

“UnitingCare Community provides free, independent and confidential parenting support program to help parents find post separation cooperative parenting solutions for their children’s needs.”

The recent changes in the Family Court’s post separation support programs have resulted in the name change of the Post Separation Cooperative Program (PSCP) to the Parenting Orders Program (POP).

This change has inspired and allowed for renewed scope and expansion of UnitingCare Communities Post Separation Services. Through the change, the program can provide practical help to both mandated parents and voluntary parents who need support and guidance to meet their children’s needs and the challenges of post separation parenting.

This program is funded by the Attorney-General’s Department and administered through the Department of Social Services.

Contact Details

For details about the Parenting Orders Program please contact your local UnitingCare Community centre:

Ipswich-West Moreton Region

20 Roderick St, Ipswich 4305
P: 1300 761 842 | F: (07) 3282 7226
E: pop.seq@uccommunity.org.au

Mackay-Whitsunday Region

287 Shakespeare St, Mackay 4740
P: (07) 4944 2300 | F: (07) 4944 0254
E: lifeline.mackay-whitsunday@uccommunity.org.au

Moreton Bay Region

344 King St, Caboolture 4510
P: 1300 761 842 | F: (07) 5498 9211
E: pop.seq@uccommunity.org.au

Sunshine Coast Region

Family Relationship Centre
43-45 Primary School Court, Maroochydore 4558
P: (07) 5452 9700
E: pop.sunshinecoast@uccommunity.org.au

Wide Bay-Burnett Region

94 Old Maryborough Rd, Pialba 4655
P: (07) 4191 3100 | F: (07) 4124 5844
E: pscp@uccommunity.org.au

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Our Values

Compassion | Respect
Justice | Working Together
Leading through Learning

www.uccommunity.org.au



Parenting Orders Program

A post separation cooperative parenting service



UCC0290.15.02



What is the Parenting Orders Program?

The Parenting Orders Program provides a suite of interventions which support separated parents to focus on the best interests of their children, reduce conflict and improve co-parenting.

We help separated parents or carers understand the effects of parental conflict on themselves, the other parent and importantly their children.

Who can go to a Parenting Orders Program?

This program is accessible to all separated families. We support:

- separated parents or those contemplating separation;
- carers and extended family who are not talking, or are unable to communicate without conflict; and
- those who need support in managing cooperative parenting arrangements.

The program is particularly useful for parents who are involved in Family Court proceedings, and these parents may be court-ordered to attend.

This program supports the parent member to identify the goals they want to achieve in regard to their children and their co-parenting.

How long is the Parenting Orders Program?

Clients have an initial appointment for assessment to explore the most appropriate strategy and support for the family.

Parenting Orders Programs can work with parents and families for as long as they need.

What happens at a Parenting Orders Program?

There are many things that can happen as part of the Parenting Orders Program. These include:

- Individual assessment.
- Educational group sessions and group participation with other parents facing similar challenges.
- Individual sessions to assist achieving the goals.
- Counselling and individual support for different family members.
- Children's counselling and group work.
- Specialised practitioners to work with parents and sometimes with the children.
- Referral to Family Dispute Resolution.
- Referrals to other support networks.

What you need to know

Is what I say at a Parenting Orders Program confidential?

Under the Family Law Act anything said by a person attending a Parenting Orders Program cannot be used as evidence in any court. However, a service must report harm, or a risk of harm toward someone, to the relevant statutory bodies and this may be used as evidence in some circumstances. Information provided by you will be handled with care and discretion at all times.

More Information

The Parenting Orders Program offers support in managing cooperative parenting arrangements for separated parents, carers and extended family.

Clients can attend voluntarily or be mandated by the Federal Circuit Court of Australia or the Family Court.

Cost

UnitingCare Community believes all people should have access to our services. Most services are free of charge but where a fee applies we keep our fees as low as possible and according to ability to pay. Waiting times for an appointment vary according to current level for demand, but an initial assessment appointment can usually be organised soon after registering with the program.

Disclosure

Information disclosed to counsellors will not be released to anyone without written consent. However, we are required by law to disclose information when there is a risk of harm. Should this arise, counsellors will make every attempt to contact clients beforehand.

Your rights as a client

You will be treated with respect and understanding by all staff members.

- Your privacy and confidentiality will be respected. (as per the 1975 Privacy Act)
- You are free to consent or withdraw from the service at any time.
- You are assured services by suitably specialised and qualified practitioners.
- You are free to refuse invitations to participate in research.
- You have a right to participate in planning and decision-making when addressing your issues.

Compliments and Complaints

If you have any feedback about our services, please tell us. You have a right to have your concerns investigated fairly. Our feedback process is outlined publicly in each of our reception areas. Please feel free to take a feedback card and return it to your local office. We take all comments and complaints seriously.

