



**ATTORNEY-GENERAL  
THE HON PHILIP RUDDOCK MP**

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**NEW SERVICES KEEP FOCUS ON CHILDREN**

The Attorney-General Philip Ruddock today announced the organisations that have been invited to operate eight new Parenting Orders Programs and nine new Children's Contact Services.

These new services, to be established later this year, are part of major changes to the family law system being implemented by the Australian Government to improve outcomes for families. The successful organisations will now negotiate funding agreements.

"Where conflict between separating parents prevents children having a relationship with both parents, it is the children who suffer," Mr Ruddock said.

"These new services help ensure children can continue to have a relationship with both parents," he said.

Parenting Orders Programs help separated parents experiencing high conflict to put aside their own interests and to focus on the best outcome for their children. As a result many parents are able to reduce the level of conflict and put in place arrangements that enable both parents to have a relationship with their children.

Children's Contact Services also help families in high conflict or where there are safety concerns. They provide safe transfer of children from one parent to another and supervised visits where this is needed.

The Attorney-General and the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs Mal Brough called for organisations to apply for funding to provide a range of services in early September 2006.

More information about the changes to the family law system and the new services available to support the changes can be found at [www.familyrelationships.gov.au](http://www.familyrelationships.gov.au) or by calling the Family Relationship Advice Line on 1800 050 321.

A list of the successful organisations is attached.

**Media Contacts:**

**Michael Pelly**

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LOCATION	SERVICE TYPE	SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT	MEDIA CONTACT DETAILS
<b>NEW SOUTH WALES</b> (Note: Consortium members are listed alphabetically)			
<b>Albury</b>	Parenting Orders Program	Upper Murray Family Care Incorporated	Luke Rumbold, CEO, Upper Murray Family Care Incorporated, 0418 970 182
<b>Blacktown</b>	Children's Contact Services	Relationships Australia (NSW)	Anne Hollonds, CEO, Relationships Australia NSW, 02 9425 4999 or 0411 382 692
<b>Lismore</b>	Parenting Orders Program	Interrelate Family Centres	Karen Morris, Deputy CEO, Interrelate Family Centres, 0417 233 752
<b>Wollongong</b>	Parenting Orders Program	Relationships Australia (NSW)	Anne Hollonds, CEO, Relationships Australia NSW, 02 9425 4999 or 0411 382 692
<b>VICTORIA</b>			
<b>Geelong</b>	Parenting Orders Program	Barwon Consortium (Centacare Catholic Family Services, City of Greater Geelong, Glastonbury Child and Family Services Ltd, Mackillop Family Services Ltd, Relationships Australia (VIC) Inc)	Father Joe Caddy, CEO Centacare Catholic Family Services, 0407 261 863
<b>QUEENSLAND</b>			
<b>Cairns</b>	Children's Contact Service	Relationships Australia (QLD)	Andrew Davis, CEO, Relationships Australia (QLD), 0419 821 412
	Parenting Orders Program		
<b>Gold Coast</b>	Parenting Orders Program	Community Care Incorporated	Bernie O'Regan, Chief of Operations, Community Care Inc., 0407 330 288
<b>Ipswich</b>	Children's Contact Service	Community Care Incorporated	Bernie O'Regan, Chief of Operations, Community Care Inc., 0407 330 288
<b>Rockhampton</b>	Children's Contact Service	Relationships Australia (QLD)	Andrew Davis, CEO, Relationships Australia (QLD), 0419 821 412
	Parenting Orders Program		
<b>Sunshine Coast</b>	Parenting Orders Program	CareLinKinect Consortium (Community Care Inc, Kinections)	Bernie O'Regan, Chief of Operations, Community Care Inc., 0407 330 288
<b>WESTERN AUSTRALIA</b>			
<b>Geraldton</b>	Children's Contact Service	Geraldton Family Relationships Services (Centacare Family Services, Chrysalis Support Services Inc, Geraldton Regional Community Education Centre Association Inc, Geraldton Resource Centre Inc, Midwest Mens Health Inc)	Sr Mary Ryan, Director, Centacare Family Services (08) 9921 1433 or Anne Smith, 0409 100 659
<b>Mandurah</b>	Children's Contact Service	Mandurah Family Relationship Centre and Associated Services (CLAN WA (Community Link and Network) Inc, Peel Community Legal Services, Relationships Australia (WA) Inc)	Michael Sheehan, Manager Children's Services - Relationships Australia (WA). 0438 362 144.

<b>SOUTH AUSTRALIA</b>			
<b>Berri</b>	Children's Contact Service	Relationships Australia (SA)	Mario Trinidad, Manager, Northern Adelaide and Riverland, Relationships Australia, (SA), 0412 770 031
<b>Port Augusta</b>	Children's Contact Service	UnitingCare Wesley Port Pirie Incorporated	Debbie Devlin, Manager, Community and Family Services, UnitingCare Wesley Port Pirie Incorporated, 0428 326 633
<b>TASMANIA</b>			
<b>Devonport</b>	Children's Contact Service	Roland Children's Services Incorporated and Relationships Australia (TAS) have been asked to explore working together to provide the service in North West Tasmania	Michael Walsh, Roland Children's Services Incorporated, 0419 100 579 or 03 64252077 Sue Holmes, CEO, Relationships Australia (TAS), 0418 126 605