



AUSTRALIA

**Women's Justice Network**  
**Mentoring Program**  
**FAQ**

● **Who is the Women's Justice Network?**

The Women's Justice Network (formerly WIPAN) is a grassroots organisation that aims to improve the lives of women affected by the criminal justice system. There are two ways in which WJN does this. WJN advocate for women who are in custody, and WJN runs a Mentoring Program for women who have been recently released from custody. The post-release Mentoring Program operates as a gender responsive model of specialised one-on-one mentoring, all in an attempt to provide social, emotional and practical support to women who have been affected by the system.

● **How did WJN start?**

WJN was formed in 2008 due to the lack of support available to such women and the increases in the recidivism rates for women in NSW. WJN is currently the only community organisation in NSW dedicated solely to mentoring and advocating for women in and exiting the criminal justice system.

● **Does mentoring work?**

NSW currently has one of the highest recidivism rates in the country.

Through their experience, WJN know that providing women in the criminal justice system with gender specific social support through mentoring, women's social and emotional needs can be met. This then contributes to them making and maintaining positive changes in their lives, peeling away from past mentalities and behaviours that would most likely result in criminal activity.

WJN's most recent data collection (2014-2015) revealed that 93% of women who were matched to a Mentor did not return to custody.

Thus, the recidivism rate of WJN's Mentees is 7%.

In comparison, as of 2015, the NSW female recidivism rate is 43-7%.

Of the 7% who have returned to custody, all women have maintained contact with their Mentor, via letter writing, and plan to resume the relationship once released. This demonstrates the long lasting rapport and trust built between the Mentor and the Mentee.

● **Where can I get more information about women in prison?**

WJN's website contains information and fact sheets regarding the issues that affect women in the criminal justice system. There are also various publications and reports on the WJN websites publications page.

● **How is WJN funded?**

WJN is currently funded from Family and Community Services and through corporate sponsorship. WJN also heavily rely on donations and in-kind contributions from other community organisations.

Sincerely,

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澳大利亚

## 女性正义组织“辅导计划” 常见问题

- 女性正义组织（以下简称，WJN）—我们是谁？

女性正义网络（曾为 WIPAN, Women In Prison Advocacy Network 监狱女性倡导组织）作为一个草根机构，旨在为受到刑事司法制度负面影响的女性提高生活质量。WJN 主要通过两大途径以达此目标。首先，WJN 为被拘留的女性进行权益倡导和辩护。其次，WJN 为近期从拘留所释放的女性组织“辅导计划”。这个释放后期的“辅导计划”强调两性平等并以一对一的专业辅导模式运行，致力于为生活质量受制度影响的女性犯人提供社会、情感以及切实可行的支持。

- WJN 的创办

在社会缺乏对上述女性群体的支持以及新南威尔士州的女性再犯率增长两大因素推动之下，WJN 于 2008 年成立。WJN 是新南威尔士州目前唯一的、专注于为刑事司法体系中的女性辩护及提供辅导的社区机构。

- 辅导是否有效？

新州是当前澳大利亚罪犯累犯率最高的州。

以过往经验来看，通过辅导项目为刑事司法系统中的女性提供特定性别的社会支持，可以保证女性的社会及情感需要得到满足。随之，这也有助于她们在今后生活中能够做出并且维持积极正面的改变，摆脱过往易导致犯罪活动的错误心态和行为。

WJN 最近的数据（2014—2015 年）显示 93% 的已接受辅导女性未曾再被拘留。

由此可知，接受 WJN 的辅导者再犯率仅为 7%。然而，与 2015 年同年比，新州女性再犯率高达 43—47%。

在 7% 的再犯女性中，全部人都有通过书信方式与她们的辅导者保持联系，并都有意愿一旦释放将即刻恢复辅导关系。这充分显示了辅导员和被辅导者之间所存在的长期的融洽关系和信任。

- 哪里可以获得更多女性囚犯的信息？

WJN 网站有陈列出受到刑事司法系统影响的女性的相关信息和情况说明书。网站的出版物页面（publications page）也可以找到各式相关的出版物和汇报书。

- WJN 如何筹资？

WJN 目前由新南威尔士州家庭和社区服务部及商业赞助提供资金。WJN 也在很大程度上依赖于其他社区组织的捐款和实物捐助。

谨上，

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