

# Board Member Information Pack

FOR PROSPECTIVE BOARD MEMBERS 2026-2027

**Rights. Recovery. Respect.**

[sasvic.org.au](https://sasvic.org.au)

**SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES VICTORIA (SASVic)  
BOARD MEMBER  
INFORMATION PACK 2026**

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## **ABOUT THE ORGANISATION**

Sexual Assault Services Victoria (SASVic) is the peak body for specialist sexual assault (SA) and harmful sexual behaviour (HSB) services in Victoria. We work to promote rights, recovery and respect for survivors and other people impacted by sexual violence and harm. We seek to achieve this by working collectively to change attitudes, systems and structures that enable sexual violence to occur. SASVic members bring over 30 years of feminist practice and specialist expertise to the task of reforming system responses to sexual violence and harmful sexual behaviour.

SASVic is the peak body for 19 specialist sexual assault and harmful sexual behaviour services across Victoria.

Together, our member services provide a free, 24/7 specialist response to survivors and other people impacted by sexual violence. This includes 24/7 crisis support for people who have experienced a recent sexual assault, counselling and advocacy for survivors and others impacted by sexual assault, and support and services for children and young people exhibiting harmful sexual behaviour.

Members' response work is complemented by community education and other prevention activities, systems advocacy, and training and support for other professionals.

## SASVic STRATEGIC PLAN 2022–2026



**Our vision**  
is a world free from sexual violence



**Our purpose**  
Our purpose is rights, recovery and respect  
for people impacted by sexual violence



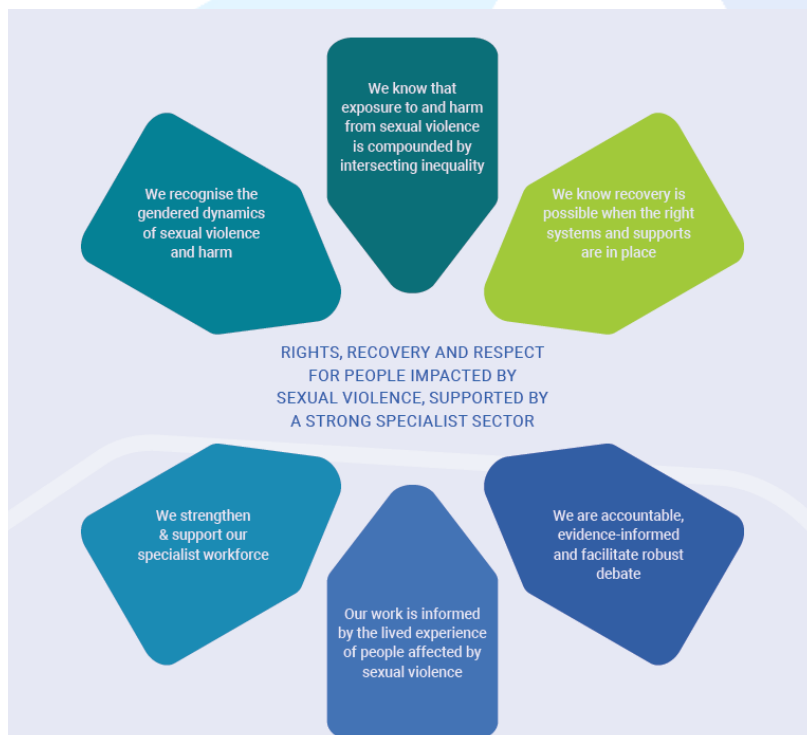
**Our values**  
are courage, expertise, rights & equity

### Our Declaration

SASVic’s members bring over 30 years of feminist practice and specialist expertise to the task of reforming system responses to sexual violence and harmful sexual behaviours.

We know that sexual violence is harmful, pervasive, and preventable.

Together, we aim to help shape society to ensure all those affected are able to get the support they need where and when they need it.



