

RIGHTS

Irrespective of nationality, cultural background, religious belief, sexual preference, gender, social and economic circumstances, age or disability, people have the right to :

- **Access** - to be informed of their rights, to be given accurate information about the services and resources available to them and to receive appropriate services.
- **Safety** - to be in a safe environment, which is non-violent at all times. The issue of safety permeates all aspects of the service.
- **Respect** - to be accepted and treated with dignity, sensitivity, courtesy and respect at all times. To provide an environment which promotes mutual respect and tolerance.
- **Participation** - to be able to participate and have their opinions valued.
- **Confidentiality and Privacy** - private environment where all personal information is treated confidentially, except where the safety or wellbeing of others is threatened or the law demands otherwise.

(Adapted from NQDVRs Policy and Procedures Manual, p23-24).

POLICE EMERGENCY	000
DV Connect-Womens' Line	1800 811 811 24 hours
Women's Centre	4775 7555 Mon - Fri
Men's Line	1800 600 636 9am - Midnight
Sexual Assault Hotline	1800 010 120 7 days a week 7.30am - 10.30pm
Lifeline	13 11 14 24 hours
1800Respect	1800 737 732 24 hours
Police Link	13 14 44

NQDVRs

- ◆ Information and referral
- ◆ AARDVARC program for children
- ◆ Resources
- ◆ Court Support
- ◆ Choosing Safety Upgrades program
- ◆ Men's Behaviour Change Program
- ◆ SAFE Dads Program
- ◆ Community education & Training

TOWNSVILLE OFFICE

PO Box 6061, Townsville QLD 4810
Phone: 07 4721 2888 Fax: 07 4721 1794
nqdvrs @nqdvrs.org.au

1st Floor, Metway Arcade, 390 Flinders Street, Townsville

MOUNT ISA OFFICE

Po Box 502, Mt Isa QLD 4825
Phone: 07 4743 0946 Fax: 07 4743 7999
minqdvrs@nqdvrs.org.au

The Old Court House Building, Isa Street

<http://www.nqdvrs.org.au>

Against Violence #43



Sector Development Worker



Supporting domestic violence workers in the areas of Charters Towers, Burdekin, Ingham, Hughenden and Palm Island to deliver specialised domestic violence support within their communities.

NQDVRs
Funded by



The North Queensland Domestic Violence Resource Service has been assisting clients impacted by domestic and family violence for over 20 years. In 2015 as a result of the Child Protection 10 Year Road Map, additional funding came for a DV Sector Development Worker who will support organisations to provide a consistent, appropriate and effective approach for women and children seeking protection. The DV Sector Development worker will resource the areas of Charters Towers, Hughenden, Ingham, Burdekin and Palm Island.

Responding to domestic and family violence is a community responsibility. An integrated and co-ordinated community response is essential when working with domestic and family violence and safety must be the first priority.



In 2013-14, there were 66,016 occurrences of domestic and family violence reported to Queensland police. This equates to over 180 incidents of domestic and family violence being reported every day across the state. 17 homicides relating to domestic and family violence occurred in Queensland in 2012-13. On average, across Australia, one woman is killed by her partner every week. The annual cost of domestic and family violence to the Queensland economy is estimated to be between \$2.7 billion to \$3.2 billion

(Special Taskforce on Domestic and Family Violence. (2015). *Not Now, Not Ever: Putting an End to Domestic and Family Violence in Queensland*, p6).

Purpose of the role of North Queensland Domestic Violence Sector Development Worker:

- Develop a relationship with key workers in the areas of:
 - ⇒ Charters Towers,
 - ⇒ Hughenden,
 - ⇒ Ingham
 - ⇒ Burdekin and
 - ⇒ Palm Island
- Support the development of local integrated/network systems.
- Develop positive supportive relationships with funded Domestic Violence workers in the region to provide specialised domestic violence information, training, resources, supervision and practical support.
- Provide support to the domestic violence workers to enhance links with Family and Child Connect (FACC) and Intensive Family Support (IFS).
- Respond appropriately to any other considerations as they arise to the development of this role.
- Negotiate appropriate process with organisations in relation to establishing a process for regular professional supervision using a range of methods such as audio visual, telephone, Facetime / Skype.



Children and pets can be affected by domestic and family violence.

A child's exposure to domestic violence may be through directly witnessing abuse and/or observing the consequences of the abuse, such as visible injuries to the victim or through tension and fear felt in the home. Research has also shown that domestic and family violence can have dangerous and negative impacts on unborn babies and may impact on their future development.

Children affected by domestic and family violence may not be able to verbally voice their feelings, however their behaviours may, such as they may suppress their feeling and become withdrawn, or act out their feelings in an aggressive manner.

http://www.nqdvrs.org.au/adv_kids.html

Animal abuse is not just a crime; it often is a warning sign of a violent home and it should be taken seriously. Threats of harm to a pet may be made by the perpetrator or actual harm to the pet may occur. Victims of domestic violence are **very** hesitant to leave an abusive situation when their beloved companion/pet would have to be left behind. DV Connect 1800 811 811 may be able to assist victims and their pets in seeking safety.

<http://www.nqdvrs.org.au/pets-in-crisis.html>



Sector Development Worker:
seniorsupport@nqdvrs.org.au