the National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN) Play Your Part Awards, which recognise excellence in primary violence prevention initiatives.

The organisation’s Relationship Things program received this prestigious accolade for its best-practice, evidence-based approach to primary prevention education.

Relationship Things aims to prevent sexual assault and gender-based violence by empowering high school age young people to develop and maintain safe, respectful and consensual relationships.

In August this year, YWCA Canberra released a new resource, Relationship Things Online, an interactive online space that provides young people with access to information on respectful relationships, consent, diversity, and safe sex.

Frances Crimmins, Executive Director of YWCA Canberra said the organisation was delighted to receive the award.

“NAPCAN play an important role in raising awareness of the impact of violence against women on children and young people.

“The Play Your Part awards are an important mechanism for recognising organisations who are striving to make a difference.” Ms Crimmins said.

This is the second award that YWCA Canberra has received for Relationship Things, which has won an ACT Partners in Prevention award in 2014.

“YWCA Canberra has been at the forefront of advocating for primary violence prevention programs to be delivered in ACT primary schools this year.

“We will continue to work with the ACT Education and Training Directorate to explore how Relationship Things and our primary school program Respect, Communicate, Choose can be delivered in ACT schools.

“We look forward to being able to bring this award-winning program to young people in Canberra, and to see the positive impact of primary prevention on changing attitudes and behaviours in the long term.” Ms Crimmins said.
Frances Crimmins is available for interview.

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About YWCA Canberra: YWCA Canberra is a feminist, not-for-profit community organisation that has been providing community services and representing women’s issues in the Canberra community since its establishment in 1929. YWCA Canberra employs more than 300 staff across the ACT, and delivers 30 quality programs in children’s services, community development, housing, youth services, women’s leadership, advocacy, and training. Represented in 122 countries, the YWCA has a global reach of 25 million women and girls. As part of this international movement, YWCA Canberra works for a world where reconciliation, justice, peace, health, human dignity, freedom and care for the environment are promoted and sustained through women’s leadership. For more information visit: www.ywca-canberra.org.au

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