

# Girls learn the signs of domestic violence

DONCARE is pioneering positive relationship paths for young women in Manningham.

The welfare agency's domestic violence prevention leadership program, *I Matter*, is equipping 10 women aged from 18 to 26 with skills to identify the warning signs of family violence.

Doncare's domestic violence advocacy service team leader Julie McDonald said they had assembled 10 exceptional young women.

"I'm amazed at the quality of the girls," she said. "It's going to be fascinating working with

them and I can't wait to see where it goes."

Doncaster state Liberal MP Mary Wooldridge, who helped organise the \$41,500 in funding, said the program was a first.

"It's based in what's going to work for the local community," she said. "These young women will decide where this goes next."

Ms McDonald said the participants would run in-school programs next year. The program launched last week just in time for White Ribbon Day this Friday. Details: 9841 4215.



MP Mary Wooldridge is supporting Doncare's leadership program for young women as a preventative measure against domestic violence.