

February 2024

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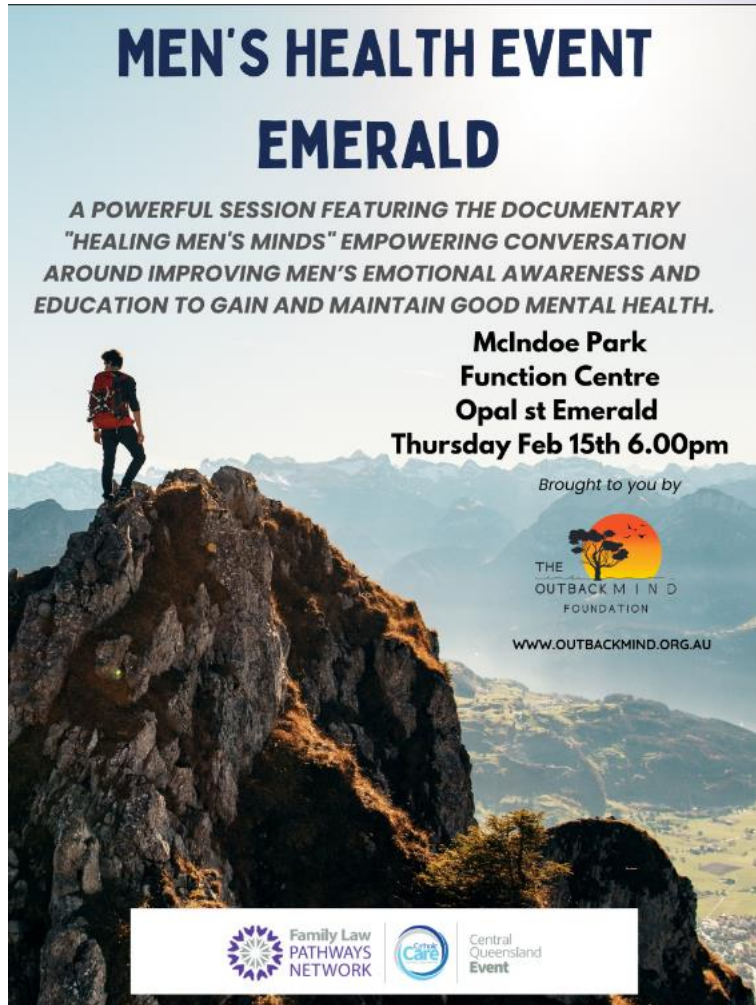
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**MEN'S HEALTH EVENT
EMERALD**



*A POWERFUL SESSION FEATURING THE DOCUMENTARY
"HEALING MEN'S MINDS" EMPOWERING CONVERSATION
AROUND IMPROVING MEN'S EMOTIONAL AWARENESS AND
EDUCATION TO GAIN AND MAINTAIN GOOD MENTAL HEALTH.*

**McIndoe Park
Function Centre
Opal st Emerald
Thursday Feb 15th 6.00pm**

Brought to you by


THE
OUTBACK M I N D
FOUNDATION

WWW.OUTBACKMIND.ORG.AU

 Family Law
PATHWAYS
NETWORK  Central
Queensland
Event

We are looking forward to supporting the Outback Mind Foundation and their work in Emerald.

This viewing of the movie "Healing Men's Minds" will be the beginning of more support for Men's mental health in the Central Highlands.

Visit: The Outback Mind Foundation | Where Men's Mental Health Matters

Updates

Changes to the Family Law Act from May 2024

The [Family Law Amendment Act 2023](#) was passed by the Australian Parliament on 19 October 2023.

Most of the changes to the law will apply from **6 May 2024**.

These changes may affect you if either:

- a court is currently considering your parenting arrangements.
- you are trying to determine the right parenting arrangement for your child.

The new laws will make changes to law about parenting arrangements, including:

- introducing a simpler list of factors for courts to consider when deciding parenting arrangements.
- removing the 'presumption' of equal shared responsibility.

If you would like to understand more about the new laws on parenting arrangements, please refer to the [Family Law Amendment Act 2023: Factsheet for parents and parties](#)

There are a number of other important changes in the *Family Law Amendment Act 2023*. These include:

- requirements for Independent Children's Lawyers to meet directly with children.
- simpler compliance and enforcement provisions for child-related orders
- new powers for the courts to prevent harmful litigation.
- new powers to enable government to regulate family report writers.

A detailed explanation of all of the changes in the *Family Law Amendment Act 2023* can be found in the [Family Law Amendment Act 2023: Factsheet for family law professionals](#)

Family dispute resolution

The [Family Law Act 1975](#) requires separating and separated families who have a dispute about children to make a genuine effort to sort it out through [family dispute resolution](#).

The Act also requires that they take part in family dispute resolution before attending court unless one of the exceptions applies, such as family violence, child abuse or urgency.



Evaluation of the Children's Contact Service Activity.

In 2023 the Attorney-General's Department commissioned the Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS) to undertake a review of Children's Contact Services – a service offering funded under the Department's Family Relationship Services Program. The evaluation report was published in December 2023.

Children's Contact Services (CCs) facilitate the supervision of the parenting time and changeover for families most commonly where the parents are separating, or have separated, and require a safe and neutral venue to enable contact to take place.

Visit: <https://frsa.org.au/frsa-ebulletin-no-1-2024>



What is Family?

Australian views of what makes a family.

This research paper by Mikayla Budinski and Luke Gahan was released November 2023.

This research paper is definitely worth a read to give us a greater understanding about the values and understandings that Australians have regarding family.

Visit: [AIFS Paper: What is family? Australian views on what makes a family](#)



Australian Government
Australian Institute of
Family Studies



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a priority.



Watch: Resistance and Backlash webinar.

It can be challenging for people to understand or accept that violence against women is driven by gender inequality.

Negative responses to prevention work such as resistance and backlash, are expected parts of the change process.

Knowing how to minimize and respond to resistance and backlash can set your prevention initiative up for success.

Visit: [Webinar – Resistance and backlash in the prevention of violence against women \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)



FRSA National Conference 2024.

Family and Relationship Services – valued now and into the future.

Register for the Early Bird.

Held in Melbourne this May the FRSA conference promises to deliver a highly impressive line-up of speakers, who will address a range of topics and issues with a focus on the Conference theme.

Visit: [C24-Sponsorship-Prospectus-2024_final.pdf \(frsa.org.au\)](https://frsa.org.au/C24-Sponsorship-Prospectus-2024_final.pdf)



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Articles

Benefits of hiring a family lawyer for your case.

This article is by Donna Nguyen of Unified Lawyers.

Nothing is more important in this life than family. So, when you find yourself in a difficult legal situation, it's imperative that find the right lawyer to handle your family law issues.

Visit: [Benefits of hiring a family lawyer for your case - Family Law - Australia \(mondag.com\)](https://mondag.com.au/family-law/australia/benefits-of-hiring-a-family-lawyer-for-your-case)



Statistics: Marriage and Divorce Rate in Australia (2024 Update.)

This article is by Sophia Bechara of Unified Lawyers.

With lockdowns and restrictions on gatherings, particularly during 2020 and 2021, the number of marriages was artificially suppressed and this can be seen in the latest statistics.

Visit: [Statistics: Marriage and Divorce Rate in Australia \[2024 Update\] - Divorce - Australia \(mondag.com\)](https://mondag.com.au/family-law/australia/statistics-marriage-and-divorce-rate-in-australia-2024-update)



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