

Further information and support

Women's Domestic Violence 24 hour crisis line
1800 015 188

Barwon Centre Against Sexual Assault 24 hour Crisis Line
1800 806 292

Wathaurong Aboriginal Cooperative
5277 0044

Elizabeth Hoffman House (Aboriginal Women's Service)
1800 796 112 (24 hour intake support line)

Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service
1800 064 865 (24 hour service)

Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention and Legal Service
1800 105 303

Victims of Crime
1800 819 817 (8am-11pm)

Bethany
5278 8122

SalvoConnect
5223 5400 (SalvoConnect Women's Service)
1800 825 955 (Barwon Housing)

Women's Legal Service
1800 133 302

Barwon Community Legal Service
1300 430 599

1800 RESPECT
1800 737 732

Our vision

We believe in a society in which women and children can live free from violence.

What we stand for

- Human rights • Justice
- Opportunities • Well-being



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Minerva Community Services Inc.
PO Box 908 Geelong 3220

Phone 5224 2903

admin@minerva.org.au | www.minerva.org.au



Minerva acknowledges the support of the Victorian Government



Specialist family violence support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children



A free and confidential service
Phone 5224 2903

What is family violence?

Family, or domestic violence, occurs when a family member intentionally uses violence, threats, coercion or intimidation to control or manipulate another family member, partner, or former partner.

Family violence includes:

- physical assault eg punching, hitting, kicking, pushing, slapping, choking
- sexual assault
- emotional and psychological abuse eg constant criticisms, name calling, belittling and putdowns
- verbal abuse
- threats of violence
- stalking
- financial abuse eg controlling access to money or how it is spent
- harming pets
- intentionally damaging property and belongings
- isolation from family, friends and social networks
- any behaviour that causes someone to live in fear

What does Minerva offer?

Minerva Community Services is the specialist family violence service in the Barwon Region. Minerva assists women and accompanying children who are experiencing family violence. We do this by:

- risk assessment and safety planning
- outreach support
- specialist support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children
- court support eg to obtain intervention orders
- secure crisis accommodation
- housing support
- advocacy
- information and referral

We also provide:

- secondary consultation
- community education

Who can access our programs?

Women, children and young people who have experienced, or are experiencing, family violence.

A referral is not required.

Interpreter services are available if needed.

How to contact us

Our service is available between 9am to 4:30pm, Monday to Friday.

To contact our service, phone our intake line on ☎ 5224 2903.

For assistance outside business hours, call the Women's Domestic Violence Crisis Service (WDVCS) 24 hour crisis line on ☎ 1800 015 188.

WDVCS is a confidential telephone service that provides information, support and access to safe accommodation 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

A free and confidential service
5224 2903

