



**Family Law
PATHWAYS
NETWORK**

**GOLD
COAST**

IN THIS ISSUE MAY 2020

From the Chairperson

RESOURCES

Radio interview with Chief Justice Alstergren
Information for parents from Courts of Australia
How to stop family violence under lock down
New York Times article on Supporting Children
Family Relationship Advice Line PIPA Project
Children to have more influence in custody cases

RESOURCES TO SHARE

A number of resources for you and your clients

WEBINARS

A number of free Webinars during this time of lockdown and earn CPD points.

From the Steering Committee Chair

At the time this Newsletter goes to print, many of our members are no doubt dealing both personally and professionally with the overwhelming impact that COVID-19 is having on our community and the world at large.

It has changed the way many of us practice on a daily basis and the way in which we interact with our clients and colleagues. It has also changed the way we live – Easter is usually a time for family and friends' get together, music festivals and beach outings. This year it was all about social distancing, takeaways, and Netflix!

We trust that the information we have set out in our Newsletter will provide you with the necessary information you need regarding such issues as:

- How the Courts are dealing with matters during the pandemic

We trust that you will all stay safe and well and continue to do the good work expected of us in our community. There is a common belief amongst us – if we follow the guidelines, we will get through this together.

**Yours truly,
Kate Keating**




Australian Government





**Family Law
PATHWAYS
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If you would like to contribute to the June Newsletter please email the Project Officer
CFRS.GCFLPN@bne.centacare.net.au.

MAY 2020

GCFLPN INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY

12th MARCH 2020

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT

Jackie Lynch (Sheila's Shack), Christine Hoy (Macleod Accommodation Services) Toni Janke Guest Speaker, Coordinator, (Indigenous Services, Centacare Family & Relationship Services)



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT Jacque Hughes (GCFLPN Project Officer), Toni Janke, Kathy Cardona (Sheila's Shack)

Gold Coast FLPN International Women's Day Breakfast March 12th 2020

International Women's Day 2020 was an opportunity for GC FLPN Members to celebrate with leaders, employees, role models, colleagues, and family members to name a few at the beautiful venue at Kurrawa Surf Lifesaving Club.

The theme of International Women's Day 2020 was *#Each for Equal* which served as a rich interpretation for Toni (our guest speaker) to discuss diversity and provide great examples of the positive steps women particularly Indigenous women have taken toward equality in boardrooms, governments, media and workplaces and representation in several forms.

Toni highlighted the successes and challenges women have made and need to carry on these strategies through initiatives of broadening perceptions and improve situations both professionally and socially through continued discussion about diversity through participation.

Toni discussed her own journey as a young Indigenous lawyer in boardrooms in Cairns and Sydney as well as keeping her creative spirit alive and desire to write and produce music.

We were so grateful to have got this event in before COVID-19 social distancing restrictions were implemented.

MAY 2020

RESOURCES

- **Radio interview with Chief Justice Alstergren – Parenting arrangements and COVID-19**

[LISTEN HERE](#)

- **Information for parents – questions and answers from the Family Court of Australia**

How are services being delivered during COVID-19

[READ MORE](#)

- **Coronavirus and ‘domestic terrorism’: how to stop family violence under lockdown**

[READ MORE](#)

- **The New York Times** has some useful articles, including [How to Talk to Kids about Coronavirus](#) and [Handling your Kids’ Disappointment when everything is cancelled](#)

- **Family Relationship Advice Line**

The safety of Australian families during these challenging times is very important.

[READ MORE](#)

- **The PIPA project: Positive Interventions for Perpetrators of Adolescent violence in the home**

[READ MORE](#)

- **Family law inquiry to hear push for children to have more influence in custody cases**

[READ MORE](#)

- **This article is on the strengths of Australian Aboriginal cultural practices in family life and child rearing.**

[READ MORE](#)

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MAY 2020

RESOURCES TO SHARE WITH
CLIENTS**• SCALING UP FOR INCREASED MEN'S FAMILY VIOLENCE DURING COVID-19**

A surge in family violence was experienced in China, Italy and France as part of lockdown experience and we fully expect the same in Australia click [here](#) for **No to Violence** site and assistance.

• PARENTING ARRANGEMENTS AFTER SEPARATION

This [report](#) was compiled after the survey of Separated Parents 2014.

• COVID-19 AND FAMILY LAW ISSUES

Caxton Legal Service has some great self-help tips and information on a [COVID-19 and family law issues fact sheet](#).

• TENANCY

Tenants Queensland has developed an important [fact sheet](#) Information for tenants affected by COVID-19.

• CENTRELINK COVID-19 ASSISTANCE

Useful links to financial resources: • [Economic Support Payment for Centrelink recipients](#) • [Payments for people not currently getting Centrelink benefits](#): • Jobseeker Payment – call 132 850 • Job Seekers (Youth Allowance) – call 132 490 • [Making an appeals if a claim is rejected](#) • Asset hardship provisions – Centrelink may disregard some assets when calculating payment eligibility in regard to income, accessible funds or ability to improve financial position – call 132 300 or click [here](#).

• COVID-19 QUEENSLAND LEGAL AID SERVICE UPDATE

How to access Legal Aid during COVID-19 click [here](#) for services update.

• COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTRES QUEENSLAND

Excellent [resource](#) page for you and your clients.

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MAY 2020

WEBINARS

PROFESSIONAL WEBINAR SERIES – FREE & CPD points (1 POINT PER HOUR)

Michael Lynch Family Lawyers offer a professional webinar series with a wealth of information. Due to popular demand, the series will be continuing to offer free Family Law webinars in 2020. You earn **one** CPD point from each hour of the webinar. Here is the list of upcoming webinars:

- **Webinar for Schools**

Family Law Implications for Schools.

Dealing with divorced parents and their children can be tricky. Find out from this [webinar](#) what you need to know as a Guidance Officer, Principal or Teacher when it comes to dealing with students and parents with family law issues.

- **20 May 2020 – Webinar for Counsellors**

“Out of the Mouths of Babes” – Children’s Wishes in the Family Court. Registration details are coming soon. Please subscribe to the [newsletter](#) to receive notifications regarding the “Children’s Wishes in the Family Court” webinar.

- **Sadie’s story: Helping women affected by domestic and family violence navigate a fragmented system**

This webinar discussed the effects of domestic and family violence on women and how practitioners can help women receive the support they need [click here](#) to access webinar.

- **Update**

Great news! The national Family Law Pathways Network has had its funding extended until 30 June 2021. We are very excited to be able to continue to find practical, relevant and innovative ways to ensure our members have access to information, resources, training and continue to feel connected.

- **NATIONAL FLPN WEBINAR SERIES**

Commencing 20 May 2020 and ending 24 June 2020, we will be offering a free Wednesday Weekly Webinar series at 1 pm. The dates will be confirmed and the speakers will potentially include:

Trent Savill from Complex Care - 'Supporting Children with controlling and aggressive behaviors'.

David Mandel from Safe & Together.

Ben Grimes from Charles Darwin University - 'Linguistic barriers that silence Aboriginal people in the legal system'.

Best wishes from the GCFLPN Steering Committee during this unprecedented time and we wish you and your family and friends stay safe and well.