



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

NEWS RELEASE

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EXPANSION OF FAMILY RELATIONSHIP SERVICES ON TRACK

The Attorney-General, Philip Ruddock, today announced the organisations which have been selected to operate the next 25 Family Relationship Centres.

The Centres are part of the Australian Government's sweeping changes to the family law system, which aim to shift the culture of separation from one of confrontation to co-operation, in which the interests of children come first.

"The 25 new Family Relationship Centres to open across Australia in July this year follow the very successful launch of the first 15 Centres in 2006," Mr Ruddock said.

"The Centres are making an important contribution to helping families strengthen family relationships or deal with relationship difficulties and separation."

In the first six months of operation, the Centres received almost 21,000 phone calls and 5,098 people dropped in for assistance with family relationship issues. They also conducted 8,179 interviews and intake sessions, along with 3,165 dispute-resolution sessions.

The Attorney General said the selected organisations had been invited to commence negotiations for funding.

Last September, Mr Ruddock and the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, Mal Brough, asked organisations who could provide a range of services to apply for funding. The Ministers will announce the results shortly.

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 or by calling the Family Relationship Advice Line on 1800 050 321.

A list of the organisations which have been invited to negotiate for funding is attached.

Media Contact: Michael Pelly 0419 278 715

**THE SUCCESSFUL ORGANISATIONS AND CONSORTIA INVITED TO COMMENCE FUNDING NEGOTIATIONS TO OPERATE
25 FAMILY RELATIONSHIP CENTRES TO HELP SEPARATED FAMILIES**

LOCATION	SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT	MEDIA CONTACT DETAILS
NEW SOUTH WALES	Note: Consortium members are listed alphabetically)	
Blacktown	Resilient Families Group (Relationships Australia (NSW), UnitingCare Unifam)	Anne Hollonds, CEO Relationships Australia NSW (02) 9425 4999
Campbelltown	Resilient Families Group (Relationships Australia (NSW), UnitingCare Unifam)	Clive Price, Director UnitingCare Unifam (02) 8830 0777
Fairfield	Resilient Families Group (Relationships Australia (NSW), UnitingCare Unifam)	Clive Price, Director UnitingCare Unifam (02) 8830 0777
Greater Newcastle	Newcastle Integrated Family Services (Interrelate Family Centres, Newcastle Family Support Services, University of Newcastle Family Action Centre)	Karen Morris, Deputy CEO Interrelate Family Centres (02) 4957 8888
North Ryde	Resilient Families Group (Relationships Australia (NSW), UnitingCare Unifam)	Anne Hollonds, CEO Relationships Australia NSW (02) 9425 4999
Nowra	South Coast Family Relationship Centre (Anglicare Diocese of Sydney, Centacare Diocese of Wollongong)	Glenda Devlin, Illawarra Regional Manager Anglicare Diocese of Sydney (02) 4229 7911
Wagga Wagga	Riverina Family Relationship Centre and Early Intervention Services (Centacare Managers Inc, Relationships Australia Canberra and Region Inc)	Bernadette Post, Manager Wagga Wagga Relationships Australia (02) 6921 3597
VICTORIA		
Ballarat	Grampians Consortium – Ballarat FRC (Centacare Catholic Diocese of Ballarat Inc, Child and Family Services Inc, Relationships Australia (VIC) Inc)	David Beaver, CEO Centacare Ballarat (03) 5337 8902
Berwick	Berwick Family Relationship Centre and Early Intervention Services Consortium (Relationships Australia (VIC) Inc, Windermere Child and Family Services Inc)	Cheryl De Zilwa, CEO Windermere Child and Family Services (03) 9705 3261

Geelong	Barwon Consortium (Centacare Catholic Family Services, City of Greater Geelong, Glastonbury Child and Family Services Ltd, Mackillop Family Services Ltd, Relationships Australia (VIC) Inc)	Fr Joe Caddy, CEO Centacare Catholic Family Services (03) 9287 5504
Greensborough	Greensborough Family Relationship Centre and Early Intervention Services Consortium (Berry Street Victoria, Centacare Catholic Family Services, Relationships Australia (VIC) Inc)	Michael Hunt, CEO Relationships Australia (VIC) (03) 8823 2222
Morwell or Traralgon	FMC Relationships Services	Mary Rose Yuncken Chief Executive Officer Family Mediation Centre (03) 9556 5316
Wodonga	Albury Wodonga Family Relationship Centre (Upper Hume Community Health Service Inc, Upper Murray Family Care Inc)	Luke Rumbold, CEO Upper Murray Family Care (02) 6022 8100
QUEENSLAND		
Cairns	Relationships Australia (QLD)	Monique Belousoff, Marketing Manager Relationships Australia (QLD) (07) 3423 6910
Gold Coast	Centacare Brisbane	Adrian Taylor, Communications Centacare Brisbane (07) 3336 9325
Ipswich	CareLinKinect Consortium (Community Care Inc, Kinections)	Bernie O'Regan Community Care Inc (07) 3420 6588
Rockhampton	Centacare Rockhampton	Liz Orupold, Diocesan Director Centacare Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton (07) 4931 3674
Sunshine Coast	Lifeline Community Care Queensland	Chris Lancaster, General Manager Greater Sunshine Coast Region Lifeline Community Care (07) 5443 5366.
Upper Mount Gravatt	Relationships Australia (QLD)	Monique Belousoff, Marketing Manager Relationships Australia (QLD) (07) 3423 6910
WESTERN AUSTRALIA		
Geraldton	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)	Anne Smith, Centacare Family Services (08) 9921 1433

Mandurah	Mandurah Family Relationship Centre Consortium (Anglicare WA Inc, Citizens Advice Bureau of WA Inc, Edith Cowan University, Ngala Inc, Southern Communities Advocacy Legal & Education Service Inc)	Jennie Hannan Executive General Manager Services Anglicare WA (m) 0418 902 655
Midland	Midland Family Relationship Centre (Centrecare Inc, Midland Information, Debt & Legal Advocacy Service Inc (MIDLAS))	Tony Pietropiccolo, Director Centrecare (08) 9325 6644
SOUTH AUSTRALIA		
Noarlunga	Southern Family Connections (Relationships Australia (SA), UnitingCare Wesley)	Ms Sue Park, CEO UnitingCare Wesley (08) 8202 5886
Port Augusta	Centacare Catholic Family Services Port Pirie Diocese	Teresa Lynch, Manager Services Improvement Centacare Catholic Family Services (m) 0409 674 186
TASMANIA		
Launceston	Relationships Australia (TAS)	Susan Holmes, CEO Relationships Australia (TAS) (03) 6211 4050