

Information Card

Who to contact if you are concerned about abuse or violence in your relationship.

Help is at hand....

Family violence is against the law

It is against the law for anyone to hurt you or any member of your family. Your family includes your spouse, partner, children, siblings, carer, parent, or in-law.

Family violence takes many forms and it occurs across all social groups in the community. While physical violence may be the most visible form, other forms of violence and abuse can be equally harmful. Women and children are most commonly the victims of family violence. Family violence hurts children too

It is against the law for children to be hit, see or hear violence in the home. They have the right, as adults do, to feel safe in their own home and not live in fear. Exposure to violence can cause long-term harm to children.

If you require assistance with this information contact:





If in immediate danger call 000

# Family violence includes

- Controlling behaviours (e.g. deciding who you can see or what you do)
- Stalking (e.g. monitoring your online activity, following you)
- Verbal abuse (e.g. put downs, threats and intimidation)
- Physical assault (e.g. pushing, slapping, punching, choking)
- Sexual assault (e.g. manipulating or forcing you to do sexual things, even if you are married)
- Emotional abuse
  (e.g. lowering your self-esteem)

- Threatening you or your children
- Social abuse (e.g. isolating you from family and friends)
- Economic abuse (e.g. controlling access to money)
- Spiritual abuse (e.g. preventing you from practicing your spiritual beliefs)
- Harming, or threats to harm pets
- Threats or actually self-harming and saying you are responsible

If someone is violent, abusing and hurting you or your children, it is not your fault.



Contact Council's Community Safety Officer for more information. **9262 6333** 





Produced by Eastern Region Local Governments, September 2019. You are not alone. Help is available.

# If in immediate danger call 000

safe steps Family Violence Response Centre 24/7 crisis response 1800 015 188

If you cannot safely call the 24/7 phone line, email safesteps@safesteps.org.au

## National Domestic Violence 24/7 Helpline

#### 24 hour counselling support 1800 RESPECT 1800 737 732

EDVOS Specialist Family Violence Service Access to multilingual staff 9259 4200 9am–8pm Mon–Fri, 9am–5pm Sat

# Eastern Centre Against Sexual Assault (ECASA) For men, women, youth and children 9870 7330 (Office Hours)

Sexual Assault Crisis Line 1800 806 292 (After Hours)

### InTouch Multicultural Centre Against Family Violence Information in community languages 9413 6500 or 1800 755 988 10am–4pm Mon–Fri

Boorndawan William Aboriginal Healing Service For Indigenous women and children 9212 0200

Thorne Harbour Health LGBTI communities 9865 6700

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Homeless Crisis Line (Opening Doors) 1800 825 955 (24 hour)

Child Protection 1300 360 391 After hours 131278

Migrant Information Centre Counselling and group program 9285 4888 Men's Helpline 1300 789 978

Men's Referral Service For men who use violence against family members 1300 766 491

Centrelink Families Line 136 150

Ringwood Magistrates Court Family Violence Intervention Orders 9871 4444

Eastern Community Legal Centre Box Hill, Boronia and Healesville 9285 4822

# Also in Whitehorse

Police Station – Box Hill 8892 3200 (24hr)

Police Station – Forest Hill 8847 3600 (24hr)

Police Station – Burwood 9888 8377

Kara House – Accommodation and Outreach 1800 900 520

Child First Family Services 1300 762 125

Mitcham Community House Family Violence Program Group program & support; childcare 9873 4812

EACH Social and Community Health Counselling services 1300 003 224

Carrington Health Counselling services 9890 2220

Migrant Information Centre (MIC) Counselling and group program 9285 4888

Crossways Women's Centre 9886 3899