

Supporting the Families of Men's Behaviour Change Program Participants

How do you keep families safe?

We take a whole of family approach to Men's Behaviour Change program. Increasing the safety of you and your children (if applicable) is our top priority. Your dedicated Family Advocate works directly with family members, including children and ex-partners to provide information, support and increase safety. The program includes ongoing assessments of risk; working closely with police, child protection and family support services. Your Family Advocate will check in with you regularly to provide support, safety planning and referrals as needed.

Will I be given progress updates?

We have a commitment to all participants to maintain their confidentiality. While we can't share any specific details, we can inform you when your partner/ex-partner commences and concludes their journey with a program. Other information your family advocate can provide is an understanding of the content that is covered in the Men's Behaviour Change groups.

Does participation in the program mean they've changed?

Completion of the program does not guarantee change. True change requires consistent respectful behaviour over time. The program will support your partner/ex-partner to start their journey - but it will be their responsibility to continue to access ongoing support and to be consistent with their actions.

Can I tell you about behaviour I notice or if I have a safety concern?

Yes. We encourage you to share any concerns or observations about your partner/ex-partner's behaviour with your Family Advocate. This information helps us better assess risk and ensures we take appropriate steps to support you, and your child/ren's safety.

What support is available for me and my child/ren?

The Family Advocate will support you throughout your partner/ex-partner's engagement with the program. They can support you with safety planning, emotional support and referrals to other services that may be beneficial such as counselling, housing or legal assistance.

The program also focuses on the needs of children, acknowledging the impact that family violence may have on them. Your Family Advocate will be able to provide referrals to specialised supports for their wellbeing.

What if they don't take the program seriously or drop out?

If your partner/ex-partner disengages from the program, you will be informed. You can then decide whether you would like to continue accessing your Family Advocate for short-term support. The Family Advocate can also help connect you with longer-term services to support your goals for increased safety.

Will my information be shared with my partner/ex-partner?

No, information about your engagement will not be shared with your partner/ex-partner.

All communication with the Family Advocate is confidential unless required by law - for example if there is a significant risk to you, your children or others; we may be required to report this to police or child protection.

Your safety is our priority. We will take every measure to ensure that your concerns and interactions remain private.

We have separated - I don't want to participate

We understand that even receiving contact from a program like this can bring up a lot of mixed feelings, especially if you experienced violence in your relationship.

It is your choice whether to engage with the Family Advocate or not. If you prefer not to participate, we will respect your decision.

If you change your mind at any point, you will be welcome to reach out.