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Suicide Prevention and Domestic Violence: Making the Links

On World Suicide Prevention Day, The International Coalition for Women in Shooting and Hunting (WiSH) have called for better recognition of connections between domestic violence and suicide.

“There is growing awareness of the role that domestic violence can play in contributing to suicide among women,” said WiSH Chair Dr Samara McPhedran.

“We need to build upon existing prevention initiatives to reduce the occurrence of suicide, and one way to do this is by better linking mental health services with domestic violence services.”

“This would also help to address the substance misuse issues that can accompany domestic violence and deliberate self-harm,” Dr McPhedran said.

WiSH highlighted that gender differences should be taken into account during the development of suicide prevention strategies.

“We must not forget that more men take their own lives than women, but men are often less likely than women to seek help when they most need it. Also, broader social factors like unemployment are known to affect male suicide rates, and need to be seriously considered.”

WiSH supporters around the world are holding fundraising events to mark World Suicide Prevention Day, with all proceeds being donated to charities involved with suicide prevention.

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WOMEN ON TARGET FOR POSITIVE CHANGE