

ALL MEMBERS (FULL and 'FRIEND OF THE ASSOCIATION') TO SIGN

Central Coast Community Women's Health Centre Ltd.

Feminist principles

The following principles come from a feminist analysis of society, and provide a basis for our work to promote women's health. We keep them in mind when we are developing our own health promotion strategies and programs:

Increase women's self-esteem.

Ensure that available services are relevant to women's needs.

Ensure access to all women.

Raise women's awareness of health issues.

Ensure that services and resources are culturally appropriate.

Encourage mutual support.

Encourage women to make choices and increase their awareness of choices.

Encourage women's participation at all levels of the health system.

Change inappropriate attitudes towards women at all levels of society.

Increase political awareness as it relates to women's health.

Involve consumers through consultation.

Encourage community control.

Increase awareness of the effects of the environment on health.

Encourage accountability of the health system to consumers.

Encourage co-operation.

These principles inform all our actions and decisions.

All members of the association are required to sign our Statement of Feminist Ideology.

Statement of Feminist Ideology

Central Coast Community Women's Health Centre believes in the principle that the services they provide will be within the feminist context which:

- recognises the social, environmental, economic, physical, emotional, and cultural factors which influence women's health
- recognises and challenges the effects of sex role stereotyping and gender discrimination on women's health and well-being
- reflects the whole of women's life span, their various and changing roles and responsibilities, not just their reproductive life
- recognises the importance of maintaining health and well-being by focusing on preventative practices
- actively encourages the empowerment of women in both the personal and social aspects of their lives
- values women's knowledge and skills and their right to make informed decisions about their sexuality, relationships, contraception, abortion, medical and legal rights, physical and mental health.

I _____ have read all principles outlined above, and understand and agree to abide by them.

Signed: _____

Date: ____ / ____ / ____