

## **Archive No. 48**

### **Victorian Women's Refuge Group**

The VWRG was set up in 1977 to provide a mutually supportive umbrella group for the women's refuges in Victoria to hold meetings, to exchange information and ideas, for mutual support in the running of the refuges and to provide the opportunity to formulate policy in order to present a united front to the Department of Community Services and when lobbying the department and the politicians for increased funding.

The VWRG was instrumental in the late 1970s in setting out the conditions and definition of a refuge which involved providing accommodation and support for women and children fleeing intolerable domestic circumstances, being run by a collective of women, taking part in political campaigns and encouraging residents to take part in the decision-making processes.