

COURT SUPPORT

Family Violence First Response
Women's Health West

How we can help

If you are a victim survivor of family violence accessing this service, we will:

- Respectfully listen to your concerns and assess your level of risk.
- Help you explore your options and think about what to do next.
- Help you to understand intervention orders and the court process, if needed.
- Support you to complete the online intervention order application, if needed.
- Provide information and support to apply for a variation, withdrawal, or extension to an intervention order.
- Work with you to create a plan for you and (if applicable, your children) to stay safe.
- Put you in touch with other services if you would like additional support, such as legal assistance, housing, counselling, or financial help.
- Refer you to other programs at Women's Health West, such as case Management or Children's Counselling.
- Provide a basic security response, such as changing locks.
- Liaison, advocacy, and information sharing with the family violence police liaison officers, courts and other professionals as required.
- Let you know how to contact our service again in future if you need more information or support.

About the service

Women's Health West provides support to victim survivors of family violence. Our Family Violence First Response team provide a range of services and support, including help to navigate the court system or apply for an intervention order.

Victim survivors can access the service directly, or can be referred by other services such as the police.

Visit <http://bit.ly/whwcourtsupport> for information about days, times and locations of this service.

Who can access the service

Victim survivors of family violence who reside within the western region of Melbourne, and who are involved with the Magistrate's Court of Victoria for family violence intervention order matters.

It can also be accessed by victim survivors who have questions about the intervention order process and are thinking about applying for an intervention order.



About intervention orders

If you have experienced family violence and fear for your safety, you can apply for a court order called a family violence intervention order.

The order explains what family violence is and lists the legal conditions or rules that a family member must follow.

The Magistrate's Court of Victoria has introduced an online application for family violence intervention orders to make it easier and safer to apply, without having to attend court.

You can apply online at the Magistrate's Court of Victoria website: www.fvio.mcv.vic.gov.au.

Need support with your application?

If you would like support completing your online application, get in touch to book an appointment with one of our senior case managers.

Appointments are available on Thursdays at Women's Health West's offices in Footscray.

Alternatively, you can contact the Victims of Crime Helpline on 1800 819 817.

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Need legal advice?

Community Legal Centres

Find your local centre by contacting The Federation of Community Legal Centre's Victoria

Ph: (03) 9652 1500

www.communitylaw.org.au

Djirra (formerly called Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention and Legal Service)

Ph: (03) 9244 3333

Free call 1800 105 303

www.djirra.org.au

Victoria Legal Aid (VLA)

Ph: (03) 9269 0120

www.legalaid.vic.gov.au

phone 9689 9588
SMS only 0437 377 140
Email courtsupport@whwest.org.au

Note that our court support operating hours vary across Monday – Friday, 8am – 6pm.

Need support now?

We are not a crisis service. If you, or someone you know is in danger please call the police on 000. Outside normal office hours, contact:

safe steps on 1800 015 188 (24/7) or www.safesteps.org.au.

1800RESPECT on 1800 737 732 (24/7) or www.1800respect.org.au.

