



Family Law  
PATHWAYS  
NETWORK

GOLD  
COAST

## April 2024 Newsletter

Welcome to the second edition of the Family Law Pathways Network newsletter 2024.



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### Steering Committee Members :

- Jake Coates - Thriving Multicultural Communities
- Molly Dragiewicz - Griffith University
- Simone Fraser - Inns of Court French Quarter Chambers of Mediation Centres
- Lucy Gregory - DVPC
- Anne Halliday - ATSILS
- Vanessa Hernandez - Australian Family Lawyers
- Kate Keating - Keating Lehn Solicitors
- Tracy Smyth - Act for Kids
- Coralie Stevenson - Bravehearts
- Jan Squires - CFRS
- Libby Taylor - Bond University



**The Event : Domestic Violence and Cyber Abuse held at Kurrawa Surf Club was a great success. Our Facilitator Dr Molly Dragiewics (Associate Professor Griffith University) and our Speakers Lucy Gregory (CEO, DVPC) and Dr Carolina Leyton Zamora (DV Connect) were passionate and vastly knowledgeable.**

The audience was from a cross-section of stakeholders from Legal, Mediation, Child Safety, Queensland Police Services, QLD Health and Psychologists/Counsellors just to name a few. The open floor was infused with passion and insight with candied discussions around the topic being presented.



**Please find links below from Dr Carolina and Lucy Gregory presentations:**

[WESNET - Women's Services Network](#)

[Online safety | eSafety Commissioner](#)

[Legal Guides - TechSafety](#)

[Privacy Settings in Instagram | eSafety Commissioner](#)

[Facebook Privacy Settings | eSafety Commissioner](#)

[The woman who found 80 spycams in her home \(aol.co.uk\)](#)

<https://vimeo.com/544826472>



**Save the date : Speed Networking Event 5th September - More information soon**



Webinar Series from the AGD

A flyer for a webinar series. At the top left is the Australian Government Attorney-General's Department logo. At the top right is the Family Law Pathways Network logo. The main title "Family Law Amendment Act Changes from May 2024" is in a purple box. Below the title is a photo of two young girls sitting on a beach. The text below the photo states: "The National Family Law Pathways Networks in collaboration with Attorney-General's Department invite you to participate in our upcoming webinar series." It then lists the dates: "Monday 25 March 2024, 1.00 PM AEDT", "Wednesday 10 April 2024, 1.00 PM AEST", and "Wednesday 17 April 2024, 1.00 PM AEST". At the bottom, it says "Register for FREE: <https://www.trybooking.com/CPZWG>" and includes a QR code.

- 25 March 2024
- This Webinar is now available to watch on Youtube at the following link:
- [FLPN: Family Law Amendment Act Changes - Presented by the AGD \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)



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**HRT**

**Response to high risk domestic and family violence. HRT's provide integrated service response to victims and children of DFV. Advocate - QPS Sergeant Sharon Morgan speaks from real life experience and makes a difference.**

After attending our Gold Coast FPLN Event in March, Sharon has shared her story with us. Sharon has served in the QPS for 25 years and is currently the State Coordinator for the QPS HRT. Below is a link to her story in a PODCAST part 1&2.



**Please find links below for Sergeant Morgan's story**

<https://www.mamamia.com.au/domestic-violence-doesnt-discriminate/amp/>

[https://open.spotify.com/episode/7w8etGK6ryL59OFVyvCQEM?si=wVtP\\_0MnSLq1oTYVBd2nPA](https://open.spotify.com/episode/7w8etGK6ryL59OFVyvCQEM?si=wVtP_0MnSLq1oTYVBd2nPA)

<https://open.spotify.com/episode/6Xw3MBF9uXmHcQMqiRy71q?si=vtbD-qVtShSXCrvywpK13Q>

**Helpful links**

Safe steps - <https://www.safesteps.org.au/>  
1800RESPECT - <https://www.1800respect.org.au/>

Domestic and Family Violence prevention  
Month - May 2024  
<https://www.mamamia.com.au/domestic-violence-doesnt-discriminate/amp/>





On 12 March 2024, Minister for Social Services, the Hon Amanda Rishworth MP and Assistant Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence, the Hon Justine Elliot MP, announced that people affected by domestic, family and sexual violence can now contact 1800RESPECT via video call.

As the national front door to support people affected by domestic, family and sexual violence, being accessible and inclusive is essential and it's an exciting milestone for the service to have four different channels in which individuals can connect with 1800RESPECT counsellors.



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**Dates to Remember in 2024**



Protecting Children and Young People from Sexual Abuse: A Guide for Parents & Carers – FREE RESOURCE

Developed by Bravehearts, and in consultation with leading child protection experts, this extensive resource is designed to help parents and carers start and maintain conversations that can help prevent child sexual abuse and exploitation. Now in its eighth edition, this free guide is a vital resource for all parents and carers, whether the children in your care are very young or in their teens, it will help you navigate tricky topics with confidence. Download the free guide today at the [Bravehearts website](#).



Dates to Remember in 2024



There is a common misconception that domestic and family violence is less prevalent in LGBTQ+ relationships or that certain dynamics mean there is less likely to be abuse. Held annually on 28 May, LGBTQ Domestic Violence Awareness Day. [dfvcouncil@premiers.qld.gov.au](mailto:dfvcouncil@premiers.qld.gov.au)



Held across the country from 7-14 July 2024, NAIDOC Week will celebrate and recognize the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This year's theme chosen by the National NAIDOC Committee, Keep the fires burning! Blak, Loud and Proud



Child Protection Week 1-7 September 2024 National Child Protection Week message that 'Every child in every community needs a fair go' will be complemented with the theme 'Every conversation matters'. Conversations are powerful tools to keep children and young people safe and well.



The month-long celebration, held from 1-31 October, will promote positive community attitudes towards older people and ageing, provide opportunities for community participation to enhance community connections, and celebrate older Queenslanders and their ongoing contribution to the state—whether as volunteers or in the workforce, community leaders or carers, grandparents, or advocates.



### Easy English Charter of Victims' Rights

The Office of the Interim Victims' Commissioner has produced an Easy English Charter of Victims' Rights.

This new resource has been produced to support victims of violent crime to understand their rights throughout their journey with the criminal justice system.

Helping victims of violent crime to understand their rights can empower victims, providing them with the expectations that those interacting with them should be meeting and a way in which to raise concerns.

When interacting with victims of violent crime, you can use the Easy English Charter to help them understand their rights.

<https://www.victimscommissioner.qld.gov.au/news-and-media/new-easy-english-resource>





### Gold Coast Harmony Festival

The [Kusuma Indonesia Community Australia -KICA](#) is organising the Gold Coast Harmony Festival on the 20th of April at the Great Lawn Broadwater Parklands Southport. Join them and enjoy with family and friends free activities for children, including face painting, jumping castles, outdoor games, rickshaw rides, non-stop entertainment from around the world, delicious international food, free activities and information from local organisations and much more. See you there!



### GOLD COAST FAMILY AND RELATIONSHIP SERVICES

#### Supporting Children after Separation

Individual Counselling

Brief intervention counselling (up to six session) to provide emotional support to children who are experiencing family separation or divorce, opportunities to express their thoughts and feelings in a confidential environment, and develop new coping strategies to help them adjust to any changes.

This is a FREE Service funded by the Australian Government.

Please call 5552 6500.