



HOPE AFTER VIOLENT CRIME

..

Hope After Violent Crime (HAVoC) was a collaborative project between ConnectGroups, Angelhands Inc and GROW. The aim of the project was to investigate best practice support groups for victims of violent crime.

The Project Steering Group comprised key staff from the Mental Health Commission and Victim Support Service (Dept of the Attorney General, Western Australia) and the three collaborating organisations. The project was funded by Lotterywest.

A review of the relevant literature indicated that the peer support model has been shown to provide effective assistance to victims of violent crime. Members of peer support groups often receive social, emotional and informational support from other members who have experienced similar traumatic events.

The three collaborative organisations set up five support groups for victims of violent crime. The groups varied in the extent to which they were facilitator-led or based on self-help and mutual support. Members of the groups were invited to complete surveys at regular intervals in order to record changes in their health and wellbeing and their experiences within the groups.

For further information on HAVoC – Peer Support for Victims of Violent Crime please contact ConnectGroups on 08 9228 4488