## **OUR MEMBERS**

### **Our 19 member services:**

Australian Childhood Foundation (ACF)

Ballarat Centre Against Sexual Assault (BCASA)

Bass Coast Health

CASA House

CASA Central Victoria (CASA CV)

Centre Against Violence (CAV)

Eastern Centre Against Sexual Assault (ECASA)

SASH (Support After Sexual Harm)

Gippsland Centre Against Sexual Assault (GCASA)

Goulburn Valley Centre Against Sexual Assault (GV CASA)

Kids First

Mallee Sexual Assault Unit and Domestic violence Centre (MSAU-MDVS)

Northern Centre Against Sexual Assault (Northern CASA)

The Sexual Violence and Family Violence Centre (SAFV Centre)

Sexual Assault Crisis Line (SACL)

South Eastern Centre Against Sexual Assault (SECASA)

South Western Centre Against Sexual Assault (SW CASA)

Western Region Centre Against Sexual Assault (WestCASA)

Windermere Child and Family Services

## THE ROLE OF THE BOARD

The Board of Sexual Assault Services Victoria is responsible for the effective governance of SASVic, including ensuring the organisation meets all legal duties and regulatory obligations. The Board is committed to upholding the highest standards of corporate governance and to implementing robust policies and procedures that reflect and reinforce these standards. Its role includes:

- Developing strategy with the CEO and Executive for the continued sustainability and growth of SASVic, which includes policies, goals, strategies and performance targets.
- Ensuring there are processes in place to ensure compliance with legal, accounting, regulatory and environmental requirements.
- Making available to management the resources to achieve the strategic plan.
- Setting the organisation's risk appetite and ensuring the risks the organisation is exposed to are clearly identified with processes in place to manage them.
- Monitoring the organisation's performance against its strategies and targets.
- Reporting to SASVic Members.

All Board Member positions are voluntary.

## CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS



### **Kate Wright – Chair**

Kate is CEO of Centre Against Sexual Assault Central Victoria and Chair of Sexual Assault Services Victoria. She has over 20 years' experience in social policy, program management and design, public policy, research and strategy within government and in not-for-profit organisations. Kate brings a focus on social justice, collaboration and advocacy to influence and achieve sustainable change at a systemic, community and individual level to reduce the impact, and prevalence, of sexual violence.



### **Jane Barr – Treasurer**

Jane is CEO of Gippsland Centre Against Sexual Assault. She has more than 25 years' experience in the not-for-profit and community sector working on a broad range of innovative service models that support the social inclusion of children, young people and families. Jane was a nominee for the Impact 25 Award 2016 recognising inspirational people in Australia's social sector and the Robyn Clarke Award for her work with high-risk adolescents and collaboration with Child Protection.



### **Jaime Chubb – Vice Chair**

Jaime is CEO of Centre Against Violence (CAV), a not-for-profit community organisation that delivers Specialist Sexual Assault Services and Specialist Family Violence Services, counselling, and advocacy to support everyone in the Victorian Ovens Murray region to live safer lives. Prior to commencing at CAV in October 2021, Jaime was the Director of Community Wellbeing at the Rural City of Wangaratta for over seven years.

With a background of experience and leadership across the community services, advocacy, and local government fields, Jaime has a strong and diverse understanding of the complexities and challenges facing the sexual assault and family violence sectors, especially in rural and regional areas. Jaime believes deeply in the need for early intervention and primary prevention work to change the impact of sexual assault on individuals, families, and community.



### **Carla Collins**

Carla Collins is currently the Director of SASH (Support After Sexual Harm) at The Royal Children's Hospital and a Board member of SASVic. Carla has a background in leadership at sexual assault services at Monash Health, statutory child protection and in safeguarding at the Children's Commission in NSW. Carla has also worked internationally in child rights and child protection in development and emergency settings, including UNICEF and World Vision, and has a Masters in Public and International Law.



### **Jackie Bateman**

Jackie is an experienced leader of people and practice, a practitioner, consultant and trainer. In roles spanning the UK and Australia, Jackie has developed highly sought after and specialist expertise in working with children and young people who have displayed harmful sexual behaviour, using strengths-based models and practices. Currently, Jackie is the Senior Lead Harmful Sexual Behaviour Prevention at Jesuit Social Services. In addition to her extensive client work, Jackie has co-authored two books:

*Working with Children and Young People Whose Behaviour is Sexually Concerning or Harmful. Enabling professionals to become confident at assessing risk and developing safety plans (Book) Kingsley Publishers, Feb 2015 (with J Milner).*

*Working with Children and Teenagers using Solution Focused Approaches. Enabling children to overcome challenges and achieve their potential, (Book) Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2011 (with J Milner).*



### **Suzanne Paynter**

Suzanne currently serves as the Group Director of Business Growth & Innovation at Safe Steps Family Violence Response Centre.

