



A Message from WIRE's Chief Executive Officer

WIRE's vision is for a society where women are safe, respected, valued, informed, empowered and free to make genuine choices in their lives.

But this vision is sadly not reflected in the current society in which we live. This is why WIRE is so proud to join the Financial Inclusion Action Plan (FIAP) program as a trailblazer. The statistics paint the picture of how financial disempowerment affects the daily lives of women in Australia:

- 2 million Australian's struggle to pay basic bills and over half these people are women
- Women earn on average 16% less than men based on full time average weekly earnings
- Women are more likely to work in feminized professions with low paying jobs
- 90% of women will retire with inadequate savings to fund a comfortable lifestyle
- 15% of all women will experience financial abuse.
- 1 in 5 women will experience family violence in their life time

The ongoing barriers women face to achieve financial inclusion are especially compounded for women who are Indigenous, who live with a disability or who come from a culturally and linguistically diverse background. We work with women every day who have overcome these barriers and enormous challenges through their own strength and resilience. But it shouldn't have to be up to individual efforts alone – as a society, we need to have the systems and support that provides the platform for all to achieve their potential.

WIRE will use the opportunity of being a FIAP trailblazer to increase our impact and be an agent for positive change by capitalizing more fully on our status as a leading expert in women's financial resilience and capability. As a FIAP trailblazer we will form partnerships and work strategically to maximize financial inclusion for women and ensure that the voices of women - that often go unheard - resonate in everything that we do. We will also lead by example, examining our internal policies and practices to ensure that we are giving staff and volunteers every opportunity to enhance their own financial inclusion and empowerment.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Kun".

Julie Kun
Chief Executive Officer

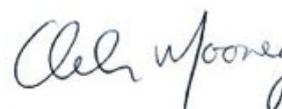
It is with great pleasure that WIRE commits to developing and launching a Financial Inclusion Action Plan in 2017. We look forward to developing our FIAP in collaboration with Good Shepherd Microfinance, the Centre for Social Impact, EY and the Australian Government.

FIAP Action Areas Our Commitment

Products and Services	<p>We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • continue to build our work in educating, informing and enhancing women's financial capacity and literacy over their life trajectory. • extend our work research , education and training work to highlight the gendered nature of financial capability and continue to advocate for governmental and societal change that reflects the financial needs and aspirations of women.
Capabilities, Attitudes & Behaviours	<p>We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • actively listen to the women so we are well placed to pick up emerging issues and trends regarding women and financial capability • hold the spotlight to our own policies and practices to ensure that we are investing in the financial inclusion of our staff and volunteers.
Awareness & Understanding of Culture and Diversity	<p>We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • take an intersectional approach in our financial capability and resilience work to recognise the diversity of experience for women, particularly women who are marginalised and experience disadvantage.
Economic Participation & Status	<p>We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop and enhance partnerships with government, community, corporations and other community services to work towards changes in policy and practice that enhance the economic participation of women including women from diverse and marginalized backgrounds • work constructively with other FIAP Trailblazers to improve financial outcomes for all women.



Julie Kun
Chief Executive Officer
WIRE Women's Information



Adam Mooney
Chief Executive Officer
Good Shepherd Microfinance