

Resources

National Family Violence Services and Supports

AVERT
FAMILY VIOLENCE



**Collaborative Responses in
the Family Law System**



Australian Government
Attorney-General's Department

Australian
INSTITUTE
of SOCIAL
RELATIONS™

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NB: All web links are current at time of going to press. However, please note that web sites do change often and we cannot guarantee any link.

National Family Violence Services and Supports

Each state and territory has its own system of services for victims of domestic and family violence. Some provide services meeting a wide range of legal and non-legal needs of victims and their children. In other jurisdictions, service provision is more ad hoc, and professionals are advised to contact local services such as police or Family Support Services to establish whether there are suitable agencies in the region with appropriate training and domestic violence experience. Listings for State and Territory services are provided as a separate document under *Resources* on DVD 1.

Details of domestic violence training providers are also included in this resource. These may assist with the upskilling of professionals working with victims of domestic violence, such as family law system professionals, accommodation service providers and counsellors.

Agency Contact Details

Emergencies and Risk of Crime or Assault

In an emergency and if you fear for the safety of yourself or your children: ask for the police. Available 24 hours

Telephone: 000 (Triple 0)

Family Relationship Services

Family Mediation and Dispute Resolution

Family dispute resolution is a process conducted by an independent practitioner or practitioners to assist members of families, including separated families, to resolve some or all of their disputes with each other. Examples of family dispute resolution processes are mediation and conciliation. Family dispute resolution services can help separating families resolve disputes as an alternative to going to court.

Website:

<http://www.familyrelationships.gov.au/www/agd/familyrelonline.nsf/Page/RWP200E56A80C1A2201CA2572180001AD69#fdr>



Family Relationship Advice Line

The Advice Line is a national telephone service established to assist people affected by relationship or separation issues.

The Advice Line provides information on family relationship issues and advice on parenting arrangements after separation. It can also refer callers to local services that can provide assistance.

Website:

<http://www.familyrelationships.gov.au/www/agd/familyreloonline.nsf/Page/RWPF75B8B7D68233B6DCA2572180001650C>

Telephone: 1800 050 321

Family Relationship Centres

The Centres provide information or referral services that can help families strengthen relationships and deal with relationship difficulties.

Website:

www.familyrelationships.gov.au/www/agd/familyreloonline.nsf/Page/RWPFFDAE1FF77800FB5CA25721800038A30

Family Relationship Services

There is a wide range of services available to help families to build better relationships or to help deal with separation.

Website:

www.familyrelationships.gov.au/www/agd/familyreloonline.nsf/Page/RWP200E56A80C1A2201CA2572180001AD69

Relationships Australia

Provides general advice about relationships, with some information about domestic violence, and lists of Relationship Counselling services in Australia.

Website: <http://www.relationships.com.au>



Women's Safety After Separation

Comprehensive information about staying safe for women who have separated from a violent partner. Includes information on family law issues.

Website: <http://wsas.here.ws>

Legal Services

Australian Family Law System

The Australian family law system is made up of a number of different elements with different areas of responsibility. It is much broader than the courts. It also embraces the many service providers and individuals who help families to resolve legal, financial and emotional problems and is centred around family members themselves.

As well as the Family Courts of Australia and Western Australia, the Federal Magistrates Court and State Magistrates courts, they include Centrelink, the Child Support Agency and other government agencies at national and State and local levels, community based organisations, private practitioners, advocacy groups and volunteers.

Website: http://www.ag.gov.au/www/agd/agd.nsf/Page/Families_Familylawsystem

Collaborative Legal Practitioners

Collaborative law uses an interest-based negotiation model where clients and their lawyers work together to resolve a dispute without going to court. The aim is to reach a fair agreement while minimising costs, delays and stress.

Website: www.collaborativelaw.asn.au

Family Court of Australia

Provides information on and access to: court lists; family law; judgements; etc.

Website: <http://www.familycourt.gov.au/>



Family Law Courts

Gives information on all aspects of the family law system and processes.

Website: <http://www.familylawcourts.gov.au/>

Family Violence Prevention Legal Services

The Australian Government, through the Attorney-General's Department, provides funding for the Family Violence Prevention Legal Services (FVPLS) program. The FVPLS program provides culturally sensitive assistance to Indigenous victim-survivors of family violence and sexual assault through the provision of legal assistance, court support, casework and counselling.

