**LET’S TALK – BARRIERS TO SEEKING SUPPORT**

**TRANSCRIPT**

Kaitlin - I think in any domestic violence situation there's usually heaps of barriers, but these can even be more so for someone who has a disability.

Sam **-** For someone in a wheelchair, it might be physical barriers like getting out of the community, finding somewhere they can go to ask for help.

Karni **-** They leave their home. They leave their... often their furniture, their life. They have to restart, they go into shelter, they have to go into hiding. That might have to move their children's school. So to leave, it's upending her whole life and starting again.

Jill **-** Some people with disabilities just want a relationship and... if it's good or bad. And so they stay.

Karin **-** But also, a high proportion of women are actually dependent on the perpetrators of violence. When you can't get out of bed, when you can't leave your house, when you can't handle your money, that takes on a whole extra level.

Kaitlin - So leaving a domestic violence situation can be really complex as far as, you know, practical concerns, but also emotional. So someone being really scared to leave or fearing for their life if they were to leave that situation.

Karin **-** What we need as women with disabilities or people with disabilities is not that different to what everyone needs. We need to escape to places of safety and we need support around us and services around us who are equipped to deal with our needs and deal with what it takes to leave a violent relationship. So it's not completely different to what everyone needs, but it's just about having that support.