Suzanne is passionate about the facilitation and development of Australian industry capability, systems-level responses to complex challenges and building a more resilient and sustainable future for Australia. She has a diverse professional background in various industries, including the defence sector, law and government.

She has worked in Executive and Non-Executive Director roles including as COO of the Federal Government's Accelerating Commercialisation Program, CEO of the Future Business Council, and as Ministerial Adviser to the Treasurer of South Australia.

Suzanne holds an MBA from Monash Business School and a Bachelor of Laws (Hons) from the University of Adelaide.



### **Blythe McAuley**

Blythe McAuley is a psychologist with more than 20 years' experience across therapeutic care, harmful sexual behaviour and trauma-responsive practice. Since joining the Australian Childhood Foundation in 2008, she has held a range of practice leadership and service development roles, contributing to the design of therapeutic and justice-focused frameworks in partnership with communities and organisations.

Blythe works across both Victoria and the Northern Territory and is the Regional Director of Therapeutic Services for these regions. Her work is grounded in culturally informed, collaborative approaches that support safety, healing and accountability in diverse community contexts.

As a SASVic Board Member, Blythe brings experience in practice development, cross-sector collaboration and system reform, contributing to strong governance and the ongoing advancement of specialist sexual assault and harmful sexual behaviour responses.

## OUR STAFF



### **Kathleen Maltzahn – Chief Executive Officer**

Kathleen Maltzahn is the CEO of Sexual Assault Services Victoria (SASVic), the peak body for Victoria’s specialist sexual assault and harmful sexual behaviours services. She has spent many years working to combat sexual assault and other human rights abuses, with a focus on violence against women and children.

## SASVic Managers

Dr Amy Webster – Advocacy, Evidence and Impact Manager

Emily Roberts – Workforce Development and Community Education Manager

Virginia de Santis – Organisational Development and Engagement Manager

Jacqueline Bell – Justice, Rights and Equity Manager

## THE COMMITMENT

The Board meets as a whole approximately every two months, mostly face-to-face in Melbourne, with an annual face-to-face two-day planning meeting and occasional out-of-session meetings. Papers are available prior to the meeting via our online secure Board portal, Board Pro. It is expected that Board Members will:

- read Board papers prior to the board meeting
- provide questions for consideration before the Board meets
- actively participate and provide input in Board discussions.

In addition to the bi-monthly Board meeting, Board Members nominate to participate in board standing committees and ad hoc committees, with the expectation that members be on at least one of these. There are currently the Finance and Risk sub-committee, Governance sub-committee and time-limited Industrial Relations sub-committee. Standing committees usually meet online.

Our Annual General Meeting is held in November each year. This is an important event on the SASVic calendar and a celebration of the year's successes. The AGM is held in November during the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence. As such, Board Members are required to attend.

Every four years the organisation reviews the overall strategic plan. Board Members play a key role in this process and are required to attend strategy days and planning sessions.

As a Board Member of SASVic, you will also need to be mindful that you are a representative of Sexual Assault Services Victoria and have obligations as a Board Member which includes:

- acting in good faith in the best interests of SASVic
- acting with care and diligence
- declaring and /or avoiding conflicts of interest in the position of a Board Member with consideration of the need to be timely in this declaration
- a range of duties that prohibit the misuse of information obtained as a Board Member.

A typical Board Member's time commitment will average between 10-15 hours per month.

Board members are responsible for monitoring their own term expiry dates.

## **THE BENEFITS**

Becoming a Board Member with SASVic gives you the opportunity to contribute to an organisation that actively shapes policy and programs on sexual violence in Victoria and beyond, supports members to strengthen their services to survivors, children and young people who display harmful sexual behaviour, and strengthens community capacity to challenge sexual violence. You will join an active and committed Board with strong governance and leadership principles. Your skills will showcase your strengths and contribute to our leadership style so that you can have a positive impact on the organisation.

