



## Corporate CEOs get their dancing shoes on to help fund Women's Legal Service help line



**Dancing CEOs** is shaping up to be the most highly anticipated event on the 2016 Fundraising Calendar, being held 15 April at the Brisbane's City Hall, and supported by the Lord Mayor.

To help raise money for the prevention of domestic violence, 12 brave CEOs will swap their suits for sequins and put their best foot forward in a hotly contested dance-off.

With dance lessons and choreography by Mad Dance House already taking place, you are in for a great night of entertainment.

The judges – Liz Cantor, Damien Anthony Rossi and Karl Schwantes – have their scorecards ready.

Network Ten's Josh Holt will co-emcee the evening with media personality Michelle Anderson.

One lucky raffle winner will drive away in the major prize of a Hyundai Accent.

\*There are also many people involved in making the event possible, which is a testament to the generosity of the Brisbane community.

"All funds from the event will keep the new Women's Legal Service Helpline running," says Natalie Davidson from Women's Legal Service.

"The Helpline is open to Queensland women who experience domestic violence and complex family law matters.

"The Helpline began on 7 January and already we have been able to answer 5 times more calls and have booked in over 300 appointments for women at risk.

"The Helpline costs \$200,000 per year to operate, and we only have funding for the Helpline until July. All funds raised by the CEOs will go towards getting this important line going."

## Domestic Violence Statistics:

- 90% of victims of domestic violence are women.
- Every three hours a woman is hospitalised from domestic violence.
- In 2015 an average of two women a week lost their life to domestic violence. This is double the rate of 2014.
- Domestic violence claims the lives of more Australian women under 45 than any other health risk.
- Women's Legal Service assists over 3,700 women and their children affected by domestic violence every year. Resource constraints mean that they cannot help 16,000 more Queensland women who attempt to contact the service.

Each CEO has their own fundraising page and urge the Brisbane business community to show their support. To sponsor a CEO: [www.dancingceos.com.au/2016-ceos](http://www.dancingceos.com.au/2016-ceos).

## This year's CEOs

Elena Gosse	– Australian Innovative Systems
Janet Benson	– Bluemint Property Management
Jellaine Dee	– Cherry Blooms
Mark Middleton	– Group CEO of the Icon Group
Sue-Ellen Watts	– Watts Next
Warren Swanston	– Visie Properties
Amelia Hodge	– Queensland Law Society
Maria Becis	– Becis Chartered Accountants
Angela Mogridge	– Ruby6
Dene Harris	– Denne Harris Experiences
Matt Turner	– 99 Bikes
Clarissa Wayward	– Brisbane Family Law Centre

Tickets sales are pivotal, so invite everyone you know – it will certainly be a night to remember. Tickets are available now: [www.dancingceos.com.au](http://www.dancingceos.com.au)

To see last year's CEOs in action:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgx7UgUtzZ3QZN0kCQ2vinQ>

Community support is essential and Women's Legal Service has set up a fundraising page. Every cent helps. Women's Legal Service support and donation page: [www.wlsq.org.au/support-us/donate](http://www.wlsq.org.au/support-us/donate).

\*As Women's Legal Service is a not-for-profit organisation, everyone involved in promoting and participating in the event are generously donating their time and services.

All CEOs and Women's Legal Service spokespeople are available for interviews. Please contact:

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