



ATTORNEY-GENERAL HON ROBERT McCLELLAND MP

MEDIA RELEASE

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\$2.8 MILLION FOR FAMILY PATHWAYS NETWORKS

Attorney-General, Robert McClelland, today announced \$2.8 million in additional funding for new and enhanced Family Pathways Networks across Australia.

Family Pathways Networks aim to improve collaboration and coordination between organisations operating in the family law system in order to help separating families obtain appropriate services.

“This funding is part of the Australian Government’s commitment to assisting families by providing access to the services they need as quickly and seamlessly as possible,” Mr McClelland said.

The additional investment in Family Pathways Networks will:

- establish 11 new networks, increasing coverage from 25 to 36 networks across the country;
- expand existing networks by improving membership and coverage of agencies working in family violence and child protection; and
- enable larger networks to undertake regional coordination and support for their smaller counterparts.

The Networks provide a critical service as they coordinate a range of independent local service providers and organisations, including the Family Court, Federal Magistrates Court, family relationship service providers, family counsellors, Legal Aid Commissions, Community Legal Centres, private legal practitioners, and relevant government departments and agencies.

“Families can often face complex and difficult relationship issues and it is important that family services are available to effectively support them before problems escalate. This funding will provide parents with the ongoing support and assistance they need to address family breakdown and minimise the negative impact on children.”

By encouraging collaborative referrals and enhancing the understanding of available family services, Family Pathways Networks represent an essential component of the Government’s commitment to an accessible justice system that meets the needs of Australian families.

A table outlining the location of existing and new Family Pathways Networks is attached.

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Existing Family Pathways Networks

Existing network	Funding	Auspice organisation
Adelaide	\$170,000	Anglicare SA
Albury/Wodonga	\$85,000	Upper Murray Family Care
Alice Springs	\$55,000	Relationships Australia NT
Barwon SW Vic	\$55,000	Community Connections Vic
Brisbane	\$190,000	Relationships Australia Qld
Canberra	\$85,000	Legal Aid Commission ACT
Central West NSW	\$55,000	Centacare Bathurst
Coffs Harbour	\$55,000	Interrelate Family Centres
Darwin	\$85,000	NT Legal Aid Commission
Gippsland Vic	\$55,000	FMC Relationship Services
Gosford	\$55,000	Centacare Catholic Family Services
Hobart	\$85,000	Relationships Australia Tas
Launceston	\$85,000	Relationships Australia Tas
Lismore	\$55,000	Interrelate Family Centres
Melbourne	\$190,000	Centacare Catholic Family Services
Newcastle	\$110,000	Interrelate Family Centres
Northern WA	\$55,000	Relationships Australia WA
Perth	\$170,000	Relationships Australia WA
South Coast NSW	\$55,000	Anglicare Diocese of Sydney
Southern WA	\$55,000	Relationships Australia WA
Sunshine Coast	\$55,000	Lifeline Community Care Qld
Sydney	\$170,000	Interrelate Family Centres
Taree/Pt Macquarie	\$55,000	Interrelate Family Centres
Toowoomba	\$65,000	Lifeline Darling Downs and SW Qld
Wollongong	\$85,000	Anglicare Diocese of Sydney

New Family Pathways Networks

New network	Funding
Ballarat	\$55,000
Bundaberg	\$55,000
Cairns	\$55,000
Mackay	\$55,000
Mildura	\$55,000
Rockhampton	\$85,000
Shepparton	\$55,000
Tamworth	\$55,000
Townsville	\$85,000
Wagga Wagga	\$55,000
Gold Coast	\$55,000

Auspice organisations for the 11 new networks will be selected and advised in the near future.