

Counselling & Relationship Support for Family & Friends of Missing Persons & Missing Persons



NATIONAL MISSING PERSONS COORDINATION CENTRE

Relationships Australia (RA) and National Missing Persons Coordination Centre joint project

Relationships Australia and the National Missing Persons Coordination Centre (NMPCC) are working together to provide counselling and relationship support to families and friends of missing persons (and missing persons) living in Queensland (including Northern NSW), and the Australian Capital Territory (including Riverina and South Eastern NSW).

The NMPCC has trained senior experienced counsellors in the counselling and relationship support needs of family and friends of missing persons.

Why counselling and relationship support?

Personal, relationship and family dynamics often change when someone is missing and sometimes after the person is located.

Many families and friends of missing persons state they need support when someone goes missing in the immediate, medium and long-term stages of someone's disappearance.

Sometimes people who are missing do not know how to re-connect to their previous relationships.

Counselling and support provide ways that individuals, couples, families, and/or friends can survive and make sense of the experience they are living through.

Why relationships Australia?

Relationships Australia is one of Australia's largest community based not for profit organisations providing relationship support to people experiencing challenging personal and relationship difficulties.

Services are provided to people regardless of age, religion, gender, sexual orientation, lifestyle choices, cultural, or economic backgrounds.

Relationship Australia is a values-based organisation that has no religious affiliations.

Relationships Australia is a national service and has the capacity to provide services in rural and urban areas.

Counselling in Relationships Australia is confidential and personal to your unique situation.

Counsellors in Relationship Australia are highly qualified and experienced in providing individual and family counselling regardless of circumstances.



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Access to services

The Counselling and Relationship Support Project to missing persons, and friends and families of missing persons is available from January 2009 in the areas covered by the Queensland and ACT offices of Relationships Australia.

Queensland Relationships Australia (includes Northern NSW)

- Greater Brisbane – including Capalaba, Cleveland, Chermside, Eight Miles Plains, Ipswich, Kenmore, Loganholme, Sherwood, South Brisbane, Spring Hill, and Strathpine areas.
- Gold Coast – including Beaudesert, Mermaid Beach, Southport areas.
- Sunshine Coast – including Caloundra, Cherbourg, Maroochydore, Noosaville areas.
- Darling Downs – including Toowoomba areas.
- Central Queensland – including Airlie Beach, Bowen, Bundaberg, Gladstone, Hervey Bay, Longreach, Mackay, Proserpine, Rockhampton, Yeppoon areas.
- Far North Queensland - including Atherton, Cairns, Manunda, Innisfail, Port Douglas, Thuringowa, Townsville areas.
- Northern NSW –including Lismore area.

ACT Relationships Australia (includes Riverina and South Eastern areas of NSW)

- Canberra region
- Riverina including Wagga Wagga, Cootamundra, Leeton, Tumut areas.
- South Eastern NSW – including Bega, Cooma, and Goulburn areas.

How to make an appointment

Calling the **1300 364 277** number will link you to the Relationships Australia service closest to you and will be a local call charge.

Queensland and Northern NSW 1300 364 277

Canberra 1300 364 277 or 02 6122 7100

Riverina

Wagga Wagga, Cootamundra, Leeton, Tumut 1300 364 277 or 02 6921 3597

South Eastern NSW

Bega, Cooma, Goulburn 1300 364 277 or 02 6492 2155 (Bega) or 02 6122 7100 (Cooma and Goulburn)

Relationships Australia



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What to say

Let receptionist know you are a friend or family member of a missing person – in most areas you will be prioritised and seen within a short period of time.

For further information or feedback about this project contact margi.cunningham@afp.gov.au.

Relationships Australia



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