

Who can access this program?

Families who:

- ◆ Identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander or from a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Background, and
- ◆ Are separated or separating, and
- ◆ Have experienced or are experiencing family violence.

This program is free to eligible families.

Please note that Centacare NENW are unable to fund legal representation for court proceedings.

For more information, please contact our
Tamworth office on (02) 6762 9200 or
1800 372 826.



Centacare NENW acknowledges the traditional custodians of this land and pays respect to the elders past and present.

Armidale - head office

150 Rusden Street, Armidale NSW 2350
E: armidale@centacarenenw.com.au

Glen Innes

200A Bourke Street, Glen Innes NSW 2370
E: armidale@centacarenenw.com.au

Gunnedah

31 Henry St, Gunnedah NSW 2380
E: tamworth@centacarenenw.com.au

Inverell

21 Oliver Street, Inverell NSW 2360
E: inverell@centacarenenw.com.au

Moree

48 Auburn Street, Moree NSW 2400
E: moree@centacarenenw.com.au

Narrabri

1/116 Barwan Street, Narrabri NSW 2390
E: narrabri@centacarenenw.com.au

Tamworth

201 Marius Street, Tamworth NSW 2340
E: tamworth@centacarenenw.com.au

Walgett

84 Wee Waa Street, Walgett NSW 2832
E: walgett@centacarenenw.com.au

headspace Tamworth

2 Darling Street, Tamworth NSW 2340
E: headspace@centacarenenw.com.au

Our Children, Our Choice

Legally Assisted Culturally Appropriate
Mediation



A program available through out the New England North West NSW for families from Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander or Culturally Diverse backgrounds who have experienced family violence.





Mediation

Mediation can help to sort out arrangements in relation to your children. Mediation is a safe way to encourage parents and carers to make their own decisions about their kids, rather than going to court.

Legally Assisted

This program provides the parents or carers with a lawyer who can assist them in the Mediation. This allows the people involved to have access to legal advice when making decisions and to be supported throughout the mediation process. If both parties are willing, your appointed lawyer can formalise your agreement by applying to the court for consent orders.

Culturally Appropriate

This program aims to acknowledge the cultural background of your family and to provide a service that is respectful and flexible. All of our employees and appointed solicitors attend cultural sensitivity training. We have culturally diverse and identified staff working together to deliver a safe and accessible service. We will provide interpreters and liaison officers at your request.

It's your program

This program has been developed to respond to your family's unique needs. A worker will be appointed to assist you throughout your participation in this program and to organise appropriate supports to help you with the mediation process. This can include referrals to other services, transport and responding to any questions or concerns you have about mediation. We are here to help you and your family to work out safe, suitable and sustainable arrangements for your kids.



The process

This is a flexible program that generally involves the following steps:

Request for Service, intake and suitability assessment

This is a pre-mediation process where you will meet with program staff to identify the issues in dispute, ensure that safety needs are met and determine whether or not mediation is the right choice for your family.

Referrals and supports

Your worker will appoint lawyers and mediators, coordinate services and help you to identify support people to assist you in mediation.



Coordinating mediation sessions

Your worker will organise a safe venue for the mediation and a time that is convenient for you and your family. They will liaise with each member attending the mediation.

Mediation sessions

Attended by your worker, support people, lawyer and facilitated by our registered FDR practitioner and culturally sensitive and appropriate mediator.

Post Mediation

Your agreement may be formalised by consent orders. Your worker will make any post mediation referrals that you think are necessary, and stay in touch from time to time to make sure that your arrangements are still working well for you and your family.