Website:
www.ag.gov.au/www/agd/agd.nsf/Page/Indigenouslawandnativetitle_Indigenouslawprograms_Familyviolencepreventionlegalservices

Telephone: 02 6141 4817

Community Legal Centres

The National Association of Community Legal Centres (NACLC) is the association of state community legal centre organisations in Australia.

Website: www.naclc.org.au

Telephone: 02 9264 9595

Law Council of Australia (Family Law Section)

The Family Law Section (FLS) of the Law Council of Australia is the professional association for practising family lawyers in Australia.

Website: www.familylawsection.org.au

Telephone: 02 9264 9595



Information and Research

Australian Centre for the Study of Sexual Assault (ACSSA)

This national centre aims to improve access to current information on sexual assault for policy makers and others. The website provides information on good practice programs, research, statistics and links on sexual assault.

Website: <http://www.aifs.gov.au/acssa>

Australian Child & Adolescent Trauma, Loss & Grief Network

The network focuses on:

- bringing together stakeholders in the areas of practice, policy and research related to children and adolescents with experiences of trauma, loss and grief
- supporting local and national networking and linkages between people responsible for, or working with, children, adolescents and their families
- offering the best available knowledge, information and resources to support service providers, researchers, educators, trainers, policy makers and advocates.

Website: www.earlytraumagrief.anu.edu.au

Australian Domestic and Family Violence Clearinghouse

The Clearinghouse is a national organisation, providing high quality information about domestic and family violence issues and practice. The primary goal of the Clearinghouse is to prevent domestic and family violence. Specifically, the Clearinghouse publishes newsletters and papers on key issues, policy, legislation, training and new initiatives. We maintain a library of research and resources and an online database of good practice programs.

Website: www.adfvc.unsw.edu.au

Telephone: 02 9385 3843, 1800 753 382

Australian Institute of Criminology

Provides a range of research reports and statistical summaries, including research on young people and domestic violence, femicide, stalking, etc.

Website: <http://www.aic.gov.au>



Australian Institute of Family Studies

The Australian Institute of Family Studies is an Australian Government statutory agency in the portfolio of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. Its role is to conduct research and communicate findings that affect family wellbeing.

Website: www.aifs.gov.au

Telephone: 03 9214 7888

Centre for Domestic and Family Violence Research

The Centre's purpose is to contribute to the prevention of domestic and family violence by informing, promoting and supporting the actions of individuals, communities, services and governments through state-wide leadership in research, evaluation, sector development and community engagement on domestic and family violence prevention.

Website: www.noviolence.com.au

Telephone: 07 4940 7834

Domestic Violence Resource Centre Victoria

DVRCV (formerly DVIRC) is a statewide service in Victoria, Australia. DVRCV aims to reduce and prevent family violence by providing education to improve service and policy responses, and by assisting people who have experienced abuse.

Website: <http://www.dvirc.org.au/index.htm>

HURT

A website run by the Women's Council for Domestic and Family Violence Services (WA)

Hurt is an interactive website that is designed to raise awareness about the hidden devastation and family turmoil of domestic and family violence and sexual assault.

Modelled like a house, the website invites viewers to explore the house from the perspective of any one of 27 characters who are linked to over 100 video clips.

Website: <http://www.hurt.net.au/about.htm>

Telephone: (08) 9420 7264



National Child Protection Clearinghouse

National Child Protection Clearinghouse, which operates from the Australian Institute of Family Studies provides issues papers, research, reports, discussion forums, event information, prevention programs, and other resources for workers.

Website: <http://www.aifs.gov.au/nch/index.html>

Women with Disabilities Australia

Articles, reports and statistics on issues facing women with disabilities, including violence and abuse.

Website: <http://www.wwda.org.au>

Services for Youth

Australian Child & Adolescent Trauma, Loss & Grief Network

The network focuses on:

- bringing together stakeholders in the areas of practice, policy and research related to children and adolescents with experiences of trauma, loss and grief
- supporting local and national networking and linkages between people responsible for, or working with, children, adolescents and their families
- offering the best available knowledge, information and resources to support service providers, researchers, educators, trainers, policy makers and advocates.