When you serve on our Board, you will have the honour, challenge, and responsibility of understanding how everything needs to work together so the organisation can achieve its goals and fulfil its strategy.

## **JOINING THE BOARD**

There are two available pathways to joining the board: elected members and appointed members. Elected members are elected from SASVic's membership annually at the AGM, while up to four members can, from time-to-time, be appointed by the board. The information below outlines the process for applying to join the board as an appointed member.

### **1. APPLY ONLINE**

The Application Form is found via the Ethical Jobs advertisement, please complete the online forms and upload any required documents. If you have any questions along the way, feel free to email us at [contactus@sasvic.org.au](mailto:contactus@sasvic.org.au) to arrange a meet and greet or phone call.

### **2. PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION**

A current Board member will get back in touch with you and arrange a time to have a preliminary discussion, answer any questions and ask you some too.

### **3. BOARD PROCESS**

Your application, resume and the topics discussed in your preliminary chat will all be put before the full Board for them to review and discuss. The full Board will hold a vote on whether they'd like to invite you to formally join.

If you accept an invitation to join, you are now a member of the Board at SASVic. You will be invited to attend Board meetings and participate in all elements of business of the Board. As such you will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement.

## **BOARD MEMBER ROLE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **Purpose**

To provide strategic oversight and ensure effective governance, to support to SASVic in advancing its purpose to eliminate sexual assault and violence, and to support services for victim/survivors across Victoria. Board Members bring skills, experience, and insights to support SASVic's mission, values, and obligations under law.

### **Key Responsibilities**

#### **1. Governance and Strategic Oversight**

- Actively participate in setting and reviewing SASVic's strategic direction.
- That SASVic complies with the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and its own constitution and other relevant legislation and regulation.
- Contribute to the development and approval of key organisational policies.

#### **2. Fiduciary Responsibilities**

- That SASVic's resources are managed responsibly, ethically and lawfully.
- Approve budgets, monitor financial performance, and ensure financial accountability in line with Board reporting obligations.

#### **3. Risk and Compliance**

- Identify, manage, and monitor strategic and operational risks.
- Adequate internal controls and systems are in place to comply with legislation and funding requirements.

#### **4. Participation and Attendance**

- Attend a minimum of four Board meetings per year and contribute actively to deliberations.
- Read Board papers prior to meetings and come prepared to participate thoughtfully.

#### **5. Ethical Conduct and Duties**

- Act with reasonable care, diligence and in good faith in the best interests of the Association.
- Avoid conflicts of interest and comply with disclosure requirements.
- Maintain confidentiality and protect the integrity of Board deliberations.

#### **6. Representation and Advocacy**

- Champion SASVic's values in the sector and broader community.

- Support advocacy efforts aligned to SASVic’s policy platform and member services.

## Eligibility and Appointment

### Elected Board Members

- Must be a current member, 18 or over and eligible to vote at a general meeting.

### The position requires:

1. **Governance Knowledge**
  - Understanding of board responsibilities under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012, or willingness to learn.
2. **Commitment to SASVic’s Purpose and Values**
  - Alignment with feminist, intersectional, and trauma-informed approaches.
3. **Relevant Experience or Lived Insight**
  - Experience or Insight of sexual violence and/or expertise in community services, advocacy, public health, justice, government or related sectors.
4. **Skills Contribution**
  - Skills in areas such as legal, financial, risk, policy, advocacy, strategy, media, or evaluation.
5. **Collaborative and Ethical Governance**
  - Ability to work respectfully within a board, uphold confidentiality, and avoid conflicts of interest.

**Position Title:** Board Member

**Reports To:** Chair of the Board

**Term:** Board terms are for 3 years, and eligible Elected Board Members can re-stand for election or appointment with no maximum tenure

**Time Commitment:** Approx. 10–15 hours per month, including availability to attend at least 4 meetings a year during business hours, prepare papers, participate in board activities including the sub committees.