

What our workers can do for you

NQDVRS will work with the courts, police and clients to assist women and children to stay safe in their home. To accomplish this, our workers will:

- Discuss safety needs with the woman where she has a protection order which has a condition on it stating the respondent is not to enter or remain in any place the woman is living, or that the court has ordered the respondent to vacate the premises by specified date
- Plan practical aspects of staying safely at home and make arrangements for safety upgrades to be made to the woman's home
- Discuss and plan for appropriate referrals
- Assist with the court process
- Provide information and support
- Provide respectful and holistic support to women's safety
- Refer respondents to appropriate services
- Temporary assistance to respondents with emergency accommodation



Other Helpful Services

NQDVRS Provides other services including:

Crisis Counselling and Support

Information and Referral

Court Support

AARDVARC program for children who are exposed to Domestic and Family Violence.

Community Education and Training

Resources

Men's Behaviour Change Programs (MenTER)

'SAFE DADS' an information program for fathers



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For Further Information please visit us at

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

Funded by Department of Communities

Against Violence #40

NQDVRS

Domestic Violence

Pilot Project

CHOOSING



SAFETY

**A Program to assist victims of
Domestic and Family Violence to stay
safely in their own home**

How to be a part of the pilot

NQDVRS has received funding for a 12 month pilot project to help women and children stay safe at home. The Townsville based 'Choosing Safety' project is one of three pilot projects across Queensland as outlined in the Queensland Government's strategy to reduce domestic and family violence 2009 - 2014.

This pilot project is for victims of Domestic and Family Violence who have applied for a Protection Order with an Ouster Condition.

An Ouster Condition is an option on a Protection Order which means the abusive partner must not enter, or remain in the home or must vacate and not return to the premises by a date specified by the court on the Order. Women and children are then able to remain in their home.

Those women may be eligible for the 'Choosing Safety' Project to increase their safety and the safety of their children.

Workers will be able to assist the woman throughout the process and may provide additional safety needs if a risk assessment determines it applicable.

For some women staying in familiar surroundings, e.g. where the children go to school or near family, is a way of regaining empowerment. We can help the woman to assess whether this is the most appropriate option for her and her children.

However, some women may find remaining in the home too confrontational, due to the violence and abuse which has occurred. For these woman we can provide support and referral to appropriate agencies which may assist the woman in starting a life without domestic violence.

Please contact us for more information about the pilot.

Purpose of Safety Upgrades

- Risk Assessment
- Development of Safety Plans
- Safety Audits
- Provision of resources to maintain safety
- Provision of Safety Upgrades
- Crisis Counselling
- Referrals to appropriate services
- Provide a service that is culturally sensitive
- Provide knowledge and understanding of the relevant legislation and court process.
- Provide assistance with suitable temporary accommodation for respondents to reduce risk of harm

“For Our Sons and Daughters”

The Queensland Plan to reduce violence against women and their children is committed to the development of programs which will assist people to live free from domestic violence. The plan will:

- Support diverse communities to create environments where respectful relationships are promoted by providing healthy relationships education throughout various schools, as well as the development of a multi media approach to target a larger audience.
- Develop indigenous domestic and family violence strategies by identifying priority locations for program implementation, cultural sensitivity and engagement with indigenous communities.
- Early intervention and prevention of domestic and family violence.

“Time for Action”

The “National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and Their Children” describes the human rights abuses that occur as a result of domestic and family violence. As a result of this plan the Australian Government has committed to:

- Ensuring that communities are safe and free from violence
- Relationships are respectful
- Services meet the needs of women and their children
- Responses are just
- Perpetrators stop their violence
- Systems work together effectively

“The Road Home”

The National Approach to Reducing Homelessness (“The Road Home”) recommends projects which support victims of domestic violence and their children to remain safely in their own home where practicable.

The National Affordable Housing agreement (NAHA) and The National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness are working to build more affordable homes, establish new services and achieve better results for people who are homeless. Domestic and Family Violence is the largest driver of homelessness in Australia.

“The Road Home” will work alongside “Time For Action” the National Plan To Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children as well as the National Framework for Protecting Australia’s Children 2009—2020