

#StrongerTogether

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Dear Shani

I hope this email finds you safe and well. I am writing to update you on our plans as COVID-19 restrictions begin to ease. As you will appreciate in the 'new normal', post lockdown, it is not just a matter of returning to the way things were. The virus is still with us and this means we need to take things slowly and open up in a way that is safe for everyone.

We are currently working on a **COVID Safe Plan** to guide NCJWA Vic, our staff, participants, volunteers, members and supporters as we move into the new normal.

The State and Federal governments have issued 'COVID Safe Guidelines' which are quite complex. Compliance with the Guidelines will necessarily mean that we will have to adapt the way we do things moving forward. The Board will consider the Plan at the next Board meeting in late June. **Once the Board has adopted the Plan we will begin to implement it.**

While it is premature to give details of the Plan as yet, I can indicate that it is likely that **one-on-one, face-to-face catch ups** between participants and volunteers in the **Caring Mums** program and **The Jam Project** will be able to take place as the Plan is implemented. **Group sessions** will continue to take place **virtually** in the initial phase and our events will be **virtual events** for the time being.

Given health considerations, our **Seniors Programs** will not return to normal as early as our other programs. As you know, the government has imposed **more restrictions** on older people because of heightened vulnerability to the COVID-19 virus.

The 'new normal' will see the continuation of some of the **innovations** we have introduced during the COVID-19 pandemic including: NCJWA Vic **Sessions** for volunteers in the Seniors Programs (at least until we can meet again in person); the **Caring Mums newsletter**; and **The Jam Project newsletter**.

We start our virtual **Brainfood** series next week and this will also continue.

Once the COVID Safe Plan is approved by the Board, I shall be able to provide further details. In the meantime please do not hesitate to contact me by email - leeann.basser@ncjwavic.org.au - if you have any queries.

Stay safe and well.

Best wishes,



Lee Ann Basser
NCJWA VIC CEO

**Stronger Together - Now More Than
Ever.**



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