

NEWSLETTER

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WELCOME

Welcome to the first 2024 edition of the Bundaberg Family Law Pathways Network Newsletter.

This edition contains information about upcoming events and training relevant to professionals supporting families through separation. The Bundaberg FLPN Steering Committee will be meeting in March and designing a number of networking and professional development opportunities for our region. We look forward to sharing the details with you.

Steering Committee Members

Sharon Ferguson - Highland Ferguson Lawyers
Linda Adcock - Legal Aid Qld
Jacqui Ellis - Family Relationships Centre
Margot Plant - Relationships Australia
Lisa Fuller - Child Safety Court Services
Staci Rae - Impact IFS Bundaberg
Raymond Hill - Community Legal Service
Pradip Reedy - Community Legal Service
Jess Bevan - Family Law Pathways Network

NEW PROJECT OFFICER

Uniting Care Community have recruited a new Project Officer for the Family Law Pathways Network. Jess Bevan commenced in the role in January and has started making contact with Steering Committee members to continue the wonderful work done by the previous Project Officer, Anne McWhirter.

Jess has a background in child protection and family support and is excited to be in the role.

If you have any questions for Jess, please reach out via email to pathways.widebay@uccommunity.qld.au



SERVICE SHOWCASE



Court Network Safety Net Program



Court Network's Family Court Program- Safety Net, has launched in Queensland and currently have an in-court team at Brisbane Family Court and a Telephone Service supporting court users across the state.

This volunteer service provides an enhanced model of support by actively collaborating with court users and in-court services, including but not limited to FASS and duty lawyer services, to support court users to bridge service gaps. All services are provided by highly trained and skilled volunteers and is available to all court users, including, victims, witnesses, accused, family, friends, parents, and guardians.

The Safety Net Program provides non-legal support, information, referrals, and advocacy. The service is a free confidential community service which can provide a range of support services, some of which are included below:

- Non-legal information about what happens before, during and after court
- Information about court etiquette, explaining court processes and how to navigate court on the day
- Assist you to get the help you need to address your safety concerns and help to arrange access to safe spaces at court
- Referrals to legal services and community legal centres.
- Help you to understand potential outcomes and next steps that you might have to take
- Providing referral pathways to key support services like FASS, lighthouse Model, family services, family violence services, etc
- Providing emotional support, before, during and after your day at court
- Information on how to navigate online court and web-ex hearings

Court Network



Safety Net Program

Our highly trained Networkers provide non-legal support, information, referrals, and advocacy to court users, friends, and family members accessing or engaging with the Family Court.

Support is available pre-court, during court, and post-court.

Call our Telephone Service to speak to one of our friendly Networkers. They will help you navigate the system, explain court etiquette and processes, and provide referral pathways.



LIMITED IN-COURT SUPPORT AT:
BRISBANE, DANDENONG, MELBOURNE

1800 571 239
MONDAY TO FRIDAY
9AM - 4PM AEST

To refer someone to the Court Network's Safety Net Program, please visit the following link:

<https://courtnetwork.com.au/get-support/referral-form/>

NEW RESEARCH

[Home](#) > [Research](#) > [Research reports](#)

Evaluation of the Children's Contact Service Activity

This report sets out the findings of the Evaluation of Children's Contact Centre Activity. Children's Contact Services (CCSs) facilitate the supervision of 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. This study evaluates the work and activity of these services.

[Home](#) > [Research programs](#) > [Family law and family separation](#)

Review of Family Relationship Services

The AIFS has been commissioned to conduct research in relation to the AGD Funded Family Relationship Services Program. This review will include 11 components including stakeholder consultations and interviews, data analyses, surveys of Family Law professionals and interviews with separated adults who have used these services. The review is due for completion on 28 June 2024.



What makes a family?

This research report produced by AIFS outlines findings from the Families in Australia Survey.

One of the findings was:

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people were much more likely to rate legal ties or obligations as important or very important compared to non-Indigenous Australians (48% vs 30%).

TRAINING



USING SURVEYS

Do you want insights into how surveys can help your service better understand client experiences ? This AIFS webinar covers research and practice perspectives.

TECH-FACILITATED COERCIVE CONTROL

A webinar replay on how to support clients exposed to technology-facilitated coercive control.



SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S WELL-BEING

How to ensure childrens wellbeing is maintained when working with separated parents.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



International Women's Day, celebrated annually on March 8th, honours the achievements of women worldwide and advocates for gender equality. In 2024, the theme is "Inspire Inclusion".

By participating in local initiatives, we contribute to a global movement, recognising that meaningful progress is achieved when communities unite to amplify the voices and accomplishments of women. International Women's Day serves as a reminder that every individual plays a vital role in advancing gender equality and creating a more inclusive world.

Gin Gin Neighbourhood Centre Breakfast

Friday 8th March
7am-8.30am
Gin Gin Bowls Club
\$15 - Full Breakfast

RSVP 1st March
07 4130 4630

Zonta Club of Bundaberg Breakfast

Sunday 3rd March
8.30am - 11:00am
Brothers Sports Club
\$45 - Full Breakfast

[Purchase tickets HERE](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS

15

Feb

11:00am

“HOW TO PRO BONO” WEBINAR

Using Pro Bono partnerships to maximise your impact. Presented by Robert Reed.

[REGISTER HERE - FREE](#)



21

Feb

3:00pm

DISASTER LEGAL HELP - LEGAL AID Q&A PANEL

If you are supporting clients who are also impacted by natural disasters.

[REGISTER HERE - FREE](#)



7

Mar

10:00am

READY-SET-CONNECT KIDS EVENT

When parents of children with disabilities experience separation, there is often confusion about how to access much needed additional support such as respite. This networking event is hosted by One Community.

This event runs from 10:00am to 12:30pm and is held at the Bundaberg Multiplex Sport & Convention Centre.

[REGISTER HERE - FREE](#)



BUNDABERG READY-SET-CONNECT KIDS

THANK YOU FOR READING

Thank you for being a part of the Bundaberg Family Law Pathways network. If you would like to learn more about the FLPN, watch the short video on the [National website](#).



CONTACT

To contact the Bundaberg FLPN Project Officer Jess Bevan,
email pathways.widebay@ucommunity.org.au

If you have been forwarded this newsletter and would like to become a member of the FLPN, submit a request to join below.

JOIN NOW