Website: www.earlytraumagrief.anu.edu.au

Bursting the Bubble (DVRCV) – Domestic Violence Information for Young People

The Bursting the Bubble website was developed by DVIRC with funding from the Victorian Government. The website is aimed at teens and young adults.

Website: www.burstingthebubble.com



When Love Hurts

This is DVIRC's comprehensive guide for young people on love, respect and abuse in relationships.

Website: <http://www.dvirc.org.au/whenlove>

Telephone Counselling and Hotlines

1800 Respect

This is a new (2010) telephone counselling service for Australians who have experienced or are at risk of physical or sexual violence.

1800 RESPECT will give callers access to qualified and specialist counsellors who will provide counselling, information, advice, and referrals, free of charge.

Telephone: 1800 RESPECT (1800 737 732).

Family Law Hotline

Telephone: 1800 050 321

Kids Helpline

Kids Helpline is a counselling service for Australian children and young people aged between 5 and 25 years.

Telephone: 1800 551 800

Lifeline

Lifeline offers access to a range of national and local services that support mental health, wellbeing, help seeking and suicide prevention.

Website: www.lifeline.org.au

Telephone: 13 11 14

Telephone: 1800 551 800



MensLine Australia

MensLine Australia is the national telephone support, information and referral service for men with family and relationship concerns. The service is available from anywhere in Australia for the cost of a local call, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The service is staffed by paid professional counsellors, experienced in men's issues.

Website: <http://www.menslineaus.org.au/>

Telephone: 1300 78 99 78

Women's Emergency Services Network (WESNET)

WESNET is the national women's peak advocacy body for women's domestic violence services.

Website: <http://www.wesnet.org.au>

Services for Indigenous Clients

Family Violence Prevention Legal Service (FVPLS)

The FVPLS program provides culturally sensitive assistance to Indigenous victim-survivors of family violence and sexual assault through the provision of legal assistance, court support, casework and counselling.

Website:

www.ag.gov.au/www/agd/agd.nsf/Page/Indigenouslawandnativetitle_Indigenouslawprograms_Familyviolencepreventionlegalservices

Telephone: 02 6141 4817

Aboriginal Medical Services (AMS) – NACCHO

The National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) is the national peak Aboriginal health body representing Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services throughout Australia.

Website: www.naccho.org.au

Telephone: 02 6248 0644



Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care Services

SNAICC has a membership base of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-based child care agencies, Multi-functional Aboriginal Children's Services, crèches, long day care child care services, pre schools, early childhood education services, early childhood support organisations, family support services, foster care agencies, link up and family reunification services, family group homes, community groups and voluntary associations, and services for young people at risk.

Website: www.snaicc.asn.au

Telephone: 03 9489 8044

Migrant and Refugee Services

Forum of Australian Services for Survivors of Torture and Trauma (FASSTT)

FASSTT is a network of Australia's eight specialist rehabilitation agencies that work with survivors of torture and trauma who have come to Australia from overseas. There is one FASSTT member agency in each state and territory of Australia.

Website: <http://www.fasstt.org.au/home/whatisfasstt.php>

Refugee Council of Australia

The Refugee Council of Australia (RCOA) is the national umbrella body for refugees and the organisations and individuals who support them.

Website: <http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/>

Financial Assistance

Centrelink

Centrelink is an Australian Government statutory agency, delivering a range of Commonwealth services to the Australian community. Centrelink serves Australia by assisting people to become self-sufficient and supporting those in need.

Website: www.centrelink.gov.au

Telephone: 136 150



Parenting

ParentLink

ParentLink provides links to parenting support services nationally.

Website: <http://www.parentlink.act.gov.au/links/servicesnationally>

Raising Children Network

The Raising Children Network provides information that can help parents with the day-to-day decisions of raising children, and looking after their own needs.

Website: <http://raisingchildren.net.au/>

Indigenous Parenting Support Services (IPSS)

IPSS will increase the number of Indigenous families and children that have access to parent-child services and aims to target support to families with children aged up to twelve years of age with a particular focus on families with children aged 0-2 years.

Website: <http://www.facs.gov.au/sa/indigenous/progserv/families/icp/Pages/ipss.aspx>