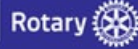




Stopping
Abuse in
Families
Everywhere



Rotary Safe Families
www.rotarysafefamilies.org.au

WELCOME TO OUR AUGUST NEWSLETTER

AUGUST GREETINGS from CHAIR of SAFE FAMILIES

July has been a very active month for Rotary SAFE Families. We have gathered new Champions of Rotary SAFE Families and greatly appreciate their support.

We have launched a Facebook and LinkedIn pages. I hope you will find us on these social media sites and would love if you could take the time to "Comment" "Like" and "Share" or at least one of these. The more people who "Like" the post, improves the readership and thus the messages of Stopping Abuse in Families Everywhere, can reach many more targets.

Our first online meeting of Champions and Ambassador Clubs is planned for this week and if you have't received an invitation but would like to attend our first "brainstorming" of our "work in progress", please email me: info@rotarysafefamilies.org.au

The date: Thursday, 5 August. The time: 6.00 - 7.00pm AEST.

Next month's Newsletter will give the results and thoughts of the meeting participants.

Onwards and Upwards. Dorothy Gilmour

BUT WHAT CAN WE DO?

ADD TO THE ROTARY SAFE FAMILIES FACEBOOK PAGE

WHY AMBASSADORS ARE NEEDED

Ambassador Clubs together form a "collective" Rotary voice to say "Abuse is **NOT** the Norm! and we are committed to **Stopping Abuse in Families Everywhere.**

Ambassador Clubs acknowledge and contribute to the PREVENTION of family abuse:

1. Raise awareness of family abuse
2. Help prevent family abuse
3. Provide hope to victims or possible victims of family abuse including:
 - o Women
 - o Elderly
 - o Youth

- o Children
- o Men

Our focus is on primary prevention. It aims to change the attitudes and behaviours that drive abuse by increasing and improving gender equality and respect in all aspects of everyday life. We challenge Government, women and men, boys and girls to change the structures, norms, practices, attitudes and behaviours that cause this abuse by challenging its underlying drivers - gender inequality and disrespect for women and each other.

We ask that the Ambassador Clubs and Champions simply promote the "3RRR's":

1. **Recognise!** Recognise the signs of abuse
2. **Raise!** Raise your concerns safely with the victim
3. **Refer!** Refer the victim to appropriate support 000/1800RESPECT etc. or make the call yourself!

Create a "win win" for both your Club and your local organisations, businesses, communities by showing your support for Rotary SAFE Families.

Be proud to be part of the "Collective Voice" in Australia. We are about engaging the whole community to 'chip away' in changing the bad culture that allows family abuse to happen in the first place.

Yes it will take time to change the culture. But if we don't at least try, our children and grandchildren may be the next generation of perpetrators of abuse. Rotary SAFE Families is working on the moral responsibility that we have to do something.

If we can save some children from being traumatised by the abuse they witness, or a person from being murdered or physically and emotionally scarred for life, Rotary SAFE Families will have been successful.

Ask one of your Members to be the "Champion" for your Club to facilitate the connection with Rotary SAFE Families.

THANKS TO ROTARY CLUBS

What do these Clubs have in common? ... They are part of SAFE Families "**Stopping Abuse in Families Everywhere**" as Ambassador Clubs and Champions.

Bateman's Bay, Ballina on Richmond, Southbank, Box Hill Central, Yarraville, Lavington, Wyndham, Malvern, Mt Eliza, Brunswick Tullamarine, Doncaster, Caulfield, Keilor, Lilydale, Nunawading, Brighton North, Central Melbourne, Brighton, Horsham East, District 9600, Kew, District 9800.
Have your Club name added to the list!

Email Dorothy for information how you and your organisation can be simply involved in Rotary SAFE Families: info@rotarysafefamilies.org.au

OUR Q & A

WHAT DOES ELDER ABUSE LOOK LIKE

What is Elder Abuse?

Elder abuse, a form of family violence, is the mistreatment of an older person by someone with whom the older person has a relationship of trust.

This abuse can best be described as a controlling behaviour or action which frightens or intimidates its victims violating an older person's basic right to feel safe. It may be physical, social, financial, psychological or sexual and can include mistreatment and neglect. Perpetrators of this kind of abuse can include a partner, family member,

friend, carer or an older person experiencing cognitive decline who exhibits abusive behaviours toward an older carer or partner.

Sometimes family, friends and carers may not know that their actions amount to elder abuse.

Where does this abuse occur?

Elder abuse can occur in many contexts including the home and residential care settings. It can be perpetrated by family members, friends and non-family members trusted by the older person. Most elder abuse occurs within the family or in a domestic setting with the most common form being 'intergenerational' which is perpetrated by an adult child against their parent.

Elder abuse should not be confused with professional misconduct by paid employees such as carers/nurses; self-neglect (which is not regarded as elder abuse in Australia); unequal consumer transactions and/or scams that target older people or criminal acts perpetrated by a stranger on an older person, all of which are not forms of elder abuse. (Seniors Rights Victoria)

Rotary SAFE Families Film: "Elder Abuse "

This film is ideal to be shown at Rotary Clubs, to organisations working with the aged, and to the general public. It carries the message that we must not be an inactive bystander, we must apply the 3 RRR's of Rotary SAFE Families:

1. **Recognise** – the signs, behaviours and culture that drive abuse
2. **Raise** – your voice and call it out safely
3. **Refer** – for support

Watch the films with their powerful messages around learning to **recognise** abuse, be informed and able to safely **raise** your concerns and then **refer** the victim or possible victim, to Police (if emergency) and/or an appropriate support agency in your neighbourhood.



Sourced from [Seniors Rights Victoria](#) website



Sourced from Seniors Rights Victoria website

STAYING SAFE during COVID

Dorothy has had queries from her guest speaker presentations, regarding the referral of a victim or perpetrator of family abuse to Police. I have been asked if the referrer could be sued for informing. The attached is taken directly from a Victoria Police website: <https://www.police.vic.gov.au/family-violence#discreet-help> For your immediate downloading: [Family_violence_help_from_Vic_Police.pdf](#)

WE CAN DO THIS TOGETHER

Click here to view the 1 minute promo to use at Rotary events and to the public audience.

Contact Dorothy Gilmour: info@rotarysafefamilies.org.au

Email me with your events and projects news for next month's Newsletter

Check out the website for all things SAFE Families:
www.rotarysafefamilies.org.au

If you decide to unsubscribe, please provide details of a "champion" in your organisation, who wants to prevent family abuse

If you don't want to receive this bulletin [Unsubscribe here](#)