

## Fact sheet

# Responding to Domestic and Family Violence Seminar for Religious and Community Leaders

May 2025

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## About the seminar

The NSW Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) (Multicultural Policy and Engagement team) offers a free, half-day seminar designed for religious and community leaders that focuses on domestic and family violence and the support services available. As a trusted and respected figure in your community, you may often be the first person someone turns to when experiencing domestic and family violence, including in culturally diverse communities.

This seminar provides up-to-date information and practical resources to help leaders better support individuals and families affected by domestic and family violence. DCJ offers both in-person seminars and online webinars across regional and metropolitan areas of New South Wales, helping leaders from diverse cultural and religious backgrounds to build upon their knowledge and skills in this area.

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## Purpose of the seminar

The aim of the program is to provide leaders with:

1. Guidance and contacts for appropriate referral pathways for families impacted by domestic and family violence.
2. Information relating to the legal process after a domestic and family violence report is made.
3. An opportunity to up-skill leaders with legal and service information and provide access to domestic and family violence resources.
4. An opportunity to share leaders' experiences with DCJ, and for us to work together to address domestic and family violence across our community.
5. A connection with local services and linkages to peak domestic and family violence services.

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## What will you take home?

1. Updated information on a leader's role in domestic and family violence incidents (including child protection, parameters by law and associated issues when working with victims of DFV).
2. Information on referral pathways to be offered by leaders.
3. Clear and concise legal and support information once a domestic and family violence report has been made.

4. A factsheet for working with both victims and offenders.
  6. The definition and forms of domestic and family violence, its causes and the long-term effects on family and children.
  5. Information for marriage celebrants (including legal obligations and consequences).
  6. A resource manual including useful contact details of referral and support services.
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## Structure of the seminar

A typical seminar will include:

- An Acknowledgement of Country and official opening (10 minutes)
- Defining the various types of domestic and family violence and relevant legislation (30 minutes)
- The cycle of violence model (20 minutes)
- Impacts of exposure to domestic and family violence on children (20 minutes)
- Case study - Specific tips and information on working with families impacted by domestic and family violence (40 minutes)
- Case study – An interview about service responses with Police, Legal Aid, Victim Services and the Domestic and Family Violence Helpline (40 minutes)
- Time for questions and answers (30 minutes)
- Complete an evaluation and closure
- Networking (10 minutes)
- Meals and breaks are offered where appropriate.

Each community is unique - speak with our experienced Community Liaison Officers in our Multicultural Policy and Engagement team on how we can tailor this seminar with topics that best suit the needs of your community.

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## What DCJ provides

The Community Liaison Officers in the Multicultural Policy and Engagement team will organise facilitators, presenters, catering, copies of the leader's manual and other relevant cost including interpreters, venue hire and equipment.

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## What we need your help with

We will meet with you prior to the seminar to discuss what is required. Things we need your help with include:

- Identifying the best time and location of the seminar or providing the venue.
  - Contacting, inviting and encouraging your fellow leaders to participate.
  - Advising on how we can make this event more culturally and religiously appropriate.
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## Further information

For more information, email our team at [multiculturalengagement@dcj.nsw.gov.au](mailto:multiculturalengagement@dcj.nsw.gov.au).